



SCOUTING TRAILS

Rip Van Winkle Council, BSA #405
1300 Ulster Avenue, Suite 107
Kingston, NY 12401

April 2022 Newsletter

Scouters,

Change - \ 'chānj \

transitive verb

- 1a:** to make different in some particular : ALTER
- b:** to make radically different : TRANSFORM
- c:** to give a different position, course, or direction to
- 2a:** to replace with another
- b:** to make a shift from one to another : SWITCH
- c:** to exchange for an equivalent sum of money (as in smaller denominations or in a foreign currency)
- d:** to undergo a modification of
- e:** to put fresh clothes or covering on

never bothered to *change* the will
can't *change* human nature
changed his residence from PA to NY
let's *change* the subject
always *changes* sides in an argument

change a 20-dollar bill
foliage *changing* color
change a bed

The above definition is attributed to Merriam-Webster.

Scouting has many wonderful and noble traditions. Scouting also has a lot of folks that do the same thing year after year and expect different results. How many times have you hear from a Scouter the following statement? "Well, that's the way we have always done it". Some traditions were silly and others are insulting. Let's re-think not only how we do things but also why.

Change is hard, especially for many people my age. I recently attended a training where we learned quite a bit about recruiting youth into the Scouting program. Some of what was taught was basic knowledge. Things like

A QUALITY program does not recruit a single Scout. It retains them in the program. Someone has to ask a youth to join.

We learned that the parents of our current Scouts and prospective Scouts are spending on average over 150 minutes a day on social media. We need to rethink how we communicate with the parents of our youth.

I also found out most of the Generation Z population spends at least one hour online every day. On average, it is estimated this generation spends 8 hours a day of screen time between smartphones, tablets, laptops, desktops, and TVs. Who are these Generation Z people? They are individuals born between 1997 and 2012. In other words, they are our Scouts.

We need to rethink how we choose to communicate with prospective Scouts and their parents. As a young District Executive, I remember wearing my uniform and going into schools in the fall and doing classroom “Boy Talks” and handing out flyers. What has changed with this?

1. Most school districts will not allow Scouting to distribute flyers, let alone to do recruitment talks in the classroom.
2. Recruitment does not happen just in the fall. It now occurs year-round.
3. Uniforms can be off-putting and scary to some people in society.
4. We are not just recruiting boys anymore. We need to recruit kids...all kids.

As we move forward, we are going to spend more time talking about year-round recruitment and how to do it. We will discuss Normal Friend Activities (NFAs) and how you can utilize them to introduce Scouting to new families. We are going to change how we recruit and when we recruit.

I am reminded of a high school teacher who once taught me dinosaurs became extinct because they were unable to modify and adapt to the changes happening around them. Scouting needs to modify and adapt to the changes happening around it, or the Scouting program will go the way of the dinosaurs.

How can you help? Join me. Let’s keep the traditions that are worthy of being kept and dispose of the ones that have little to no value to the Scouting program. Let’s adapt and change because our society needs the Boy Scouts of America. Ulster and Greene Counties need the Rip Van Winkle Council.

Be safe! We are all in this together.

See you down the trail...



Dana E. Kuhns
Scout Executive/CEO

COUNCIL CALENDAR

April	Subject
1	I-RAMADAN
1 to 3	NST#10 - COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE
2 to 3	RVWC - BALOO TRAINING
8	I-RAMADAN
10 to 17	C-HOLY WEEK
10	C-PALM SUNDAY
15	RVWC – SERVICE CENTER AND SCOUT SHOP CLOSED
15	C - GOOD FRIDAY
15	I-RAMADAN
15	J-PASSOVER BEGINS AT SUNSET
16 to 22	J-PASSOVER
17	C-EASTER
22	I-RAMADAN

23	OA - Lodge Banquet
26	RVWC - SBSA SCOUTMASTER FUNDAMENTALS (ZOOM)
28	RVWC - SBSA SCOUTMASTER FUNDAMENTALS (ZOOM)
29	I-RAMADAN
29	I-LAYLET AL QADR
29	CDC-DISCOUNT CARD FINAL PAYMENT DUE
30 to 5/1	RVWC - INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS

May	Subject
1 to 2	I-EID AL FITR
8	US - MOTHERS DAY
15	RVWC - UNIT FAIR SHARE GOALS SET
21	CTM-BEAVER DAY
23	RVWC - COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
30	RVWC – SERVICE CENTER AND SCOUT SHOP CLOSED
30	US - MEMORIAL DAY

Meeting times can be found in the Council calendar of the Council website.

