Scouters,

I hope all is well and you and your units are putting into place your fall recruiting plans. Commissioners can play an important role in recruiting as we mentor and guide the units in ensuring they are prepared for the new year and new youth. I also know that recruiting is now a year-round activity, but Cub Scout Packs and Scouts BSA Troops will still have major recruiting efforts in the fall as schools open up for the new school year.

Let’s get out and keep the outing in Scouting by getting our Scouts out into our outdoor classrooms!

Now more than ever, we are committed to providing a safe environment to all the young people and adults who participate in our programs.

I am writing to ask you to join us in this commitment in the following ways:

1. Engage in proactive and thoughtful injury, illness, and abuse prevention efforts in your council. We need to work together to execute the Scouting program as designed and follow the safety and quality standards found in our Scouting handbooks and training materials. It is also important that all of our units operate at or above the minimum standards found in the BSA National Camp Standards.

2. Report accidents and abuse in a complete and timely fashion. As leaders for your council, we encourage you to give careful thought to the reporting mechanism that you would like to follow at the local level as part of your governance structure. From a national standpoint, all reports should be entered into the BSA’s online incident reporting system, Riskonnect, utilizing the private portal licenses provided to your council.

3. Support a culture that provides for reporting of near-miss incidents into Riskonnect, so that collectively we can focus on lessons learned and what steps can be taken to make Scouting safer.

4. Follow up with affected individuals involved in reported incidents to ensure their wellbeing and that they are aware of resources available to assist them.

Attached please find the Incident Reporting Requirements of the BSA. Please note that serious incidents such as fatalities, child abuse, severe injuries, etc. require a report to be entered within 24 hours. All other reports must be entered within 72 hours.

Below is the data related to the overall incidents submitted from across the nation between January 1, 2022, and June 30, 2022:
For All Accident/Illness Related Incidents:

1127 Covid related
1307 accidents, emergency responses, other illnesses, etc.
10 fatalities (8 Scout adult leaders & 1 Council employee – all believed to be cardiac related, and 1 adult leader found deceased during Scouting activity – still pending police investigation)

Additionally, 396 Membership Infractions were submitted alleging child sexual abuse during this time. Those reports run the gamut from authentic actionable incidents to behaviors mischaracterized as child sexual abuse. Following intensive review and follow up, those reports have thus far resulted in the following actionable child abuse incidents:

21 individuals were added to the Volunteer Screening Database (VSD) for incidents involving alleged child sexual abuse occurring between Jan-June 2022

Of the 21 VSD incidents noted above:
3 happened at a Scouting event (all were a Scout towards another Scout)
16 did NOT occur at a Scouting event
2 lack sufficient location information & still pending law enforcement investigation
NONE involved abuse by a registered leader to a Scout

Our policies and procedures require that all incidents at any level (Council, District, Unit, etc.) be reported and documented pursuant to our incident reporting requirements attached. We appreciate your leadership as we work to achieve timely and accurate reporting of any incident or near-miss that occurs in your council.

Please let us know if you have any questions and join us in our declaration that Safety is a Value of the BSA which will not be compromised.

See you down the trail...

Dana E. Kuhns
Scout Executive/CEO

See Additional Information #1 & #2

COUNCIL CALENDAR

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<thead>
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<th>August</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
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<td>RVWC - Camping and Outdoor Program committee</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>CPS-SHOW AND SELL ORDERS DUE</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>RVWC - Training committee</td>
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<td>5-7</td>
<td>CTM - Scouts BSA emergency focused merit badge weekend</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>CPS - COUNCIL SNS ORDER DUE TO CAMP MASTERS</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>J-TISHA B'AV BEGINS AT SUNSET</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>OA - Lodge Executive committee</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>J-TISHA B'AV</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>RVWC - Advancement committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>RVWC - Jamboree committee</td>
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</table>
CTM - Scouts BSA automotive focused merit badge weekend
OA - LODGE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS
OA - Lodge meeting
CTM - Scouts BSA automotive focused merit badge weekend
OA - Lodge meeting
OA - Lodge meeting
CTMV - Leaders Roundtable (Membership/Fall Recruitment)
RVWC - Finance committee
CPS - SNS DELIVERY
CPS - SHOW AND SELL PICK UP
CPS - FALL POPCORN SALE BEGINS
CTM - Scouts BSA wilderness survival focused merit badge weekend
CPS - SHOW AND SELL PICK UP
RVWC - Executive committee
OA - Lodge Executive committee
RVWC – Council Service Center and Scout Store closed

