Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter

Scouting America

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Week of November 9, 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****.*

Silver Antelope Award

It is time to nominate deserving volunteers for the 2027 Silver Antelope Award. Nomination forms with no more than two recommendation letters must be submitted together electronically to the National Service Center no later than *November 30*. Just a reminder, the candidate should not be notified of this nomination. For more information, visit here.

Volunteer Fundraising Survey

The National Office of Development wants to hear from volunteers involved in fundraising at their local councils. As we look for ways to strengthen fundraising across Scouting, your feedback will help us better understand what's working, where additional support is needed, and what tools and training would be most helpful to volunteers for 2027. The survey takes less than 10 minutes and closes Monday, November 16. Please complete the survey and share it with other council fundraising volunteers, including development chairs, campaign chairs, and board members involved in fundraising. Take the Volunteer Fundraising Survey - here

Seven Tips to Finish Your Fundraising Year Strong

The final weeks of the year offer valuable opportunities to maximize giving and strengthen donor relationships. Join us for a practical webinar featuring seven actionable strategies to help councils finish 2026 strong. Topics will include securing second gifts, following up on outstanding donor commitments, launching a James E. West year-end campaign, leveraging non-cash giving opportunities, strengthening holiday messaging, and maximizing Giving Tuesday efforts. Join the webinar on *November 18 at 2:00 pm Central* here.

Territory Alumnus of the Year

The Scouting America Territories Alumnus of the Year Award is Scouting Alumni's recognition for service to the alumni effort above the council level. The award was established to recognize alumni of Scouting America who, over a sustained period of time, have used the skills and values they learned through their association with Scouting to make significant and long-lasting contributions to their local communities through their efforts toward strengthening Scouting through the Alumni programs. The deadline for nominations is *December 31*. Read more about the award and how to nominate someone here.

Scouting America Chief Executive Officer Search

Learn more and stay up to date here. Position-specific surveys are being sent to Scout executives, local council chairs,

and council commissioners. While this is of course an optional activity, the search committee is anxious to hear their honest, clear-eyed perspectives.

2027 National Camp Accreditation Program Standards

The 2027 National Camp Accreditation Program Standards are now available for download at the National Camp Accreditation Program website. You will be able to purchase hard copies through National Supply starting in *January 2027*. We highly recommend that all camp directors, program directors, rangers, short-term camp administrators, council National Camp Accreditation Program chairs, and staff advisers obtain a copy of the Standards. Circular No. 28 explains the various changes from the 2026 Standards. Remember that the 2026 Standards are still in effect until *January 1, 2027*.

New Approach to Cub Scout Leadership Training Moves Forward

Scouting America is preparing to launch a reimagined Cub Scout leadership training experience designed to help volunteers succeed from day one. Rather than focusing primarily on completing required courses, the new model provides leaders with a practical roadmap that guides them through their first days, weeks, and months in a role. Development is currently well underway, with scripts completed and video production scheduled for *November* and *December 2026*. The target launch window is the first quarter of 2027.

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
National Membership Mixer - *November 15* at *8:00 pm Eastern* - Register 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

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

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
Philmont Training Center - here
Scholarships - 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