Calendar acronyms:

AD	- Algonquin District	J	- Jewish holiday
C	- Christian holiday	MD	- Mohican District
CDC	- Council Discount Card	NST#10	- National Service Territory #10
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
I	- Islamic holiday		

A NOTE FROM OUR SCOUTBOOK GURU

Just as an FYI, BSA changed the address to the Scoutbook login. They've migrated it to:

<https://scoutbook.scouting.org/>

I have no doubt that your office will get lots of questions about it. BSA pretty much moved it without prior announcement, and if you go to the old address, it does not redirect you to the new one. The old address is now just a dead space that comes up as an error.

Danny Zayas

WHY NORMAL FRIEND ACTIVITIES ARE SUCH AN EFFECTIVE RECRUITING TOOL

Imagine you're a parent in a family with no Scouting experience.

You see a flier for the local pack, inviting anyone who's interested to visit their next pack meeting on Monday night. Fun — and snacks! — are on the agenda.

When you show up, everyone is in uniform. You see lots of adults in tan shirts, assuming most are paid professionals. You think, "wow, there's a lot of staff here tonight."

Everyone knows exactly what to say and the right way to raise two fingers aloft in what you later learn is called “the Cub Scout sign.”

The meeting looks fun, but you can’t help but feel a little overwhelmed by it all. That’s when someone hands you a registration form.

What are Normal Friend Activities?

Normal Friend Activities (NFAs) are low-pressure pack or troop events where units invite non-Scouting families to join them for an afternoon or evening of fun. An NFA might be a hike, a picnic, an ice cream party, a service project, a trip to a local sporting event or anything else you can dream up.

At NFAs, Scouts and adult volunteers should dress in normal “street” clothes instead of uniforms — a tactic that will help visitors feel more included. Speaking of, the focus of an NFA should be on Scouts (and their families) getting to know one another — not on high-pressure recruiting pitches. And be patient.

It might take some families a few NFAs before they feel comfortable and ready to join. NFAs can include backyard movie nights, picnics and barbecues. By removing recruiting as the primary focus, you instead work on building relationships.



Get to know them as people, and when they join the unit, they get to know you as Scouters.

Why NFAs make sense

They’re inherently fun and inclusive to all — even those without any Scouting experience. They’re easy to plan and generally low-pressure. They allow families to get to know you and your fellow leaders as people first. They remove elements that may be seen as a barrier to joining, such as uniforms.

Uniforms need to be introduced at the right time. The uniform is important, just be cautious leading with it, especially with a family that’s new to Scouting. When a non-Scouting parent sees another parent in a uniform, they might assume, “Wow, they’ve been doing this for 25 years, they know what they’re doing,” When we started, many of us had no idea what we’re doing. We just figured it out. We took training and got good support. At an NFA, where uniforms aren’t worn, that non-Scouting parent will see themselves as equal to everyone else. Because they knew us as people first, they can see themselves in that tan shirt later on, taking on the leadership opportunity.

Best practices for NFAs

- Hold NFAs monthly.
- Ask each of your pack or troop families to invite three other families to each NFA.
- Use a multichannel approach to promoting your NFA, such as email, Facebook, text messages, printed fliers and word of mouth.
- Check with your local council to see if they are hosting any NFAs and invite families in your network to join you at them.
- If you’re interested in other fresh ways to market Scouting in your local council, check out [the free Marketing Webinars](#) available on Scouting Wire. You’ll find some incredible resources designed to help busy people (like you!) grow Scouting.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL – NATIONAL PARKS & FEDERAL RECREATION LANDS ANNUAL PASS

An \$80.00 Annual Pass that provides access to more than 2,000 recreation areas managed by five Federal agencies, with up to 100% of the proceeds being used to improve and enhance visitor recreation services.

[Price: \\$80.00 - 2022 Annual Pass](#)

Hangtag and brochure included

For purchase and information GO TO: <https://store.usgs.gov/pass>



FROM THE ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Hello Ulster County Scouts,

The Ulster County Board of Elections sends out periodic community updates and I have just added your organization for future updates. We are very eager to assist with any of your civics or community engagement projects. I have attached a couple resources and you will find much more on our website.

"I Voted" Sticker Flyer

I voted stickers are a popular way of showing your civic pride and reminding your neighbors to vote. For the second year, the Ulster BOE is inviting residents, age 13-18, to help design an "I Voted" sticker that will be distributed to each polling location for the Ulster County General Election on November 8, 2022.

During the 2021 Elections, more than 50 "I Voted" art submissions were received and 30,000 student-designed "I Voted" stickers were distributed to voters in Ulster County.

