

Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



Scouting  **America**

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Week of January 12, 2026

*The Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter is an official weekly digest of information for key local council and council service territory volunteers from multiple official Scouting America sources. Learn more about the items that may be important to you and **please share appropriate content with other Scouters.***

United States Supreme Court Announcement

Scouting America has issued a statement following the Supreme Court's announcement they have declined to consider remaining appeals to Scouting America's Chapter 11 reorganization plan. Read the statement [here](#).

Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation Webinars

Council Key 3 members have received links to upcoming webinars for information regarding templates to update local council bylaws and articles of incorporation. The webinars will be held on *January 26 and February 12, at 3:00 pm Central*. Council leadership is encouraged to review the templates with their council governance committee, council attorney, and/or board. Please feel free to forward the email and the zoom links as needed. The content presented will be fairly identical in each session, though there may be more examples from the field by the second session.

Fiscal Management Course

The first Fiscal Management Course of 2026 is happening *February 17-19* at the National Service Center in Irving, TX. Registration will close on *Friday, January 16th*. This course is designed to give council employees and related volunteers a greater understanding of the fiscal management and administrative processes of a local council. See your Scout executive about registering for this course, or future courses scheduled for *June 23-25, August 4-6, and October 27-29*.

Unified Scouts BSA Handbook

An updated 14th edition of the *Scouts BSA Handbook* is now available which combines the boys' and girls' handbooks into a single resource. This does not replace current *Handbooks*. Find a copy at your local Scout Shop or [here](#).

Scouting U National Volunteer Training Conference

Registration is live for the Scouting U National Volunteer Training Conference, *March 26-28*, in Nashville. Any Scouter in a training role, or interested in the importance of training, is invited to attend. Find more [here](#) and register [here](#).

2026 National Annual Meeting: Extended Early Bird Pricing for Scouting America Groups

A 10% early bird discount pricing has been extended through the *end of January* exclusively for Scouting America groups. Scout executives interested in showcasing council or camp programs at the National Annual Meeting are encouraged to take advantage of the discounted rate to secure an exhibitor booth. This is an opportunity to highlight innovative, high-

performing programs while building meaningful connections with peers, national leadership, and prospective partners. Exhibitor space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. See your Scout executive for more information.

Trail to Adventure News

Find the articles in the January-February issue of *Trail to Adventure News* and subscribe to receive future issues [here](#).

The 2026 NCAP Standards Are Now Available—and Why They Matter for Every Camp

Expand Your Council Range and Target Activities Program With Atlatl

Ten Tips & Tricks to Strengthen Your Long-Term Camp Leader Guide

The Updated Range & Target Activities Manual

Train Your People to Keep Your People

ALPS Mountaineering: Supporting Wilderness Stewardship at Philmont Scout Ranch

Why Short-Term Camp Administrators Are Essential for Scouting Success

See all posts on the Trail to Adventure [blog](#)

2027 Northern Tier Registration

Northern Tier registration for 2027 opens on **January 14th at 9:00 am Eastern**. Check out all adventures [here](#).

2027 Sea Base Registration

Sea Base registration for 2027 opens on **January 15th at 9:00 am Eastern**. Check out all adventures [here](#).

American Indian Culture Merit Badge

On **Monday, January 12**, the Scouting America Indian Lore merit badge officially became the American Indian Culture merit badge, a name and badge design change that reflects our commitment to honoring the rich heritage of Native American histories and cultures. The curriculum and requirements included in the merit badge pamphlet remain unchanged and continue to offer valuable information for Scouts.

Scouting America Digital Product Sales Platform

Scouting America has announced two new national suppliers - Krispy Kreme and See's Candies, expanding the Digital Product Sales Platform and delivering new opportunities to help raise additional funds for local councils. See your Scout executive for more information.

Back Issues of the Volunteer Leadership Newsletter

We have created a repository of the most recent back issues of the *Newsletter*. Find them [here](#). Be sure to check them out if you are new to this newsletter and/or to review earlier issues.

Reminders from Previous Newsletters

2026 National Annual Meeting - May 10–16, 2026 – Dallas

2026 Special Needs Prepared Camp Pilot Program – January 15 deadline - [link](#)

Philmont Adventures - [here](#)

Summit Adventures - [here](#)

Scouting U Week at Philmont - [here](#)

Program Livecasts

Cub Chat Live (every Friday at 3 pm Eastern) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Troop Talk Live (second Wednesday of each month at 2 pm Central) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Leading our Adventures (every other Friday at 4 pm Mountain) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Trek on Tuesday (Tuesdays at Noon Pacific) - [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)
National Exploring Live Hour (Monthly) - Dates and information [here](#)

Webinars

January National Membership Mixer - January 18 at 7:00 pm Central – Register [here](#)

Outdoor Program and Properties

How to Develop a Wheels and Boards Committee in Your Council – January 15 at 2:00 pm Central – [here](#)

Non-Scout Use of Your Camp – HOW TO – February 19 at 2:00 pm Central – [here](#)

2026 Pre-Camp Leadership Meeting – April 16 at 2:00 pm Central – [here](#)

MESH at Camp (Mental, Emotional, Social Health) – March 19 at 7:00 pm Central – [here](#)

Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation Webinars - January 26 and February 12, at 3:00 pm Central

Safeguarding Policies in Exploring Webinar - January 27 at 7:00 pm Central - Register [here](#)

Alumni Webinars - 3:30 PM Pacific – Read more [here](#)

Earning Your Scouting Alumni Award - February 8

Planning & Conducting National Eagle Scout Association & Other Council Events – March 1

Scouting America Alumni Awards and Recognitions – April 19

How to Create an Eagle Scout Mentoring Program – June 7

Key-3 to Key-3 webinar - February 23 at 1:00 pm Central

Scouts BSA Advancement – First Wednesday of each month - Recordings may be found [here](#)

Monthly Fundraising Webinar – Third Wednesday at 2:00 pm Central - [here](#) and see recordings [here](#)

National Jamboree - Register for upcoming and view past webinars [here](#)

Newsletters/Blogs/Podcasts

Scouting Safety - [here](#)

Aaron on Scouting - [here](#)

Marketing – Subscribe [here](#)

Scouting in the Boardroom - [here](#)

Commissioner Newsletter - [here](#)

Trail To Adventure - [here](#)

Scouting Alumni - [here](#)

Training Times - [here](#)

Abilities Digest - [here](#)

Scouting Wire - [here](#)

Important Links

Youth Safety - [here](#)

Health and Safety - [here](#)

Safety Moments - [here](#)

Scouting America Brand Guidelines and Materials - [here](#)

Language of Scouting - [here](#)

Merit Badges - [here](#)

Online Registration Information - [here](#)

Scouting America Membership Standards - [here](#)

National Council Videos - [here](#)

High Adventure Bases - [here](#)

National Jamboree - [here](#)

2027 World Scout Jamboree - [here](#)

Council Support - [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association - [here](#)

National Camping Schools - [here](#)

Scouting Forums - [here](#)

Order of the Arrow - [here](#)

Commissioners - [here](#)

Program Updates - [here](#)

Summer Camp Staff Jobs - [here](#)

Awards Central - [here](#)

Training Resources - [here](#)

Marketing and Recruitment Resources - [here](#)

Scouting Newsroom - [here](#)

Scouting Emergency Assistance Fund - [here](#)

Brand Center - [here](#)

