

Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



Scouting America

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Week of March 17, 2025

*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.***

National Annual Meeting Registration Deadline

The *March 31* deadline for National Annual Meeting registration and hotel reservations is fast approaching. Do not miss this incredible opportunity to network, learn, and celebrate all things Scouting. Join us in Orlando in May to make memories and create a brighter future for Scouting together. Register now before it is too late [here](#).

Voice of the Scout Results Will Help Determine “Satisfaction Index”

To impact membership growth, Scouting America must focus on supporting unit leaders and provide them with the information, tools, and support they need to execute our world-class programs. Scouting America’s 2025 organizational goals to enhance performance, drive growth, and ensure we continue to deliver exceptional value to units and members include a “Satisfaction Index” goal. The goal metric for determining if we are improving in this area comes from the Voice of the Scout Unit Leader Council/District satisfaction score. Councils that score higher on these four questions have higher overall satisfaction scores:

- My council is doing everything it can to deliver quality programs to Scouts.
- I feel the council/district is very responsive to my needs.
- I receive clear and timely communications that apply to me.
- Scouting is really fun for me.

Note: If your council had at least 100 unit leaders respond to the 2024 Voice of the Scout survey, you have a council report that can be accessed by your Scout executive in MyBSA. Your Scout executive also has more details on this goal. You can access the 2024 National Voice of the Scout report which includes five-year trends [here](#).

Update of Eagle Extension and Special Needs Forms

Scouting America has updated the following six forms to align with the new branding and the 2025 Guide to Advancement. The most significant content update clarifies that only Life Scouts are eligible to apply for an extension of time to earn the Eagle Scout rank. New forms can be found [here](#).

- 11.2.0.0 Request for Extension of Time (form), No. 512-077
- 11.2.1.0 Appeal of Extension Request Denial (form), No. 512-077a
- 11.3.0.0 Belated Rank Application, No. 512-076
- 11.4.0.0 Registration Beyond the Age of Eligibility, No. 512-935
- Individual Scout Advancement Plan, No. 512-936
- Application for Alternative Eagle Scout Rank Merit Badges, No. 512-730

Guide to Safe Scouting Updates

Visit [here](#) to see updates to the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

STEM Nova and Super NOVA Award Updates

In 2023 the decision was made to sunset the STEM Nova Awards program allowing local councils to continue to support the award as an option at their own cost. One of the conditions for continuing the STEM Nova Awards was councils could not change the requirements. We are pleased to inform you that effective *June 1, 2025*, councils will have the ability to make the STEM Nova Award and Super NOVA awards a council award in which the council creates the requirements. This allows your council to continue utilizing this award to best meet the desired outcomes of your local council. See your Scout executive for more information.

Commissioner eBlast

The *March 17th* Commissioner Newsletter is available [here](#). This issue includes:

- The Future of Unit Service is Now!
- Register for Commissioner Week at Philmont Training Center
- Spring Commissioner Impact Session, April 26
- Upcoming Commissioner Colleges
- Top Merit Badges Earned in 2024
- Scouts BSA Spring Recruitment Webinar
- Ask A Commissioner

Council-Owned Firearms Requirement

Reminder: All firearms used on council shooting ranges must be owned by the council. Personal or privately owned firearms are not permitted for use in camp programs. Please make sure your council has a plan to ensure compliance with this policy before your summer camp season begins.

Mental, Emotional & Social Health Elective

Mental Health is a challenge for all youth-serving organizations. Scouting America has developed evidence-based solutions to address concerns and help spot the signs of a range of mental health issues so that support and resources can be provided. An elective has been added to the National Meeting on *Thursday, May 15th* from 1:00 - 2:00 PM.

National Annual Meeting “Musical Heroes and Legends” Event

Enjoy an electrifying performance at the National Annual Meeting by Deuling Pianists performing songs by legendary musical artists. Whether you come as yourself, a rock star, pop icon, country music superstar, or as your favorite heroic musical figure, we encourage you to be creative with your attire. This will be an energetic evening to enjoy great friends, food, and fellowship. Heavy hors-d’oeuvres will be served, and cash bars will be available. Heroes and Legends will be searching to recognize and play tribute to fellow superstars. *Wednesday, May 14th, 6:00pm-7:30pm*.

April Membership Mixer

The April topic is "Use of Data Analytics to Locate Scouting Deserts". Join us on *April 27th* at 8:00 PM ET. The speaker will CST 4 Membership Lead Phil Jensen. Phil will discuss how a systematic review of available data can help identify the best areas for recruiting new Scouts and starting new units. The mixer is for volunteers and professionals interested in growing Scouting within their districts, councils, and territories. Register [here](#).

REAL ID

Do not forget, if you are travelling by plane to the National Annual Meeting or a high adventure base (or anywhere for that matter after *May 7*) be sure to have REAL ID or a passport. Read more [here](#).

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 to review earlier issues.

Reminders from Previous Newsletters

National Scout Jamboree – Scholarship Program - [here](#)
Recognize Your Donors at the 2025 Good Turn Society Event – *By April 2* - [here](#)
National Volunteer Training Conference - *April 24-26* - [here](#)
Spring Commissioner Impact Session – *April 26* - [here](#)
Scouts Read Sacred Texts – *May 1* - [here](#)
National Annual Meeting - *May 12-16* - [here](#)
2025 National Outdoor Conference - *September 17-21* - [here](#)
2025 National Camping School Registration - [here](#)

Program Livestreams

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

Webinars

2025 National Pre-Camp Leaders Meeting - March 20 - Register for the webinar [here](#)
2026 National Jamboree - Register for the webinars [here](#)

- *April 10* – ELEVATE Your Recruitment
- *May 8* – ELEVATE Your Planning

Important Links

Youth Safety - [here](#)
Health and Safety - [here](#)
Scouting Emergency Assistance Fund - [here](#)
Scouting America Brand Guidelines and Materials - [here](#)
Executive Communications - [here](#)
Philmont Training Center 75th Anniversary Conference Registration - [here](#)
Commissioner eBlast - [here](#)
Scouting the Boardroom Podcast - [here](#)
National Council Videos - [here](#)
High Adventure Bases - [here](#)
National Jamboree - [here](#)
Council Support - [here](#)
National Camp Accreditation Program 2025 Standards - [here](#)
Scouting Forums - [here](#)
Order of the Arrow - [here](#)
Aaron on Scouting - [here](#)
Scouting America News & Events - [here](#)
Commissioners - [here](#)
Abilities Digest - [here](#)
Program Updates - [here](#)
Summer Camp Staff Jobs - [here](#)

Awards Central - [here](#)

Trail To Adventure Blog - [here](#)

Scouting Alumni - [here](#)

Training Resources - [here](#)

Marketing and Recruitment Resources - [here](#)

Scouting Newsroom - [here](#)

Language of Scouting - [here](#)

