

Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



Prepared. For Life.®

Week of April 14, 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.***

New Aquatics Supervision Manual

The updated Aquatics Supervision Manual is now available [here](#). We encourage all councils to review the new manual and share it with camp staff, aquatic directors, and volunteers involved in aquatics programming.

2026 High Adventure

Do not miss this chance to learn about an adventure of a lifetime and experience Scouting's High Adventure Bases. Mark your calendar for *Wednesday, April 23rd* at 7:00 PM Central. Go [here](#) to join the webinar on YouTube or [here](#) on Facebook.

Commissioner Newsletter

The *April 14* issue of the *Commissioner Newsletter* may be found [here](#). This issue includes:

- Cub Chat Live STEM Series
- Spring Commissioner Impact Session, *April 26*
- National Membership Mixer, *April 27*
- Commissioner Session on New Unit Metrics for Exploring, *April 29*
- Register for Commissioner Week at PTC, *June 8-14*
- The Great Stories of Scouting
- New Scouts BSA Performance Shorts
- Breaking News
- Your National Commissioner Service Team Serves You
- Ask A Commissioner

April Trail to Adventure News

Subscribe and read the articles in this News and past articles [here](#).

- How to submit an RFP to present at the 2025 National Outdoor Conference
- Ensuring excellence and safety: completing the Declaration of Readiness
- How to launch a Council Wheels & Board Sports Committee
- Mental health resources released for camp staff training
- As a member of the Jamboree Staff, you deliver the Jamboree experience
- Scouting for Clean Waterways: Scouting America's new nationwide conservation initiative

- Fishing-related adventures connect Cub Scouts to nature
- Scouting professionals: unlock the benefits of attending the 2025 National Outdoor Conference

Merit Badge Mondays Seeking Help

You may have seen on the Scouting America [Facebook page](#) they are working on a new series called Merit Badge Mondays. They are showcasing each of the over 130 Merit Badges and, they need our help. As they showcase these badges, they are looking for college students (19 years and older), career professionals, and subject matter experts with ties to the Scouting community to speak about each one. If you or someone you know would like to lend a hand, send an email to Social.Media@Scouting.org. The National Social Media Manager will respond/reach back out to you. Keep in mind that she manages all the Cub Scouts and Scouting America National channels, so if she does not reply right away, be patient.) If you have other things you think would be amazing to feature on National social media, feel free to send them to this email address, as well.

Canvas Tent Order with Philmont Scout Ranch

Philmont Scout Ranch is currently working with several vendors to test canvas tents during the 2025 summer season. Their goal is to place a bulk order in early Fall 2025, and they are inviting interested local councils to explore the opportunity to collaborate. Philmont intends to place orders for both 7x9 and 10x12 sized tents. See your Scout executive for more information.

2025 Order of the Arrow Handbook Revision Delayed

Due to unexpected delays within the volunteer team updating the Order of the Arrow Handbook, the handbook is currently out-of-stock. The team is working diligently to submit the updated handbook file as quickly as possible so they can be put into production and delivered to Scouting America Outfitters to fulfill pending and future orders. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Updated Vigil Honor Petition Form

As of *January 1, 2025*, Vigil Honor recipients of the Order of the Arrow will no longer be provided American Indian names through the national Order of the Arrow office. English names will still be provided. An updated Vigil Honor Petition Form is available on the Order of the Arrow website. Previous versions of this form (printed and/or electronic) should be discarded. Beginning on *May 1*, previous versions of this petition form will not be accepted. Previous versions submitted will be returned along with the current petition form to be completed.

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

Monthly Membership Rally – April 17 – [here](#)

National Scout Jamboree – Scholarship Program - [here](#)

National Volunteer Training Conference - April 24-26 - [here](#)

Spring Commissioner Impact Session – April 26 - [here](#)

April Membership Mixer – April 27 - [here](#)

Scouts Read Sacred Texts – May 1 - [here](#)

National Annual Meeting - May 12-16 - [here](#)

Scouting U at Philmont - [here](#)

Distinguished Eagle Scout Award – July 31 deadline - [here](#)

2025 National Outdoor Conference - September 17-21- [here](#)

2025 National Camping School Registration - [here](#)

Program Livecasts

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

National Youth Leadership Training Recruiting Webinar – April 21, 5:00 PM Pacific – Register [here](#)

2026 High Adventure – April 23 – at 7PM Central - [here](#) or [here](#)

2026 National Jamboree - Register for the webinars [here](#)

- May 8 – ELEVATE Your Planning

Council Religious Relationships Committees – April 24, 7:00 PM Central - [here](#)

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](#)

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