Art submissions will be accepted from April 1-June 1, 2022. Residents will then have an opportunity to vote for their favorite design this summer. Finally, on November 8, 2022, and during Early Voting, residents will again receive the contest winner's sticker design.

For more information and directions for submission, visit the Student Resources section of the Ulster County Board of Elections website at Voteulster.com, call 845.334.5470, or email Elections@co.ulster.ny.us.

Voting for Kids - We have created a kid-friendly introduction to local government, civics and voting with many fun facts about Ulster County. We think this could be a good resource for your organization.

For older scouts (16-17 yr old), we now have both the opportunity for an internship and/or paid employment as an election inspector. New York State now allows for pre-registration to vote for 16 & 17 year old residents, making them eligible to work on Election Day. After their 18th birthday they will become official voters. We would be happy to send over voter registration forms if you would like some.

Our Commissioners and staff are available to meet with your scouting groups and have hosted field trips at our office.



Don't hesitate to call with questions. We are grateful for any assistance you can provide to share this information with your scouts.

Sincerely,
Jen Fuentes, Deputy Commissioner
Ulster County Board of Elections
284 Wall Street
Kingston, NY 12401

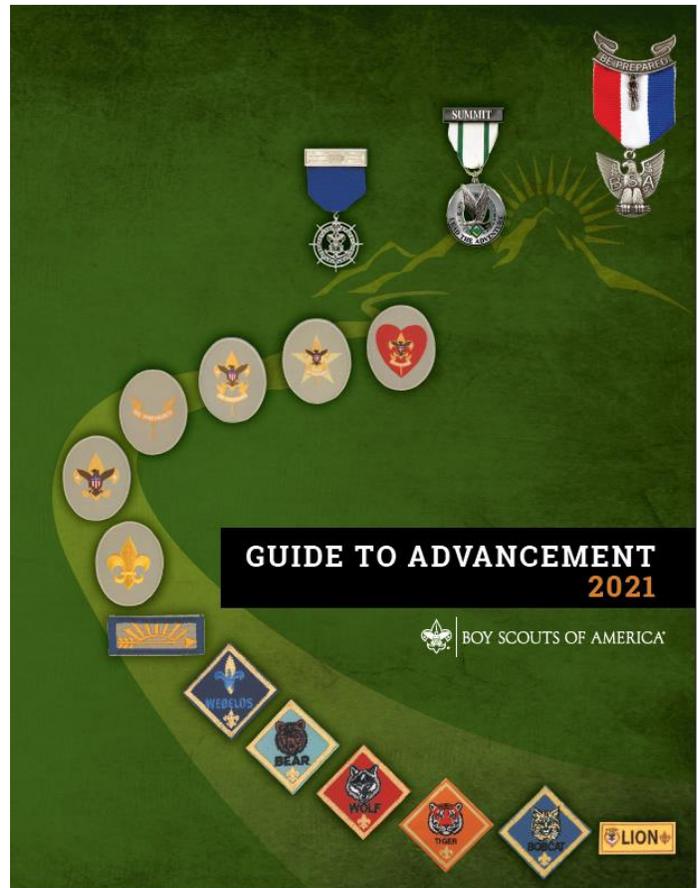
Please see the attached additional information sheets (AI-1 and AI-2)

FROM THE 2021 GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT (#33088)

A reminder about Scouts earning and completing partial merit badges is below.

7.0.3.3 Partial Completions

Scouts need not pass all the requirements of one merit badge with the same counselor. It may be that due to timing, location issues, etc., they must meet with different counselors to finish a badge. The Application for Merit Badge has a place to record what has been finished - a "partial." In the center section on the reverse of the blue card, the counselor initials and dates each requirement passed. In the case of a partial completion, the counselor does not sign or retain his or her portion of the card. A subsequent counselor may choose not to accept partial work, but this should be rare. A Scout who believes he or she is being treated unfairly may work with the unit leader to find another qualified counselor. An example for the use of a signed partial would be to take it to camp as proof that the camp's prerequisites have been met. Partials have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. Units, districts, or councils shall not establish other expiration dates for partial merit badges.



CITIZENSHIP IN SOCIETY UPDATES

The number one thing needed now is more Merit Badge Counselors. We are here to help as resources, for those that are just getting started, and for those that have jumped in with both feet.