Calendar acronyms:
AD - Algonquin District
C - Christian holiday
CDC - Council Discount Card
CPS - Council popcorn Sale
CS - Cub Scout
CTAA - Camp Tri-Mount Alumni Assn.
CTM - Camp Tri-Mount
OA - Order of the Arrow
RVWC - Rip Van Winkle Council
US - US holiday

RIP VAN WINKLE COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER

SUMMER HOURS
Monday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Tuesday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday Closed
Sunday Closed

UPDATED FISCAL POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR BSA UNITS
Thank you for all you are doing to ensure quality Scouting programs for our youth. The National Council has updated the Fiscal Policies & Procedures for BSA Units. This document is attached and is also available in the Council Toolkit.
PLEASE NOTE – RVWC OFFICE CLOSURES
The Rip Van Winkle Council Service Center and Scout Store will be closed on Monday, August 29 through Friday, September 2 for staff vacation

The Rip Van Winkle Council Service Center and Scout Store will be closed on Monday, September 5, in honor of Labor Day.

The Council Service Center and Scout Sore will re-open the next day at 1000AM.

RVWC CALENDAR RELEASED AT PROGRAM LAUNCH
The Rip Van Winkle Council calendar from July 2022 through December 2024 was released at the Program Launch that occurred in June. It has also been available for download as a pdf on the Council’s website.

A copy of the pdf version has been included with this document.

JAMBOREE TROOP MEETING
There will be a meeting of youth and parent of those attending or interested in attending the National Jamboree in 2023.

The meeting will take place on:
August 10, 2022
700PM
Rosendale Recreation Center
1055 Route 32
Rosendale

CUB SCOUT CHAT
You and your packs are invited to join the conversation every Friday on Cub Chat Live! as they share ideas on formal recruitment events in preparation for the new program year. Join us live Friday at 200PM Central to ask questions and share your ideas.

https://www.facebook.com/scoutingmagazine

If you cannot watch live you can catch the episode and all past episodes here:
https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/
COUNCIL LEADER’S ROUNDTABLE – AUGUST 15TH
Our August Roundtable is going to deal with two key topics:
MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT
Plan now to join us and learn more about the various tools available to support you in your efforts to bring more youth into the Scouting Program.

Can’t make it? Have someone else from your unit attend.

Topic: RVWC Leader Roundtable
Time: August 15, 2022, 0700PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89057893143?pwd=Q2xvR0IyZUFvWm9nbHhEMFNiNG1oUT09
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

ORDER OF THE ARROW NEWS
Topic: Half Moon Lodge meeting
Time: August 14, 2022, 0615PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85788909183?pwd=WHpQZml1SjhHaW9DQ0lUlhxdW50Zz09
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

PROJECTS AT CAMP TRI-MOUNT
Over the last 6 months, nearly $30,000 has been spent to make improvements to Camp Tri-Mount. Among the improvements are:

1. Insulation in Totem Lodge – We installed insulation above the ceiling in the lodge.
2. Weatherhead on Totem Lodge – We replaced the weatherhead which links the drop line from the power pole to the electrical box in the cabin.
3. **800 feet of power line** - We replaced a power line that had been destroyed by a falling tree during one of the ice storms at camp this past winter. The line stretched from a pole beside Oneida Cabin to a pole by Lake Kay-Bee.

4. **Primary well maintenance** – We had the well serviced and brought up to code to meet the NYS Department of Health standards. Among the actions completed were:
   a. Gathered information on specifics for the well that were unknown up till that time
   b. Replace the well pump.
   c. Replace 210 feet of Schedule 20 PVC piping with Schedule 80 PVC piping.
   d. Added an extension to the existing well casing to make sure it is a minimum of 18 inches above ground

5. **15-yard dumpster** – We brought in a dumpster and proceeded to fill it to the rim with assorted unneeded/unwanted/mouse eaten materials found in closets and buildings around the camp.

6. **Caretaker’s house** – We addressed a problem with flooring in the building that made it unsafe. (See photos below). This corrective action required us to take out a portion of the hardwood floors, remove ceramic flooring and remove the kitchen cabinets. After replacing the sub-flooring and flooring, waterproof linoleum was installed as well as new kitchen cabinets. The sliding glass door frame was also extracted from the wall, repaired, and re-installed so that it will now work properly, and water will drain away from the structure.

A BIG thank you goes out to the following volunteers for their efforts to make this latest improvement happen.

Bob DeRuyter                      Frank Tietjen
Mike Harrison                    Joshua Zaloga
John Masterson

As you can see from the photos, above, they did an EXCELLENT job!

