

Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



Scouting  **America**

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Week of November 24, 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.***

Boy Scouts of America Rules and Regulations and Bylaws

Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America and Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America have been updated to reflect the Scouting America brand name and changes adopted by the National Executive Board at the October meeting. Find the new versions [here](#).

Local Council Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation Templates

Local council Key 3s recently received updated local council bylaws and articles of incorporation templates approved by the National Executive Board. These new templates are the result of extensive collaboration between local council volunteers, Scout executives, and National Service Center staff, and reflect feedback from across the movement. The new documents, together with the “Local Council Charter Agreement,” provide a modernized, flexible framework that supports both compliance and local council autonomy. There is no requirement or urgency to amend local council governing documents. Local councils may continue to use their existing bylaws and articles of incorporation or amend their bylaws and articles of incorporation based on these new templates. Councils are encouraged to review the new templates and consider adoption in accordance with their own needs, priorities, and of course, state law requirements. There will be two webinars in the first quarter of 2026 to walk through the templates, share best practices, and answer questions. Details and registration information for the webinars will be provided in *December*.

National Venturing Program Updates Webinar

The National Venturing Committee will be hosting a webinar on *December 17, 2025, at 7:30 pm Central*. Topics to be discussed will include the updates to the Ranger Award and other upcoming program rollouts. Please share this registration information with your Venturing staff advisor and Venturing volunteers. Register in advance [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Venturing Chair Julie Dalton (buffalogal1@cox.net.)

Outdoor Programs and Properties Webinars

The Outdoor Programs and Properties Team is committed to supporting councils and their camping operations through timely, informative conversations about all things Scouting America camping. The webinar series is designed for camp leaders, both professional and volunteer, who oversee council camps. Each session provides practical guidance on policies, best practices, and answers to your camping-related questions. Registration is required for each webinar. See the links and schedule below in the “Webinars” section.

Winterfest 2026

Winterfest is an exciting, fun-filled, and competitive event for Explorers, Venturers, Sea Scouts, and older youth registered in Scouts BSA troops. Held on *February 6-8*, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, it is an action-packed 2-day event filled with competitions, aquatic and STEM events, shooting sports, climbing, sports tournaments, and more. Many events are related to various career fields such as fire service, law enforcement, and emergency medical services. Click [here](#) to learn about registration, travel information, and everything else you need to know about Winterfest.

Scouts BSA Membership Corner

Scouts BSA has created a new Membership Corner with ideas for growing and strengthening troops. You will find “everything you need to recruit new Scouts, retain current ones, and build a thriving, youth-led program that lives the patrol method every day” [here](#).

Commissioner Newsletter

The *November 24* Commissioner Newsletter is available [here](#).

- Happy Thanksgiving
- Elevating Your Boards of Review Webinar, December 3
- Den Leader Title Migration
- Commissioner Week at Philmont Training Center – Register Now
- Family Troop Option
- Update to Fundraising Policies
- News Breaks First on Social Media
- How May We Help You?
- Ask A Commissioner

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 Silver Antelope Nomination Deadline – *November 30* - [here](#)

Giving Tuesday Toolkit - *December 2* - [here](#)

National Cub Scout Program Update Conference – *December 12-15* – register [here](#)

Alumni and National Eagle Scout Association Award Deadlines - [here](#) and [here](#)

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

Exploring New Unit Trainings - Sign up for the trainings [here](#)

Trained to Make a Difference - [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

National Venturing Program Updates – *December 17* – Register in advance [here](#)

Outdoor Program and Properties

How to Market Your Camp in 2026 - *December 11 at 2:00 pm Central* – [here](#)

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](#)

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

Keeping the Flame Alive: Retaining Older Scouts in Scouting - *December 7* – Register [here](#)

A Discussion with the National Eagle Scout Association President - *January 11*

Earning Your Scouting Alumni Award - *February 8*

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

Scouts BSA Membership Webinar – Find recording [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](#)

