



SCOUTING TRAILS

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

MID-NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Recently, I have attended a number of meetings where the concept of a “Culture of Safety” has been promoted and discussed. Safety is not just a priority or something we cross off a to-do list in Scouting, instead it an indispensable value in Scouting.

“In Scouting, we will not compromise the safety of our youth, volunteers, and employees.
Safety is a value that must be taught and reinforced at every opportunity.
We are all responsible and must hold each other accountable
to provide a safe environment for all participants.”

Scouts and their parents expect all Boy Scouts of America activities to be conducted safely. To ensure the safety of participants, the Boy Scouts of America expects leaders to use the four points of SAFE when delivering the Scouting program.

Supervision

Youth are supervised by qualified and trustworthy adults who set the example for safety.

- Accepting responsibility for the well-being and safety of youth under their care.
- Ensuring that adults are adequately trained, experienced, and skilled to lead the activity, including the ability to prevent and respond to likely problems and potential emergencies.
- Knowing and delivering the program of the Boy Scouts of America with integrity.
- Using qualified instructors, guides, or safety personnel as needed to provide additional guidance.
- Maintaining engagement with participants during activities to ensure compliance with established rules and procedures.

Assessment

Activities are assessed for risks during planning. Leaders have reviewed applicable program guidance or standards and have verified the activity is not prohibited. Risk avoidance or mitigation is incorporated into the activity.

- Predetermining what guidance and standards are typically applied to the activity, including those specific to the Boy Scouts of America program.
- Planning for safe travel to and from the activity site.
- Validating the activity is age-appropriate for the Boy Scouts of America program level.
- Determining whether the unit has sufficient training, resources, and experience to meet the identified standards and, if not, modifying the activity accordingly.
- Developing contingency plans for changes in weather and environment and arranging for communication with participants, parents, and emergency services.

Fitness and skill

Participants' Annual Health and Medical Records are reviewed, and leaders have confirmed that prerequisite fitness and skill levels exist for participants to take part safely.

- Confirming the activity is right for the age, maturity, and physical abilities of participants.
- Considering as risk factors temporary or chronic health conditions of participants.
- Validating minimum skill requirements identified during planning and ensuring participants stay within the limits of their abilities.
- Providing training to participants with limited skills and assessing their skills before they attempt more advanced skills.

Equipment and environment

Safe and appropriately sized equipment, courses, camps, campsites, trails, or playing fields are used properly. Leaders periodically check gear use and the environment for changing conditions that could affect safety.

- Confirming participants' clothing is appropriate for expected temperatures, sun exposure, weather events, and terrain.
- Providing equipment that is appropriately sized for participants, is in good repair, and is used properly.
- Ensuring personal and group safety equipment is available, properly fitted, and used consistently and in accordance with training.
- Reviewing the activity area for suitability during planning and immediately before use and monitoring the area during the activity through supervision.
- Adjusting the activity for changing conditions or ending it if safety cannot be maintained.

Are you promoting a Culture of Safety? Are you using the four points of SAFE when delivering the Scouting program.

As we ramp up our activities and events, we need to be sure we are not compromising the safety of our youth, and volunteers. We must use every opportunity to ensure safety is a value that is taught and reinforced. We are all responsible and must hold each other accountable to provide a safe environment for all participants

Be safe! We are all in this together.

See you down the trail...



Dana E. Kuhns
Scout Executive/CEO

See Additional Information - #1

UPCOMING CALENDAR

NOVEMBER	SUBJECT
19 TO 12/20	NYS-DEER SEASON
20	TFT - BUILD TREE SALE STAND
21	CPS - Popcorn Money Due
22	TFT-TREE DELIVERY
23	RVWC - COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER CLOSSES AT 400PM
24	RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
25	US - THANKSGIVING

25 TFT-TREE SALE BEGINS
25 RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
26 TO 12/24 TFT-TREES ON SALE

DECEMBER	SUBJECT
3	BAT-BOW-A-THON
18	J-CHANUKAH BEGINS AT SUNSET
19	CCS-CANDY ORDERS DUE
19	J-CHANUKAH
23	C-CHRISTMAS EVE (Observed)
23	RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
24	C-CHRISTMAS EVE
25	C-CHRISTMAS DAY
25	US - CHRISTMAS DAY
26 TO 31	USD-KWANSAA
26	RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
26	US - CHRISTMAS DAY (Observed)
27	BAT-BOWL-A-THON PAYMENT DUE RVWC - COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER AND SCOUT SHOP CLOSED FOR INVENTORY

COUNCIL LEADER'S ROUNDTABLE – NOVEMBER 21

Our November Roundtable is going to deal with two key topics: Training and 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. Cannot make it? Have someone else from your unit attend.

Topic: RVWC Leader Roundtable

Time: October 17, 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

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

It is that time of the year again!! Time to start our annual "Trees for Tri-Mount" Christmas Tree Sale. To have a successful sale we need your help prepping for the sale and helping to sell the trees. We will only be selling at the old Burlington Coat Factory in Kingston.