Before:
After:
UPCOMING TRAINING FOR ADULTS:

CUB SCOUT LEADER POSITION SPECIFIC TRAINING

Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training has been developed to give new leaders the knowledge and skills, as well as to generate the enthusiasm, that they need to be successful. The course is designed to provide Cub Scout leaders with the basic information they need to successfully carry out the duties of their position. The course is intended to be conducted in a group setting with space available to break out the group into the different leader positions. The Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training course brings together all the basics of Cub Scout leadership into one course, with separate mini-modules to deal with position-specific topics (den leader, Cubmaster, and pack committee and chair). It is made up of three modules. The first module is a 90-minute introduction to Cub Scouting. All new leaders learn about the aims and methods of Cub Scouting, the pack structure, childhood development, uniforms, and advancement. The second module consists of separate 60-to-90-minute breakout sessions where den leaders, Cubmaster, and pack committee members and chairs will break into separate groups to focus on their specific positions. Den leaders will focus on earning the Bobcat rank, conducting a Cub Scout den meeting, resources they can use to help them conduct their meetings, den management, and denners and den chiefs. Cubmasters will focus on conducting a Cub Scout pack meeting, den management, and denners and den chiefs. And committee members will focus on conducting a Cub Scout pack committee meeting, pack finance, annual program planning, and annual charter renewal. The third module is an hour-long session that brings all the groups back together to learn about preparing families for outdoor programs, keeping Cub Scouting safe, Journey to Excellence, involving adults in Cub Scouting, and continuing their learning journey.

The course should take about three and a half to four hours to deliver.

When: Cub Scout Leader Position Specific Course Director: To Be Determined

Saturday, September 17, 2022
900AM Registration
930AM Session begin

Where: To Be Determined

Fee: Free

Registration: Send an email to dana.kuhns@scouting.org to notify him of your attendance. Please include which of the following sessions you will be completing:
- Cubmaster and Assistants
- Den Leader and Assistants
- Pack Committee
BALOO TRAINING

BALOO training is the Cub Scout leader training required for any Cub Scout den or pack outdoor event, including pack camping overnights and Webelos den overnights. BALOO training is comprised of two components—an online component and a practical, hands-on component. Both components must be completed to qualify as a “TRAINED” Cub Scout outdoor leader. The online component must be completed prior to the practical component. The online training contains introductory and basic information that will be built upon during the practical training.

This one-and-a-half-day course is designed as an introduction to the Cub Scout outdoor program for leaders interested in adding a camping component to their Pack activities. BALOO training consists of an online prerequisite component in addition to an overnight hands-on practical. BSA’s Cub Scout level camping policies will be taught along with the discovery of the necessary tools to help units carry out a successful camping experience. Completion of this course is mandatory for a MINIMUM OF ONE adult on a Pack overnighter.

Course Director: Kurt Hauck @ Camp Tri-Mount

When: Saturday, April 2 into Sunday, April 3
900AM Registration
930AM Session begin

Where: Camp Tri-Mount
Boy Scout Road
East Jewett, NY

Fee: $10.00

Registration: Send an email to dana.kuhns@scouting.org to notify him of your attendance or call the Council Service Center at 845-339-0846

SCOUTMASTER AND ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER TRAINING

Scoutmaster Position-Specific training is the BSA’s initial level of training for adult leaders of Scouts BSA troops. It is designed primarily for Scoutmasters and assistant Scoutmasters. However, committee members and other adults connected to a Scouts BSA troop are welcome to attend. When Scoutmaster Position-Specific training and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) have both been completed, new adult leaders are considered “Trained” and will have the tools needed to conduct an effective Scouting program. The face-to-face style of Scoutmaster Position-Specific training requires approximately five (5) hours to complete.

Course Director: Tim Mitzel @ Camp Tri-Mount

When: Tuesday, April 26 and Thursday, April 28
700PM

Where: Zoom
INTRODUCTION TO OUTDOOR LEADER SKILLS.
The Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) course builds and expands on the concepts and themes introduced in Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training and provides Scouter with the confidence to take youth into the outdoors. Specifically, this hands-on program gives adult leaders a practical introduction to the patrol method of a Scout-led troop by teaching many of the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. In addition, the teaching methods, activities, and games model the variety of teaching used in effective and engaging Scouting programs. The skills sessions presented in Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills closely follow the Scouts BSA Handbook for Boys and Scouts BSA Handbook for Girls and are meant to serve as an adult training outline. By using these skills sessions in conjunction with the Scouts BSA handbooks, trainers can be sure new leaders are proficient in many of the basic outdoor skills through First Class rank, and gain exposure to the patrol method and numerous teaching methods and learning games. Each skills session references specific chapters in the handbooks and highlights the 2018 advancement requirements. Hands-on participation is the best learning tool, and this course models the techniques used by effective Scoutmasters, advisors, and other leaders in the Scouting program. Attendees will see and experience different aspects of how Scouting works while playing the role of Scouts in a troop. Participants should leave the training experience with a full understanding of how the patrol method operates, a feeling of comfort in working with and instructing their Scouts, and an increased level of confidence taking Scouts outdoors safely. With that comes great satisfaction.

