

# Council Service Territory Volunteer Leadership Newsletter



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## **Week of December 8, 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.***

### **2025 Distinguished Eagle Scout Award Class**

The National Eagle Scout Association has announced the 2025 Distinguished Eagle Scout Award Class. The list of the 2025 Class may be found [here](#). A full list of recipients of the award may be found [here](#). For more information about the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and how to nominate an Eagle Scout, please visit [nesa.org](https://nesa.org). The nomination window for the 2026 Distinguished Eagle Scout Award Class will be open from *April 1st to July 31st, 2026*.

### **Spanish-Language Edition of *Scouts BSA Handbook***

Scouting America is pleased to announce the release of the Spanish-language edition of the *Scouts BSA Handbook*. This edition ensures that Spanish-speaking youth and families across the country can fully engage with the Scouting program and its values. Read the full press release on Scouting Newsroom [here](#).

### **Scouting U National Training Conference**

The Scouting U National Training Conference will be held in Nashville on *March 26–28, 2026*. Encourage your training team leadership to save the date and watch for more details.

### **Commissioner Position-Specific Training**

Commissioner position-specific online training is currently being updated and is expected to be available in the first quarter of 2026. In the meantime, “Commissioner Moment Special Edition #4 – Commissioner Training Essentials” has been created as a bridge during the transition to address changes in our approach to unit service and align with the current commissioner position-specific instructor-led trainings. This Commissioner Moment is located [here](#).

### **Key 3 to Key 3 Webinar**

Local council Key 3 members are invited to a Key 3 to Key 3 webinar on *Monday, February 23, 2026, from 1:00–2:00 pm Central*. Save the date and check your email for information received on *December 5*.

### **Council Annual Meeting**

Local council annual meetings are coming up soon in many councils. Be sure to check your council’s bylaws and “Council Election Procedures” to be sure you are prepared. You can find the election procedures document [here](#). Other supporting documents, including annual resolutions templates, may be found [here](#).

## **A Discussion with National Eagle Scout Association President Rich Pfaltzgraff**

Rich Pfaltzgraff will lead an open discussion on *Sunday, January 11, at 6:30 pm Eastern* on topics related to the National Eagle Scout Association. They want your input to help guide the topics and questions related to the National Eagle Scout Association they will focus on. The National Eagle Scout Association vice president will join Rich in the discussion. To help guide planning for the event, they are asking you to submit questions related to the National Eagle Scout Association by *January 3* [here](#). Register for the webinar [here](#).

## **Reminder: Alumni and National Eagle Scout Association Awards**

Deadlines are coming up soon for many of the Alumni and National Eagle Scout Association awards and recognitions. For some of the awards you need to use your council's quota by the end of the year or you will lose your opportunity to recognize your very special volunteers. We do not need to tell you this is a busy time of the year so do not wait until near the deadline to prepare and submit a nomination. Click on the links for additional information.

Council Alumnus of the Year – *December 31* - [here](#)

Territory Alumnus of the Year – *December 31* – [here](#)

National Alumnus of the Year – *December 31* – [here](#)

Distinguished and Outstanding Council Alumni Committee Awards – *December 31* – [here](#)

Council Distinguished Alumnus Award - [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association Outstanding Eagle Scout Award – Council quota must be used by *December 31* – [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association Silver Wreath Award – Council quota must be used by *December 31* – [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award – *February 28* - [here](#)

National Eagle Scout Association Scholarships - The application portal opened *December 1, 2025*, and closes *January 31, 2026* - [here](#)

## **Scouting America Partners with Prepared Hero**

Scouting America has announced a strategic partnership with Prepared Hero, a leading provider of innovative personal safety tools and education, to further empower youth across the country with essential life-saving skills and preparedness training. Read more [here](#).

## **Commissioner Newsletter**

The *December 8* Commissioner Newsletter is available [here](#).

National Venturing Program Updates Webinar, December 17

Monthly Membership Mixer, December 21

Social Media Playbook

America250 Brand Guidelines

Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Updated Position Trained Requirements

Membership Corner

Territories and National Alumnus of the Year Awards

News Shows Up First on Our Social Media Platforms

We have Your Back

Ask A Commissioner

## **Family Troop Option Approved for the 2026 National Jamboree**

Scouting America is pleased to introduce the Family Troop option for councils participating in the 2026 National Jamboree. Beginning **December 15, 2025**, councils may form new Family Troops or convert existing boy or girl Jamboree troops, provided there is broad support from registered families, adult volunteers, and Scouts. Councils may add new Family Troops as half units (20) or full units (40) but may not reduce the number of units they committed as of *November 3, 2023*. See more [here](#).

## Scouting for Everyone

Scouting For Everyone - Resilience Through Scouting, an inclusion forum for growing membership and building belonging, will be held on *January 16 and 17* in Los Angeles. Join for an inspiring, hands-on forum dedicated to creating a more inclusive and welcoming Scouting experience for all. For staff members, volunteers, or passionate supporters, this event will empower you with practical tools and fresh insights to grow membership by embracing diversity, removing barriers, and fostering a true sense of belonging in every unit and council. Find more information and register [here](#).

## Scouting America's Vimeo Page

If you have not done so recently, check out the Scouting America [Vimeo page](#) for replays of recent webinars, announcements, updates, and more.

## 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.

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## Reminders from Previous Newsletters

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

Membership Mixer - *December 21 at 8:00 pm Eastern* – 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](#)

Key-3 to Key-3 webinar - *February 23 at 1:00 pm Central*

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](#)

A Discussion with the National Eagle Scout Association President - *January 11* – Register [here](#)

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](#)