If you can help with set-up or selling the trees – please reach out to Frank Tietjen at 845-796-6178 or ftietjen@hvc.rr.com

Important dates:

November 20	Tree Sale stand built - 1015AM
November 22	Tree Delivery in Kingston – 530PM
November 25	Sale begins
December 24	Sale ends

2023 MISS CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISING CANDY SALE

This year, the Rip Van Winkle Council, in conjunction with Miss Chocolate candy bars, will be conducting a Council-wide fundraiser. This is a wonderful opportunity for your unit to raise funds for summer camp programs and year-round activities. In addition, your unit receives a Fair Share credit for the sale.

Because of changes in the Candy Bar world, we must impose a “no return” policy.

Please only order what you think the youth can sell!

Again, this year, Units are to make a 50% payment by February 7th.

Orders/Pick up>Returns:

Units will want to complete the Candy Sale order form and return it to the Council Service Center by December 19, 2022.

The initial order of bars will be available to be picked up during the week of January 23 from 1000AM to 500PM and Saturday, January 28 from 900AM to 1100AM at the Council Service Center. Please call ahead to confirm delivery of the candy by the supplier.

Throughout the sale, additional materials may be available with at least a 2-week notice. Please note...if we deplete our initial order and need to order additional candy, there is a minimum order to keep the same commission & FairShare amounts.

Please contact the Council Service Center (845-339-0846) to place your additional orders and arrange pickup.

We are not able to accept any returns as the candy company does not accept returns.

Commissions and Prizes:

Commissions: Units can earn big bucks from the sale. A 20¢ commission will be awarded on each \$1.00 candy bar sold (\$12.00 per carrier box), provided all funds are paid in full by noon on March 10th.

Units receive commissions of 15¢ per bar for moneys turned in after 530PM March 10 but before March 23, 2023..

No commissions will be awarded for money turned in after March 25th.

Bonus Commission: Units will receive a bonus commission of 5% for completing all the requirements (see Bonus Plan sheet).

Fair Share: Units will receive 20¢ per \$1.00 bar as a credit toward their Fair Share goal.

Youth Prizes: Each Scout who sells at least 60 - \$1.00 candy bars will receive a souvenir salesman patch. Individual Scouts who sell two cases or more will be entered into a special prize drawing. Units must submit names by noon on March 10. Drawing will happen at 300PM on March 10. Prize forms are due by noon on March 10, 2023, along with final payments.

See Additional Information 2a and 2b

2022 WINTER BOWLATHON

The annual Bowl-A-Thon has proven itself as a successful fundraiser for many packs, troops, and ships, in addition to the council. Youth and adult members will enjoy this worthwhile activity.

Important Participation Facts

1. Lion Cubs, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers and Explorers can participate in the Bowl-A-Thon. Parents, brothers and sisters, and leaders can also participate by securing the necessary pledges.
2. 30 cents per pin minimum is required: All bowlers must have pledges equal to 30 cents per pin, or at least \$30 in total pledges in order to participate. They will bowl two games. Shoes and lanes are FREE to these bowlers who meet the pledge requirements.
3. 2022 bowling location:
Saugerties Bowling Club 100PM to 300PM
RR 9W, Saugerties, NY 12477

Let the Council Office know the location, time and # of bowlers your unit will have participating by November 30.

4. A Bowl-A-Thon Coordinator will be present to keep track of the number of bowlers and to verify all pledge cards. If you have questions on how to score or about bowling procedures, please feel free to ask the coordinator.
5. Units should participate as a group. The Bowl-A-Thon is an excellent pack, troop, crew, or post activity. If youth are coming without their unit, they must be accompanied by an adult family member over 21 years of age who must stay with this Scout.
6. After the participants have bowled two games, they go back to their sponsors and collect the amount of money pledged times the number of pins (the total bowling scores of the 2 games). A minimum score of 100 pins for the two games total will be assigned to anyone bowling less than this score.
7. Money is collected by unit leaders and is turned into the Council Service Center as a pack, troop, crew, or post.

All Monies and Prize forms need to be turned in by

Tuesday, December 13.

Units will receive 25% commission.

8. Unit commissions will be 15% of the monies turned into the Service Center after December 13 but before December 23. No commissions and/or prizes will be awarded to units for monies turned in after this date.

As a special bonus: Each unit will receive a 60% credit of the total dollars submitted to its Fair Share Goal.

9. Special prizes and incentives are available to bowlers. (See prize sheets.) All prize order forms are due when the monies are submitted. Allow 4 weeks to receive prizes after the money and prize order forms are turned into the Council Service Center.

10. Each pack, troop, crew, or post will be given a number of sponsor sheets for its members. If you need additional sheets, reproduce locally, or call the Council Service Center at (845) 339-0846 or visit the Council website at www.rvwbsa.org.