Course Director: Tim Mitzel @ Camp Tri-Mount

When: Saturday, April 30 into Sunday, May 1
830AM Registration
900AM Session begin

Where: Camp Tri-Mount
Boy Scout Road
East Jewett, NY

Fee: $10.00

Registration: Send an email to dana.kuhns@scouting.org to notify him of your attendance or call the Council Service Center at 845-339-0846

DEN CHIEF TRAINING
A Den Chief is a Scout, Venturer or Sea Scout assisting a Cub Scout den. But the story is far more important than those words suggest as the Den Chief:

- Serves as a Scouting role model for the Cub Scouts in the den, as well as the entire pack.
• Promotes Scouting in general and the local troop in particular.
• Encourages the transition of Webelos Scouts into Scouts BSA.
• Holds a leadership position in the troop or crew, thus fulfilling an advancement requirement in the unit.
• In addition, a trained Den Chief:
  • Assists the den leader with planning and conducting den meetings.
  • Understands the Cub Scouting program and the differences between Cub Scouts and other Scouting programs.
  • Understands the den leader’s duties and confidently helps lead portions of the den meeting program.
  • Knows a variety of resources for age-appropriate activities for Cub Scouts in the den.
  • Brings a repertoire of activities that Cub Scouts enjoy.

This training is designed to build on each of these ideas using a framework that will allow the new Den Chief, or perhaps the experienced Den Chief looking for new ideas, to have fun and learn the role.

Adult leaders need to make sure the role is seen as important and necessary. In agreeing to accept a Den Chief’s assistance, they ensure the Den Chief has meaningful opportunities to support the den and assist with activities, to the best of the Den Chief’s ability. In this way, the den receives the many benefits of having a Den Chief while the Den Chief has opportunities to learn and grow as a leader and Scout.

Cubmasters request Den Chief help from Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors or Ship Skippers. These adults need to acknowledge the importance of Den Chiefs before the whole troop, crew or ship and make sure all members understand that the Den Chief holds a leadership position of responsibility.

Den Chief Training 9/14/2022
Course Director: Andrew Clearwater @ Sawkill

Den Chief Training 9/21/2022
Course Director: Tania Metz / Catina Leon @ Highland (TENTATIVE)

Den Chief Training 9/28/2022
Course Director: John Stanforth @ Ellenville

When: Wednesday
9/14/2022  Sawkill
9/21/2022  Highland (TENTATIVE)
9/28/2022  Ellenville

545PM Registration
600PM Sessions begin
815PM Sessions conclude

Registration: Send an email to dana.kuhns@scouting.org to notify him of your attendance or call the Council Service Center at 845-339-0846
TRAINERS NEEDED
Have you ever thought about sharing your knowledge of Scouting with others? The Rip Van Winkle Council is putting together a team of Scouters who are willing to do just that. Share what they know about Scouting with those who are new to the program.

If you are interested in helping provide training and growing the Scouting program, we can use your assistance. Initially, all you need to do is reach out to the Council’s Training Chair, John Stanforth at jstanforth@hvc.rr.com.

Not sure if you have the ability? We will provide you with the appropriate training syllabus for each course offered as well as help you become comfortable being in front of a group as a training.

RVWC POLO SHIRTS AVAILABLE
SHOW YOUR PRIDE! The Rip Van Winkle Council is now offering a polo shirt to be worn as a “Class B” or activity shirt.

The short-sleeve polo shirts are a breathable, moisture-wicking gray cloth and will have the RVWC logo embroidered on the left sleeve. The price of each shirt is $35.00, and they come in adult sizes from Small to 3X-Large.

Use the attached order form to place your order early and have a shirt (or more) set aside for you.

See Additional Information #5

SILVER BEAVER AWARD
The Silver Beaver Award represents service to youth in a wide range of civic responsibilities. It is indicative of Scouting universally in bringing youth into companionship with decent adult citizens. They have served at great personal sacrifice, creating opportunities for increasing numbers of youth to have a constructive, purposeful Scouting experience with the promise of a useful life.