Below are links to all pertinent information for the merit badge and resources for Counselors:

Scout Requirements:

http://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/merit_badge_regandres/CitizenshipSociety_ScoutRegs.pdf

Counselor Guidelines:



http://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/merit_badge_regandres/CitizenshipSociety_Counselors.pdf

Within these guidelines, are links to both:

The DEI Volunteer Training: https://training.scouting.org/courses/SCO_1800

The Counselor Guide:

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/diversity_equity_and_inclusion/Citizenship-in-Society-Merit-Badge-Counselor-Guide-2021.pdf

Videos included in the Counselor Guide:

- Merit Badge Counselor video: <https://vimeo.com/613861523>
- General Information video: <https://vimeo.com/610950264>

STEWART'S HOLIDAY MATCH PROGRAM

The Rip van Winkle Council is happy to announce it is the recipient of a \$1,500 gift from the Stewart's Holiday Matching Gift program.

The 2021-2022 Holiday Match program raised over \$2 million for local children's organizations! From Thanksgiving Day through Christmas Day, Stewart's customers impressively donated over \$1 million to the program. Each individual donation is matched penny for penny by Stewart's Shops. There are no administrative costs and 100% of the funds benefit local, non-profit children's organizations.



Generous customers have helped us raise nearly \$34 million since 1986. For more information, please visit the [Holiday Match FAQs page](#).

BEAVER DAY – MAY 21st

Mark your calendar for Beaver Day on May 21st. This will be the first time this year that we will have the opportunity to do much needed maintenance projects in Camp. We have projects for all ages and skill sets – from cleaning a campsite – painting – construction projects – electrical – cleaning – landscaping – etc., etc. We need both physical help as well as monetary help or material donations.



NEW ADULT APPLICATION INTRODUCED

A new adult application has been recently introduced. The new version is set up vertically on a page as opposed to the older horizontal application. What's changed, not much. Just some of the wording in the Additional Disclosure form having to do with the frequency of the criminal background checks on our leaders.

It also has the following:

WHAT IS THE SCOUTER CODE OF CONDUCT?

On my honor I promise to do my best to comply with this Boy Scouts of America Scouter Code of Conduct while serving in my capacity as an adult leader:

1. I have or will complete my registration with the Boy Scouts of America, answering all questions truthfully and honestly.

2. I will do my best to live up to the Scout Oath and Scout Law, obey all laws, and hold others in Scouting accountable to those standards. I will exercise sound judgment and demonstrate good leadership and use the Scouting program for its intended purpose consistent with the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.
3. I will make the protection of youth a personal priority. I will complete and remain current with Youth Protection training requirements. I will be familiar with and follow:
 - BSA Youth Protection policies and guidelines, including mandatory reporting: www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection
 - The Guide to Safe Scouting: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss
 - SAFE: www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe
4. When transporting Scouts, I will obey all laws, comply with Youth Protection guidelines, and follow safe driving practices.
5. I will respect and abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America, BSA policies, and BSA-provided training, including but not limited to those relating to:
 - Unauthorized fundraising activities
 - Advocacy on social and political issues, including prohibited use of the BSA uniform and brand.
 - Bullying, hazing, harassment, and unlawful discrimination of any kind
6. I will not discuss or engage in any form of sexual conduct while engaged in Scouting activities. I will refer Scouts with questions regarding these topics to talk to their parents or spiritual advisor.
7. I confirm that I have fully disclosed and will disclose in the future any of the following:
 - Any criminal suspicion, charges, or convictions of a crime or offense involving abuse, violence, sexual misconduct, or any misconduct involving minors or juveniles.
 - Any investigation or court order involving domestic violence, child abuse, or similar matter.
 - Any criminal charges or convictions for offenses involving controlled substances, driving while intoxicated, firearms, or dangerous weapons.
8. I will not possess, distribute, transport, consume, or use any of the following items prohibited by law or in violation of any Scouting rules, regulations, and policies:
 - Alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, including marijuana.
 - Concealed or unconcealed firearms, fireworks, or explosives
 - Pornography or materials containing words or images inconsistent with Scouting values.
9. If I am taking prescription medications with the potential of impairing my functioning or judgment, I will not engage in activities that would put Scouts at risk, including driving or operating equipment.

ADULT APPLICATION

This application is also available in Spanish. Esta solicitud también está disponible en español.

MISSION

The mission of the BSA is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Your participation in the BSA can help youth become better citizens. Adult leaders serve as important role models for youth in the BSA and this application aids the chartered organization in selecting qualified adult volunteer leaders.

