



# COUNCIL LEADERSHIP NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 29, 2024

*The Council Leadership Newsletter is a weekly digest of information for key local council and council service territory volunteers from multiple BSA sources. Learn more about the items important to you and **please share appropriate content with other Scouters.***

## **Trail To Adventure Blog**

Any of these topics of interest? Safety Considerations when Planning a Short-Term Camp; Paving the Path to Adventure: Marketing Day Camps and Overnight Camps to Cub Scouts, Parents; Staff Recruitment for BSA Summer Camps: Navigating Legalities, Best Practices, and Utilizing Scout Life Jobs; Crafting a Wholesome Summer Camp Menu: Insights from Penn State; 2024 BSA National Outdoor Ethics and Conservation Conference; Ensuring Adventure, Ensuring Safety: The Significance of NCAP Assessor Training; or Winter Wonderland: 7 Indoor Maintenance Projects for Camp. Find the latest on these and more on the [Trail To Adventure Blog](#).

## **Good Turn Society**

The newly established Good Turn Society recognizes donors who make a new contribution, pledge, or planned gift of \$25,000 or more to Scouting. Membership recognition levels are determined by calculating a donor's lifetime giving across various Scouting organizations. The National Office of Development invites council representatives to submit applications to honor exceptional donors at the 2024 Good Turn Society Recognition Reception and Dinner. This event will take place during the National Annual Meeting in May. See your Scout executive for more information about the reception and dinner.

## **SPARK Workshop**

This workshop is designed to assist Scouting alumni teams in understanding every facet of the SPARK database and how to effectively use it for alumni outreach. The target audience is council alumni committees, National Eagle Scout Association committees, and council relationships vice presidents. *Sunday, February 4th, 2024 - 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Central.* Pre-register [here](#).

## **Scouts BSA**

The Program Development Committee has established strategic goals around its priorities of having a relevant program, instilling a culture of safety, and revitalizing the BSA brand. The Scouts BSA subcommittee is working on, or reviewing, several issues, including:

- Trustworthy Project - A survey of Scouts BSA Unit Key 3 leaders was held late last year to gather feedback related to the support their unit receives from their district, council, and the National Service Center.
- Youth Positions of Responsibility - The Youth Council of the Scouts BSA subcommittee has made recommendations to consider some realignments with the positions of responsibilities in a troop.
- Uniform Inspection Sheets – These are under revision. The objective is to make it a guide and tool for units and do away with the point scoring system.
- Merit Badges - The subcommittee is discussing the current process of the merit badge review process. Merit

badges are currently revised every two years.

Be sure to check the Scouting.org Program Updates page [here](#).

### **2024 National Cub Scout Day Camp Theme Packet**

The 2024 National Cub Scout Day Camp theme is “Outdoor Adventure”! Annually, the national Cub Scout day camp task force puts together resources and support for your Cub Scout day camp directors and program planners. You can download the 2024 national Cub Scout day camp theme packet [here](#).

### **National Camp Accreditation Program Online Training**

The National Camp Accreditation Program’s Online training has been updated for the 2024 season. Please remind all assessors (National and the council’s assessors of day camps and camp properties), council chairs, camp directors, rangers, and all staff that are involved with the council’s camping programs to take this training yearly. This course is designed to help participants understand the National Camp Accreditation Program and when it applies to the council programs and properties. To take this training course search NCAP in the My.Scouting BSA Learning Center.

### **COPE and Climbing Annual Inspections**

Reminder - All COPE course and artificial climbing structures shall receive a professional inspection pursuant to ANSI/ACCT Standard 03-2019, Chapter 1, Sections B.1.2 and B.2 annually. See the full 2024 National Camp Accreditation Program standard for details.

### **Guard Rails on Bunk Beds at Camps in 2025**

The National Camp Accreditation Committee is reminding all councils of a planned change to the National Camp Standards taking effect *January 1, 2025*, when guard rails will be required on all upper bunks consistent with Consumer Product Safety Commission and many state guidelines. National Health and Safety and Risk Management in collaboration with the National Camp Accreditation Program have helped direct this change to reduce the risks of injury and liability.

### **Back Issues of the Packet**

We have created a repository of the most recent back issues of the *Newsletter* and its predecessor *Packet*. Find them [here](#).

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### **Reminders from Previous Newsletters**

Cub Scouting updates [Linktree page](#)

Registration Portal for 2025 High Adventure Treks - [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association scholarship applications due by *January 31, 2024* - [here](#)

Council Duty to God Award due by *January 31, 2024* - [here](#)

National Marketing Awards deadline *February 15, 2024* – [here](#)

National Duty to God Award due by *February 29, 2024* - [here](#)

Feedback on the BSA Roadmap and National Operations Update to territory director by *February 15*

Monthly council membership goals entered by *February 15*

Executive board approved membership plan is due by *March 29*

Council progress reviews should be completed by *March 31*

### **Webinar Links**

Council Finance and Development - [here](#)

Monthly Membership Rally - [Registration](#)

Cub Chat Live (every Friday at 2pm CT) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Troop Talk Live (second Wednesday of each month at 2 pm CT) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)  
Leading our Adventures (every other Friday at 5pm CT) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)  
Developing a Mental, Emotional, Social Health (MESH) Plan for Your Camp(s) – *February 15* - [Registration](#)  
2024 National Pre Camp Leaders Meeting - *March 7* - [Registration](#)  
Climb to Success: How to Facilitate COPE & Climbing Programs For Your Council - *April 11* - [Registration](#)

### **Important Links**

Youth Safety - [here](#)  
Program Updates - [here](#)  
News for Commissioners - [here](#)  
National Council Videos - [here](#)  
BSA Event Management – [here](#)  
*Abilities Digest* - [here](#)  
National Camp Accreditation Program 2024 - [here](#)  
Marketing and Recruitment Resources - [here](#)  
Health and Safety - [here](#)  
*Scouting News* - [here](#)  
Scouting Newsroom - [here](#)  
Language of Scouting - [here](#)



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