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition a local council can bestow upon a volunteer for exceptional service over many years.
Congratulations!
Silver Beaver Award Recipient

Elise Jamison Anderson

It seems Scouting has always been a part of Elise’s life since coming to the area.

Elise is the owner of The UPS Store in Kingston. She opened the store with her husband after moving to the community in 2002 from Long Island. The store has been highly successful over the years and due to Elise’s successful management and leadership, she has been selected to serve as a corporate trainer for other UPS Store franchises in the area. Elise is also an active member of the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Elise is also very committed to her church. She is the pianist for St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church and has also played for St. Catherine Laboure Roman Catholic Church. She is also a member of the combined choir for the two churches. Not surprisingly, Elise is an accomplished pianist.

Elise and her late husband David have two sons together, Adam and Alex. Both were in Cub Scouts where both earned the Arrow of Light. Elise served as the Assistant Den Leader for both boys. This was Elise’s introduction to the Scouting program. Both boys transitioned into the Boy Scouts and were active outdoorsmen, having been elected to the Order of The Arrow while members of Troop 7 here in Kingston. It was about this same time that Elise was recruited to serve on the troop committee.

As an adult, Adam is the Assistant House Services Manager for the Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Rhode Island. The Trinity Repertory Company is a leading professional theater company. Alex is a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army and is currently stationed in Georgia.

Even though Elise’s sons have been out of the Scouting program for several years, she continues to commit her time to assist in developing and building the Scouting program here in Ulster and Greene counties. In 2014 Elise was recruited to serve on the Executive Board of the Rip Van Winkle Council. Since that time, she has served in the following roles:

- Vice-President - Finance
- Vice-President - Camping/Camp Promotions
- Vice-President – Membership

Just last month, she was elected to serve as the Council’s Commissioner.
She has served on the staff for many programs and events in the Council, from the Klondike Debry to the annual Mall Show. She has also served on the staff for the Council’s booth at the Hudson Valley Garlic Festival. There she is the master fryer of our Deep-Fried Oreos.

Elise believes in the benefits the Scouting program provides to the youth of our community. She is very deserving of being recognized as our latest Silver Beaver.

ADVANCEMENT GUIDELINES REVIEW AND REALIGNMENT

In 2021, all outdoor-related rank advancement requirements were reviewed and realigned based on guidance from the National Outdoor Ethics and Conservation Subcommittee. These adjustments will help more effectively build a Scout’s outdoor ethics knowledge and align with the information in the Scouts BSA Handbook and Fieldbook. The requirements now build in a logical way through the ranks, with Leave No Trace (LNT) and the Outdoor Code (OC) used as references throughout.

Beginning August 1, 2022, these minor modifications to the Scouts BSA requirements for the ranks of Scout through Star will take effect. Scouts may continue using the existing requirements for the rank on which they are currently working, or they may choose to use the new requirements. Scouts must use the new requirements once they advance to their next rank. On January 1, 2023, all Scouts must use only the new requirements.

The specific changes are detailed below.

In addition, beginning July 1, 2022, the Citizenship in Society merit badge becomes required for the rank of Eagle.

Finally, new videos were created to support “Personal Safety Awareness” (chapter 13) of the Scouts BSA Handbook. These can be used as an alternative to earning the Cyber Chip.

The specific changes can be found here.
https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/minor-modifications-to-scouts-bsa-rank-requirements/

See Additional Information #6

NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OUTSTANDING EAGLE SCOUTING

Popularly known by its acronym, “NOESA,” the award recognizes Eagle Scouts notable for their local, state, regional or national distinguished service who do not yet meet more stringent nomination requirements for the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA).

Candidates for the NOESA have inspired others through their positive actions reflected by recognized accomplishments and devotion to their profession, avocation, community, and beliefs. Previous recipients include authors, explorers, television personalities, military flag officers, scientists, medical doctors, government officials, prominent businesspeople, entrepreneurs.

Each recipient’s record of service and accomplishments should elevate the public stature and reputation of Eagle Scouts.
Congratulations!
NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award

David Arthur Gagnon

David Gagnon joined the accounting practice of Daniel D. Gagnon, CPA PC in 1989, became certified in 1991 and assumed the duties of managing partner in 2013. He started his accounting career working on individual and corporate tax returns and general business financial operations. As the firm expanded, he assumed responsibilities of conducting and supervising audits of not-for-profit companies, recently expanding to fire districts with the audit requirements established by the NYS Comptroller’s Office. David has also developed a personal financial planning practice to augment his ability to provide a full level of service to clients by developing a financial plan for the client’s future. David’s professional credentials include certified public accountant and personal financial specialist, Series 6, 62, and 63.