<p>YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING</p> <p>All adult applicants are required to take this training in order to complete the adult application process. Go to myscouting.org to create an account and take the training online, or contact your local council for classroom training. Include a copy of your completion certificate with this application.</p>	<p>CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK*</p> <p>In order to complete the adult application process, you will need to review the different disclosures that have been separately provided to you. The separate authorization form must be signed and returned when you submit your application.</p>
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EXCERPT FROM THE DECLARATION OF RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLE

The BSA maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life. Only persons willing to subscribe to these precepts from the Declaration of Religious Principle and the Bylaws of the BSA shall be entitled to register.

*The three different background check forms must be torn off and each separately given to the applicant.

5011 60008
50172 10129
BSA 5001 2022 Printing

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

09/2022

10. I will take steps to prevent or report any violation of this code of conduct by others in connection with Scouting activities.

A FEW MORE THINGS WORTH MENTIONING

In the BSA's Barriers to Abuse, which is designed to protect our Scouts from harm, remember that "The chartered organization representative, or in their absence the executive officer of the chartered organization, must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders."

BSA registration includes a criminal background check and mandatory Youth Protection training

As proven by the Scouter Code of Conduct, there are absolutely times when reading the "fine print" is more than just a good idea. It could actually help keep your Scouts safe and healthy.

WHAT ELSE IS ON THE REGISTRATION FORM?

You know about the Scouter Code of Conduct. Here's the full list of adult leader requirements from the application:

- Abide by the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Scouter Code of Conduct.
- Subscribe to the precepts of the Declaration of Religious Principle.
- Reside within the USA or a U.S. territory, or be a U.S. citizen residing outside the USA.
- Be 21 years of age or older for primary leadership positions.
- Be 18 years of age or older for assistant leadership positions.
- Complete Youth Protection training (YPT) before application is processed and renew training as required by going to my.Scouting.org and creating an account.
- Review the disclosure information related to the BSA's background check process and complete and sign a Background Check Authorization form.
- Take leader position-specific training at my.Scouting.org. Classroom training may also be available through your local council.

Please see the attached additional information sheets (AI-3)

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR ANNUAL REGISTRATION FOR 2022-2023

May 31 marks the end of the registration year for all Merit Badge Counselors in the Rip Van Winkle Council.

Thank you for stepping up and volunteering in supporting our young men and women making their way on the path to Eagle.

The Council Advancement committee would like to know if you would volunteer for the upcoming 2022-2023 year. As in the past, Youth Protection Training, which consists of 4 modules, is required. In addition, there are other modules you can take to enhance your training as an MBC. They are not required, only suggested, as you may find it can strengthen your knowledge.

To access these training modules:

1. Sign into my.scouting.org
2. Then go to the menu at the upper left-hand corner.
3. Drop down to "My Training" and then press the "Scouts BSA" button.
4. In the middle of the next page, you will see a box that says, "Merit Badge Counselor Position Specific Training" and you can begin from there.

You do not need to re-register with a new adult application.

All Merit Badge Counselors will be emailed directly with a request to reply and provide information. Those who would like to add merit badges to their list are asked to complete the attached Merit Badge Counselor application in the email. The additional Merit Badges must be reviewed and approved before they are added to the existing file.

If a Merit Badge Counselor does not respond or their YPT is not up to date/complete, they will be dropped from the list.

Please be sure you check with your Troop's Merit Badge Counselors and make sure they respond by before May 31st.

SCOUTS IN ACTION

With more units getting back into the outdoors, please be sure to share your stories and photos with the Council. Our intent is to add a webpage to our Council website where we highlight the activities of our local Scouts and their units. It is a GREAT way for a unit to show off what they are up to and for a unit to visit and get some ideas about new activities try.



ORDER OF THE ARROW NEWS

Hey Lodge Members and Unit Leaders – we *still* need your help! We have learned that several youth and adult members of our Lodge are not receiving emails and other communications. If you are one of those, please send your name, phone number and email address to jbrsexton@live.com so we can update our records. There are lots of things that will be occurring this spring that we would like you to attend including the next Lodge Meeting which will be held by Zoom on Sunday, April 9 at 630PM.

The zoom meeting link for the Lodge Meeting is below:

Topic: **Half Moon Lodge meeting**

Time: **Apr 10, 2022 06:30** PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85788909183?pwd=WHpQZml1SjhHaW9DQ0JhUlhxYW50Zz09>

Meeting ID: 857 8890 9183

Passcode: MgmA8d

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,85788909183#,,,,*474663# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 857 8890 9183

Passcode: 474663

COUNCIL LEADER'S ROUNDTABLE – APRIL 18TH

Our next Leader Roundtable will be Monday, April 18th ch 21st at 700PM on Zoom.