See Additional Information – 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, and 3e

EAGLE SCOUT COORDINATORS

Northern Zone (Troops: 36; 42; 43; 45; 131B; 131G; 135):

Matthew D. White
matman615@gmail.com
Cell - 1-845-399-1434

Central Zone (Troops: 7; 8; 16; 20; 26):

Michael Harrison
mharrison@hvc.rr.com
Home - 1-845-658-3286

Southern Zone (Troops: 17, 28; 70B; 70G; 72; 76B; 76G; 172; 195):

Kurt Borchert
borchertkurt@gmail.com
Home – 1-845-236-3513
Cell – 1-845-542-4908

TRANSFERS HAVE BEEN MADE SIMPLER AE QUICKER!

The time of transfers are coming. If you are transferring existing scouts, please see the link below. Transfers can be completed directly through Scoutbook for in-council and out-of-council transfers and can be initiated by the parent, or unit leaders. It will need to be verified by the unit and/or parents.

<https://help.scoutbook.scouting.org/knowledge-base/transferring-from-another-unit-sb/>

Catina

Catina Leon
Council Registrar

GRADE ROLLOVER

Many of our packs have requested a clarification of how Grade is prompted for summer vacation.

June 1 is the traditional date when records change and each Cub Scout advances in rank, so our new wording is going to be conditional depending on when the event takes place.

TOOLS TO HELP ONBOARD NEW DEN LEADERS

There are two resources available to get those who just agreed to be a den leader off to a great start. The first is a video that walks den leaders through how to get started using the tools available to them. The second is a digital brochure titled “Welcome New Den Leader.” These brochures are specific to a Cub Scout rank and give new Den Leaders step-by-step instructions on how to get started.

Den Leader video - <https://vimeo.com/569858696>

Welcome, New Lion or Tiger Den Leader: https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/510-23318-LionTigerDenLdr_WEB.pdf

Welcome, New Wolf or Bear Den Leader: https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/510-23918-WolfBearDenLdr_WEB.pdf

Welcome, New Webelos Den Leader: https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/510-24718WebeloDenLdr_WEB.pdf

FOLLOW UP ON YOUR UNIT'S BEASCOUT.ORG LEADS TO HELP FAMILIES FIND A SCOUT UNIT TO JOIN

With thousands of families searching for a unit for their children to join via BeAScout.org, it is critical to remind everyone to update unit pins and follow up quickly on leads and applications in the system. Help these families join Scouting

CHECK OUT THE CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT-AT-A-GLANCE INFORMATION

Inspired by volunteer posts on social media, this current Cub Scout advancement-at-a-glance info. is a one-page document that shows each rank requirement in Cub Scouting. This can help to simplify some information as you onboard den leaders and welcome new families.

See Additional Information - 4

A REMINDER FROM OUR REGISTRAR

As our active year begins with the school year, we should not only be thinking of recruiting new Scouts, but also verifying returning scouts and preparing for Charter Renewal. Please remember to use the correct adult and youth applications. (The new adult applications are vertical.) Adult applications must have the Additional Disclosure signed and dated in order to process and YPT must have been renewed for the current charter window. Please remember to complete your Journey to Excellence Scorecard with your recharter. Unsure what JTE is about? Learn more in your my. Scouting training under Expanded Learning. The Journey to Excellence course is a 13-minute course. Are you new to the Charter process or unsure of the internet rechartering process? You can find training on charters and renewal in the my. Scouting training, too. Go to the Catalog and in the search bar type charter. There are trainings that range from 6 to 15 minutes. You can also find a timeline, information, and a video in the links below.

<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/internet-rechartering/>

<https://vimeo.com/617961049>

Thank you for all you do for Scouting!

Catina

Catina Leon – Council Registrar

WE ARE HIRING! PART-TIME SALES ASSOCIATES WANTED

The Rip Van Winkle council is seeking part-time Sales Associates for our Kingston, New York store location. This job involves sales, customer service and dealing with people. Sales Associates should have an enthusiastic, fun,

and cheerful outlook while assisting customers with sales, product, and program information. A sense of humor, creative mindset and passion for customer service are needed. Knowledge of the Scouting program is a plus but is not necessary. An individual in this position will be expected to perform additional job-related responsibilities and duties as assigned and/or necessary.

To apply Submit or send your resume to:

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

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When you place an order at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate to a charity of your choice. You can set it up so that every time you order from Amazon, a percentage of the total amount ordered will be given to the Rip Van Winkle Council, Boy Scouts of America.

INTERNET RECHARTERING PLATFORM

Internet Recharter 2.0 was released on October 15, 2021, for all units to submit their renewals online. We have created an FAQ (attached), along with an Internet Recharter User Guide (attached), to give you the opportunity to review the new platform and provide the necessary tools to your council staff when supporting the volunteers with submitting their Internet Charter Renewal. An instructional video walking the viewer through each step of the new Internet Recharter 2.0 experience will be coming soon.

See Additional Information 5a and 5b