He received his AA in Business Administration from SUNY Ulster in 1987 and a BA in Accounting from Siena College in 1989. He graduated from the United States Army War College in 2014 with a Master’s in Strategic Studies.

David was a member of the New York Army National Guard from 1986 and retiring in 2019 attaining the rank of Colonel. He has deployed multiple times supporting the local authorities of NYS during domestic emergency responses such as the World Trade Center during 9/11, and Superstorm Sandy. David has supported the federal mission overseas including deployments to Iraq and training missions to Israel, South Africa, Brazil, and Peru. His decorations include: the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Medal, Overseas Service and Training Ribbons.

David has been a member of the Cottekill Volunteer Fire Company since 1991 and has served as the Assistant Fire Chief since 2004. He served on the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce Board and was the Chairman 2019-20. Currently he serves on the Rip Van Winkle Council Board and was recently elected to serve the council as President.

David earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1984. He was a member of Troop 16, chartered by the Marbletown Reformed Church in Stone Ridge. His Eagle Scout Project was to build a rail-to-trail near the old Rosendale Elementary School (Currently the Town of Marbletown/Town of Rosendale Municipal Center. When asked, he could name all three of the gentlemen who served as his Scoutmaster: Steve Rice; Fred Mockler and his father, Daniel Gagnon.
CAMPMASTER CORPS
We need Campmasters to assist on the weekends at Camp Tri-Mount!

What is a Campmaster you ask? A Campmaster is the Council and Camp representative who will arrive on Friday evening, check in/out any units over the weekend, and render “Commissioner” type service to units in Camp. Although units will be responsible for supporting their own program, we ask you do a walk around to check buildings and program areas, answer questions from units using camp, perform maintenance functions, if possible, to your skill & ability, and report any issue to the Council Service Center. The only requirement is that you be a registered Scouter and maintain current Youth Protection Training; a short training and reference binder with the basic guidelines will be available for any newcomers to the program, or even those needing a refresher. As a Campmaster you and your family would be hosted in Savatgy Cabin equipped with (2) bedrooms, a living room w/TV & Wi-Fi, furnished kitchen, and bathroom w/shower. Each Campmaster will provide their own food, bedding, personal items, and transportation to and from Camp.

Won’t you please consider doing 1-2 weekends a year and enjoy Camp in the process? For more formation contact the council office.

Thank you!!!

Mike Decker
Camping and Outdoor Program Chair

SAFETY MOMENTS – DIGITAL SAFETY AND ONLINE SCOUTING ACTIVITIES
As Scouting moves to virtual and online platforms, we offer the following reminders to help keep kids safe. The below guidance applies to all online Scouting activities and meetings.
Note: Some states may have legal requirements that differ from, and even go beyond, what is provided here. It is your responsibility to check and abide by your state laws and consult your local council when reviewing and applying the following guidance, which is not comprehensive.


ARMY WEST POINT FOOTBALL
DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY
Good afternoon,

Scout Days with Army West Point Football are back! We’re very excited to be able to welcome scouts and their families back to West Point to enjoy some Army Football and experience all that West Point has to offer.

We will have 2 Scout Days this year:
9/17 vs. Villanova $35 a ticket
10/22 vs. ULM $35 a ticket

Both days will include interaction with current Army West Point Scoutmasters Council Cadets and a Scout Day patch for just $35 per person.
To purchase tickets for Scout Day, follow the link to the website HERE and use the promo code SCOUTS22. You’ll be able to pick your seat location as well as purchase group rate parking passes for just $15 each.

If you have any questions, please call the Army West Point Ticket Office at 1-877-TIX-ARMY.

Go Army!

**NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2023**
July 19 to July 28, 2023
Summit Bechtel Reserve, West Virginia

Hey Scout:

Are you interested in a High Adventure Outing?
Are you interested in camping with 50,000+ other Scouts/Venturers?
Do you want an experience that will last a lifetime?
Do you want to be one of 36 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, ziplining, 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,
SUMMER IS HERE AND THE HEAT IS RISING
As the summer months continue, don’t forget to implement your heat-related illness prevention strategies for your staff. Heat-related illnesses can occur anywhere in the country. We have reviewed several recent reports where heat-related illnesses were not addressed quickly – resulting in dehydration, heat stress, and emergency responses.