Topic: **RVWC Leader Roundtable**

Time: **Apr 18, 2022 07:00 PM** Eastern Time (US and Canada)



Every month on the Third Mon

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89057893143?pwd=Q2xvR0lyZUFvWm9nbHhEMFNiNG1oUT09>

Meeting ID: 890 5789 3143

Passcode: 7A68K5

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,89057893143#,,,,*656380# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 890 5789 3143

Passcode: 656380

PLEASE NOTE – RVWC OFFICE CLOSURES

The Rip Van Winkle Council office and Scout Shop will be closed on Friday, April 15 for Good Friday. The office and Scout Shop will re-open the following Monday at 10:00AM.



The Rip Van Winkle Council office and Scout Shop will be closed on Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. The office and Scout Shop will re-open on Tuesday morning at 10:00AM.



RIP VAN WINKLE COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER

HOURS

Monday	10:00AM to 6:00PM
Tuesday	10:00AM to 6:00PM
Wednesday	10:00AM to 6:00PM
Thursday	10:00AM to 6:00PM
Friday	10:00AM to 6:00PM
	Saturday Closed
	Sunday Closed

845-339-0846 – Phone

845-339-1168 - Fax

CAMP TRI-MOUNT NEWS

Campmasters are needed to assist on the weekends at Camp Tri-Mount!!

What is a Camp Master?

The Campmaster will arrive on Friday evening, check in any units over the weekend, do a walkaround to check buildings and program areas, answer questions from units using the camp and checking them out on Sunday.

Where would you stay?

As a Campmaster you and your family would stay in the Savatgy Cabin. The cabin has 2 bedrooms, a living room and kitchen as well as a bathroom with shower. We need folks that would be willing to take 1 or 2 weekends during the year.

For more information contact the Council Service Center.

NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2023



Hey Scout:

- Are you interested in a High Adventure Outing?
- Are you interested in camping with 30,000+ other Scouts/Venturers?
- Do you want an experience that will last a lifetime?
- Do you want to be one of thirty-six Scouts from our Council to go?

ADVENTURERS WANTED!

Get ready! The 2023 National Scout Jamboree is coming and it's not your father's jamboree. We're talking seriously high adventure, people! Whitewater rafting, zip-lining, rappelling, mountain biking, hiking, and more - with 50,000 of your closest friends at the brand-new Summit Bechtel Reserve in the wilds of West Virginia.

What is the National Jamboree?

Every four years, the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America organizes the ultimate Boy Scout experience, the National Jamboree! The BSA has scheduled the next Jamboree in 2023. It will be the third Jamboree to be held at the new Summit Scout Reservation in West Virginia.

Over 40,000 Scouts and Scouters attended the Jamboree in 2017, and all the excitement of past Jamborees will be incorporated with new themes and shows. What goes on at a Jamboree? Everything that the combined resources of the National Council and thousands of the best volunteers from every local council can provide. For example: 5K Fun Run, 4-way volleyball, rifle shooting, action alley, bike-a-thon's, buckskin games, confidence courses, bicycle motocross, pioneering, rappelling towers, trapshooting, fishing, canoe slalom, scuba diving, kayaking, a HUGE merit badge midway, stage shows, and the Order of the Arrow Indian Village. If this isn't enough – there's much, much more!

Keep your eyes and ears open for news from the Council Service Center as to when informational meetings will be held.

Yours in Scouting,

Please see the attached additional information sheets (AI-4 and AI-5)

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Since 1910 the Boy Scouts of America have contributed to the moral and physical character of our communities by offering opportunities where young men can experience fun and adventure while learning the skills necessary for good citizenship and leadership.

One of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War many goals and purposes is to reward young men who achieve the status of Eagle Scout with a special congratulatory letter and color Certificate of Commendation, suitable for framing. While we encourage any young man searching for that special community service project to look to us for inspiration on projects relating to the Civil War, we offer this certificate with no “strings attached” other than you must be an Eagle.

Your Eagle Court of Honor observes a very proud tradition that our organization is pleased to recognize in memory of the [Grand Army of the Republic](#) (GAR). Comprised of over 400,000 Union Veterans of the American Civil War of 1861-1865, the GAR was a living symbol of patriotism when the Boy Scouts of America was formed in 1910. Before the passing of their last member (on 2 August 1956) the GAR officially recognized the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) as their Legal Heir. As such, it is our honor to maintain the many traditions of the GAR. These include the promotion of good citizenship by teaching patriotism, civic duties, and the love & honor of our flag – concepts that are “near and dear” to the Boy Scouts of America.



