Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



Scouting America

Prepared. For Life.®

Week of November 2, 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****.*

2027 National Membership and Charter Fees

Effective *January 1, 2027*, Scouting America will adjust national membership and unit charter fees. From a memo from the National Key 3: "This is not a decision we have made lightly. We understand that any fee increase affects families, volunteers, and local councils, and we recognize that many households continue to face financial pressures. Like families and organizations across the country, Scouting America has experienced significant increases in operating costs. National fees have remained unchanged for more than three years. At the same time, a smaller membership base means those essential costs are shared across fewer participants." See your council leadership for the new fees.

Unit and Member Renewal

Many, if not most, units and many members will be renewing their registrations in the upcoming months. Now is a good time to review the changes and the renewal resources and job aids found here.

National Membership Mixer

Are you excited to see social media posts showcasing Scouting? Are you interested in ideas and guidance about how to use social media to grow Scouting locally? Join the *November 15* National Membership Mixer at *8:00 pm Eastern* to learn more and to share your ideas about "Celebrating Scouting on Social Media." Register here.

Exploring Explosion 3.0 - New November Trainings Announced

Due to high demand, additional Exploring New Unit Trainings have been scheduled for all professionals and volunteers. This is a great opportunity to get your staff and volunteers trained. Sign up for the training here.

New Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook

Scouts BSA has released the October 2026, edition of the Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook. The new workbook is shorter and easier to use. It focuses on what a Scout needs to do to complete an Eagle Scout leadership service project. The workbook and more information may be found here.

Philmont Training Center

Registration for 2027 Philmont Training Center adventures and conferences is now open. See more here.

Finance and Fund Development Webinars

The Local Council Finance and Fund Development Committee is offering two additional resources to help staff and the council volunteer leadership team perform their duties. Informed officers are essential to achieve and continue financial stability for each council. The partner webinar sessions, "Council Budgeting: Best Practices and Tips" and "Council Audits: Best Practices and Tips" will complete the 2026 series of practical "need to know" elements for every financial officer and staff leader. Council Budgeting: Best Practices and Tips - *November 12 at 12:00pm Pacific* here and Council Audits: Best Practices and Tips - *November 19 at 12:00pm Pacific* (Link coming soon.)

Certified Eagle Certificate Shipping Update

A production issue affecting Eagle Scout Wallet Cards resulted in shipping delays for Eagle Scout Certificate packets associated with records certified between *October 8 and October 25*. To minimize the impact on recipients, certificate packets are being shipped separately from the wallet cards, allowing Eagle Scouts to receive their certificates as quickly as possible while wallet cards are fulfilled through a separate mailing. The production issue has been resolved, and all Certified Eagle Scout records processed on or after *October 26* are shipping as complete packets. We regret the inconvenience to affected recipients and appreciate their patience as we worked to restore normal fulfillment.

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

National Day of Service – *November 14* - Read more here
Silver Antelope Award – *November 30* deadline - here
GivingTuesday Council Toolkit – *December 1* - here
National Cub Scouting Conference - *December 11-13*, at the Florida Sea Base - here
Technology Update Webinar Recordings - here
Alumnus of the Year Awards - here
Scouts BSA Membership Corner - here
National Outdoor Conference - here
National Duty to God Award - Find the nomination form 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
Exploring Live Hour (Monthly) - Schedule and registration here

Webinars

Gift Planning Webinar - Year-end non-cash giving strategies - *Thursday, November 5 at 12:00 pm Eastern* - here

Finance and Fund Development Webinars –
Council Budgeting: Best Practices and Tips - *November 12 at 12:00pm Pacific* here
Council Audits: Best Practices and Tips - *November 19 at 12:00pm Pacific* (Link coming soon.)

Alumni Webinars –
"Free Money! Applying for College Scholarships, Including NESA Scholarships" *November 15, 5:30pm Central*.
Register in advance for the webinar and get more information here.

Outdoor Programs - Webinars will be on the *Second Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm Central* beginning in *September* unless otherwise noted. You can find more detailed information here and register here for the full series.

November 12 – Property Management and Maintenance Best Practices

Cub Scouting Monthly Momentum Rallies – Register in advance

Help New Families Find Their Place in Cub Scouting - *Wednesday, November 11* - here

Venturing Live – Third Wednesday of each month at *7:30pm Central - November 18, December 16*. Register in advance here. See recordings of webinars here

Newsletters/Blogs/Podcasts

Commissioner eBlast – Every Monday - here
Scouting Safety - here
On Scouting - here
Marketing – Subscribe here
Membership Engagement - Subscribe here
Aquatics - here
Scouting in the Boardroom - here
Trail To Adventure - here
Scouting Alumni - here
Training Times - here
Abilities Digest - here
Scouting Wire - here

Important Links

Youth Safety - here
Incident Reporting - here
Health and Safety - here
Safety Moments - here
TechHub - here
Scouting America Brand Guidelines and Materials - here
Language of Scouting - here
Training Resources - here
Merit Badges - here
Online Registration Information - here
Scouting America Membership Standards - here
National Council Videos - here
High Adventure Bases - here
Scouting Forms - here
2027 World Scout Jamboree - here
Council Support - here
National Eagle Scout Association - here
Marketing Resources - here
National Camping Schools - here
Scouting Forums - here
Order of the Arrow - here
Commissioners - here
Program Updates - here
Awards Central - here
Marketing and Recruitment Resources - here
Scouting Newsroom - here
Scouting Emergency Assistance Fund - here
Brand Center - here