Here are some tips you can use to reduce heat-related illnesses:
• Increase air velocity, use heat barriers, or misting devices.
• Use the Buddy System. Teach everyone to know how to spot heat-related illnesses. Be sure your staff members are checking on themselves, their buddy, and others periodically.
• Water, shade, and rest periods need to be included in your plan. These will need to be increased as the heat rises.
• Watch the weather and humidity. Notify everyone when a heat wave is predicted.
• Risk Factors: Some people may be more prone to heat-related illnesses. Identify those individuals beforehand. Certain medical conditions like diabetes, heart conditions, obesity, some medications, and many other causes can make individuals susceptible to heat-related illnesses. Be familiar with these risk factors.
• The CDC has developed steps to help prevent heat-related illnesses, including the following: Control measures, Training, Acclimatization, Hydration and Rest Breaks. Find more information here. OSHA has developed additional information on developing heat illness prevention plans here.

FIREARM SAFETY IN THE BSA: BEST PRACTICES AND REMINDERS
All Boy Scouts of America (BSA) programs are guided by the BSA’s commitment to safety. In Scouting, we will not compromise the safety of our youth, volunteers, and employees. The purpose of BSA shooting sports programs is to teach firearm safety while introducing youth to a variety of programs. The BSA’s programs are developed and implemented through age-appropriate training and experiences. The Boy Scouts of America adheres to its longstanding policy of teaching its youth and adult members the safe, responsible, and intelligent handling, care, and use of firearms, archery, and hand-held throwing sports in planned, carefully managed, and supervised programs for each youth who chooses to participate.

As with many of our programs, we partner with third-party experts for program development and implementation, establishing industry standard safety measures and financial support. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, National Rifle Association, USA Archery, and others have long provided support in instructor training and credentialing, range engineering, safety standards, safety equipment and financial support of BSA-designed and -approved shooting programs.

The Boy Scouts of America continually reviews and improves all the programs that Scouts, and Scouters participate in, including our shooting sports programs.

How does the BSA focus on firearm safety?
• Program participants are taught how to be safe around firearms. This includes conversations such as “What happens when you see a gun? Never touch the gun, leave it where it is, and tell an adult right away.” The BSA is committed to teaching youth how to always be safe around firearms, whether at home, in their neighborhoods, or around the community. (Note the use of the word “gun” in this example conversation is to ensure Scouts understand the lesson of the conversation versus using our preferred term “firearm.”)
• Program participants are taught and review the fundamental rules of firearm safety every time they participate in BSA shooting sports programs. All BSA shooting sports programs teach and model this behavior through safety briefings and program instruction.
• Prior to beginning any shooting sport experience, each participant is instructed how to handle a firearm safely and responsibly, reinforcing the rules of firearm safety.
• All shooting sports are facilitated by trained range supervisors and operate under strict participant-to-instructor ratios.
• BSA shooting sports programs collaborate with and utilize industry best practices in program materials, range design, program instruction, and program facilitation.

As we continue to implement these programs in the BSA, please be mindful that:
• All BSA shooting sports programs must align with the policies set forth in the Guide to Safe Scouting and the BSA Shooting Sports Manual. This includes but is not limited to the use of trained staff and range supervision for each type of shooting activity.
• Photos, videos, social media posts, websites, and other digital documentation of shooting sports programs must reflect BSA policies. For example, taking “selfies” with firearms is not appropriate since such action would not align with the BSA’s stance on safe firearm handling.
• As appropriate, language and verbiage used to describe BSA shooting sports programs should align with the BSA’s commitment to safety. This includes use of the term firearm versus gun, use of the term participant versus shooter where feasible, etc.
• All camping operations must adhere to BSA National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP) Standards for firearm programs. NCAP’s national assessment teams will continue to engage in thorough reviews of all firearms programs for long-term camp operations. All local council led NCAP assessments must also include a thorough review at their day camp and short-term camp assessments.
The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has worked to keep the membership fee as low as possible. As you know, costs continue to rise, and the annual fee must be increased to address the fiscal realities we face to deliver a safe and quality Scouting program.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting, the following national membership fee structure will take effect **August 1, 2022**.

- **$75** 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)
- **$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee
- **$25** one-time joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts (Not pro-rated)
- **$15** for Scout Life magazine; this is the first price increase since 2005

The national membership fee helps cover the cost of essential services, including program resources, liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, criminal background checks, youth protection, and the development of intellectual property for national, council, and unit programs. As we move forward, we will continue to look at the membership fee structure and how we deliver the Scouting program for future generations.

Thank you for your understanding, together we will continue to provide a great Scouting program for our families.