When possible, every effort is made by Camp (local chapter) and Department (state) members to present the certificate to the Scout at his Court of Honor, usually wearing the uniform of our Order or a replica Civil War uniform. Note: A personal presentation is not possible when ordering through the National Coordinator. [Click here for a listing of Department Eagle Scout Certificate Coordinators, organized by state.](#)

How to Order a Certificate

[Download this certificate application](#) (pdf) at http://suvcw.org/eagle/eagle_application.fi.pdf

This application must be completely printed online. We recommend you keep a copy for your records. You may also keep an electronic copy by saving the completed form to your computer. You must use a different file name in order to preserve your entries. NO handwritten forms, letters or cards will be accepted.

They prefer that the application be sent as an email attachment. Email the application to the Department Eagle Scout Coordinator and request that the application be sent to the appropriate coordinator within your department. A 45-day notice is required to have a presenter at the Court of Honor. Postal mail applications will not be accepted.

Note: These guidelines must be followed in order to receive a certificate. If these guidelines are not followed a certificate may not be sent.

SYMJEPI EPINEPHRINE INJECTION RECALL

The FDA announced a recall by Adamis Pharmaceuticals for certain lots of SYMJEPI epinephrine injection pre-filled single use syringes due to the potential clogging of the needle. This may prevent the medication from being dispensed. The medication was distributed nationwide directly to customers and medical facilities.

An epinephrine injection is a life-saving treatment given to people experiencing an anaphylactic reaction to an allergen. Without this medication, anaphylaxis could lead to death.

Please be aware of this issue and notify your Council Health Supervisors, camps and Camp Health Officers.

The FDA announcement can be found [HERE](#).

GUIDANCE ON DONATIONS TO UKRAINIAN SCOUTING

Many volunteers have requested information on how to help Scouting in Ukraine. Please see the official statement from the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) below.

WOSM recognizes one National Scout Organization per country. For Ukraine, the Member Organization is National Organization of Scouts of Ukraine (NOSU). We encourage all NSOs that any Scouting support is channeled through the mechanisms made available through WOSM.



We are aware that many other non-WOSM but Scout-like entities are active in the region, including PLAST. We are not affiliated with organizations in Ukraine besides NOSU.

In most cases, the best way to help with the unfolding humanitarian crisis is to make a financial contribution through WOSM or another reputable NGO.

To directly support Scouts' humanitarian relief work in Ukraine and for refugees, you can donate at bit.ly/scoutsukraine. Representatives on the ground know what is needed and financial contributions help them purchase the most needed and locally-appropriate supplies.

For additional and ongoing updates, please visit: <https://www.scout.org/Ongoing-Scouts-Emergency-Response-in-Ukraine>.

IN THE FOUR POINTS OF SAFE SCOUTING, THE "F" IS FOR FITNESS. PLEASE CHECK-IN ON ADULT LEADERS AND YOUTH PARTICIPANTS TO REMIND THEM OF THE IMPORTANCE OF FITNESS.

Unfortunately, recent incidents where adult leaders passed away during unit outings highlight the need to remind your volunteers to Be Prepared for the physical and mental demands of Scouting. As you encourage leaders and participants to follow the principles of [SAFE](#), you can highlight the following:

Ensure ALL participants complete an [Annual Health and Medical Record](#).

Update the health history – making note of any recent changes, especially if fitness routines were paused by COVID-19.

Stress the importance of consulting with health care professionals to consider health risks including respiratory issues, excess body weight, history of heart or cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure, diabetes, seizures, COVID-19, etc.

Determine fitness levels and skills testing at the unit level before strenuous Scouting activities.

Review this [Be Prepared Safety Moment](#) for additional information.

UPDATE ON THE 19 CUB SCOUT ELECTIVE ADVENTURES THAT WILL BE RETIRED AT THE END OF THE PROGRAM YEAR.

In May of 2021, it was announced that 19 Cub Scout Elective Adventures would be retiring at the end of this program year (May 2022). See details here: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2021/05/13/nineteen-cub-scout-elective-adventures-will-be-retired-next-year/>

Elective adventures are reviewed for content and popularity. These 19 have been the least popular based on sales and advancement data. They will be archived in Scoutbook and Internet Advancement, removing the ability to mark them as completed after the retirement date of May 31, 2022. These 19 adventures are not being replaced with a new set of elective adventures.

Inventory for loops and pins is limited and will only be available while supplies last. Cub Scouts can still wear the adventure loops and pins after that date. Once it's earned, it's not taken away from the Cub Scout.

STEM Nova Award Impact – STEM Nova Awards that include Adventures also include an Option A and Option B to earn the award. Cub Scouts may choose to earn one of the remaining Adventures or Option A or Option B.

World Conservation Award Impact – The Wolf and Webelos rank are impacted. The Bear rank has no changes.

For Wolf Scouts who want to earn the World Conservation Award, the requirement to earn the Grow Something Elective Adventure will be replaced with the following activities:

1. Select a seed, and plant it in a small container. Care for it for 30 days. Take a picture or make a drawing of your plant once each week to share with your den or family.
2. Find out the growing zone for your area and share the types of plants that will grow best in your zone.
3. Visit or research a botanical or community garden in your area and learn about two of the plants that grow there. Share what you have learned with your den or family.
4. Complete one of the following:
 - a. Make a terrarium.
 - b. Using a seed tray, grow a garden inside your home. Keep a journal of its progress for 30 days. Share results with your den or family.
 - c. Grow a sweet potato plant in water. Keep a journal of its growth for two weeks. Share the information with your den or family.

For Webelos (including Arrow of Light) Scouts, the requirement to complete 1, 3a, and 3b of the Adventures in Science adventure will be replaced with:

1. Draw a picture of a "fair test" that shows what you need to do to test a fertilizer's effects on plant growth.
2. Carry out the experiment previously designed as a fair test of fertilizer's effect on plant growth.
3. Carry out the experiment again but change the independent variable. Report what you learned about how changing the variable affected plant growth.

Here is the complete list of adventures that will be retired on May 31, 2022:

Tiger

Earning Your Stripes
Family Stories
Tiger Tales
Tiger Theater

Wolf

Collections and Hobbies
Grow Something

Hometown Heroes
Motor Away

Bear

Beat of the Drum
Make It Move
Robotics
World of Sound

Webelos/Arrow of Light

Adventures in Science
Build My Hero
Fix It
Looking Back Looking Forward
Maestro
Movie Making
Project Family

ANNUAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RECORD

Camping season is upon us! As a reminder, be sure to encourage ALL participants to fully complete the [Annual Health & Medical Record \(AHMR\)](#) for ALL activities. And yes, the 2019 version is STILL current.

To be sure to have the most current information, remember to link to the AHMR, and don't host your own version.

Any questions? You can find the answers on the [AHMR landing page](#) or the [AHMR FAQ page](#).

Basics:

Parts A & B - For all events/all participants less than 72 hours in duration.

Parts A, B & C - For events/resident camps lasting 72 hours or more.

Risk Advisory - Don't forget the Risk Advisory for each of the High Adventure Bases. This should be reviewed with your healthcare provider at the time of your pre-participation exam.

Council Based High Adventure Program - We've built [this template](#) for you to develop your own risk advisory for your council high adventure program to share with your campers.

If you have questions, contact us at Health.Safety@Scouting.org.

UPDATED FISCAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND PAYPAL/VENMO REPORTING UPDATE

Please find the attached New Fiscal Policies and Procedures for BSA Units as well as an updated notice specific to third party payment companies, like PayPal and Venmo. These documents can also be found on the [Council Administration](#) webpage. Councils should communicate this information with their units.

Please see the attached additional information sheets (AI-6 and AI-7)

SAVE THE DATE!

TEE IT UP FOR SCOUTING GOLF TOURNAMENT

TO BENEFIT THE

RIP VAN WINKLE COUNCIL, BSA

Funds raised will be used to support the Scouting programs in Greene and Ulster Counties

Mark your calendar and plan to attend. The Rip Van Winkle Council will be hosting the first annual **TEE IT UP FOR SCOUTING GOLF TOURNAMENT** on Monday, June 20, 2022, in Greene County.



Specifics:

Monday, June 20, 2022
Thunderhart Golf Course
Freehold, NY
\$125 per person
\$500 per foursome (includes breakfast; lunch; cart; and course fees)
\$400 if paid by March 31, 2022 and save \$100.

Are you interested in helping to organize the tournament or bringing a foursome?
For more information, send an email to dana.kuhns@scouting.org or call the
Rip Van Winkle Council office at 845-339-0846

Register your foursome early (\$400 if paid by April 15, 2022 and save \$100.)

Foursome name*: _____ Contact person*: _____

Address: _____ Town: _____

Cell*: _____ Email*: _____

* - Required information

Make checks payable to:

“Rip Van Winkle Council, BSA”

Mail registrations to:

**Rip Van Winkle Council, BSA
1300 Ulster Avenue, Suite 107
Kingston, NY 12401**

Please see the attached additional information sheets (AI-8)