Yours in Scouting,

Jeffrey Hunt
VP, Council Operations

Shane Calendine
VP, Council Operations

Wendy Kurten
Director, Council Services

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**SWIM TEST SAFETY ALERT**

Scouting aquatics programs tailor aquatics activities to swimming ability. The Boy Scouts of America’s required “swim classification” test ensures that all participants, regardless of age, can participate safely. Recently, injuries have occurred during swim tests in several locations. As camps and units prepare and participate in aquatic programs this summer, please remember the following key parts of the swim test procedure:

- The testing location must meet the requirements of the test including water depth and visibility. For example, individuals must jump feetfirst into water over the head in depth; therefore, the water depth at the testing location must accommodate this requirement.
- The swim test is not timed. Individuals should be encouraged to take the time they personally need to complete the test.
- The test must be given one-on-one. The test administrator and the swimmer are buddies during the administration of the test.
- Each component of the test is important. The test must not be changed either to assist the Scout/Scouter or to expedite the process.
The test must be completed without aid or support. Aid includes lifejackets, wetsuits, fins, etc. Swim goggles may be used to avoid eye irritation.

Swim tests must be renewed annually, preferably at the beginning of the outdoor season.

When swim tests are conducted away from camp, the camp aquatics director can retain the right to review or retest any or all participants to ensure that standards have been maintained.

If the camp or the location of the water the participants may be floating on is different, it is recommended that individuals retest under those conditions.

AS YOU PREPARE FOR RECRUITING SEASON, USE THE LATEST ON #ADVENTUREON 2022 RECRUITING MATERIALS

Recruiting season is almost here! As you follow the BSA Brand Guidelines in developing your marketing materials for recruiting, events, and more, be sure to take advantage of the growing list of #AdventureOn marketing resources in the BSA Brand Center. You’ll find the #AdventureOn theme on Cub Scout materials and Scouts BSA materials. Also, remember to share the requirements included in the Scouts BSA Branding Dos and Don’ts Guide to ensure the right marketing messages are delivered. With your help, it’s going to be a great recruiting season and an opportunity to help more families experience the fun and adventure of Scouting!

https://scouting.webdamdb.com/bp/#/folder/10377141/

A LETTER TO SCOUT EXECUTIVES ON WAYS TO SUPPORT REFUGEES

Scout Executives:

As refugees relocate from Ukraine and Afghanistan, we have seen countless stories of Scouts stepping up in support of those who are most vulnerable. I would like to update you on what is happening nationally in regard to refugee support and announce new resources that your Council can utilize in support of refugee communities.

Refugee families from around the world have relocated to the US, and more may soon be arriving. We have assembled an experienced Task Force to ensure that local Councils have the tools they need to reach out to refugee communities, and make sure the opportunity of Scouting is available to them. Please find this comprehensive resource here:

https://www.scouting.org/international/international-adventure/supporting-refugees-foreign-nationals-in-the-bsa/

We will be notifying Councils when the Ukrainian Scouting Leadership or WOSM makes us aware of young refugees with prior Scouting experience, resettling in your area. The value of Scouting transcends International Borders, and this crisis should not derail a young person's Scouting ambitions. The document above details the BSA has a long and resolute commitment to welcoming these youth into our program.

Please note, the BSA is not involved in helping individuals host refugee families. The sponsorship, selection and placement of refugees is done through various Federal agencies, and the BSA is not a party to those activities.

And finally, almost every Council in the BSA has an “International Representative” (IR). You are able to look up who is registered for your Council on the BSA international webpage (https://www.scouting.org/international/) or at this exact link here: (https://scouting.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a9jB5EKnXE3421?Q_JFE=qdg). We are asking these IRs to reach out and make themselves available to you.

Do not hesitate to reach out to International@scouting.com for more information.

Thank you for your support of the World Scouting movement.
Respectfully,

Lou Paulson
International Commissioner

MAINTAINING YOUR AEDS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR SAFE PLAN
Recent incidents have prompted us to remind everyone to check your AEDs. Add these devices to your monthly check of emergency equipment, just like for fire extinguishers and other safety devices, so they will be ready for an emergency.

Have someone specifically assigned to maintain them. This is critically important! State and local laws may specify maintenance schedules and logs. Otherwise, refer to the manufacturer’s instruction manual. NCAP has guidance for camps.

AED recalls occur and laws change. Be confident that someone in your council is monitoring the information, maintaining all the AEDs and that they will work if needed.

2023 NATIONAL JAMBOREE

Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime!

This is your chance to participate in ten days of high-adventure fun and fellowship with other Scouts and Scouters from around the country.

WHEN: JULY 19-28, 2023
WHERE: SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE