



FEBRUARY 2024 Northampton District Newsletter

Northampton District

MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA



NEWSLETTER... SCOUT SUNDAY!!

February is *Scout Sunday month*, time to participate in religious communities, reinforcing the connection between scouting values and religious principles!

Among other things participating in Scout Sunday provides integration of Scouting Values with faith, community engagement, recognition and appreciation, promotion of Duty to God, and civic responsibility. Do your best this year for Scout Sunday.

2024 DATES

Roundtable 7:00pm	as scheduled (council-wide)
OA Chapter 7:00pm	as scheduled
District Committee 7:00pm	1 st Wednesday
Eagle Board & Project Review	[as needed]
District Commissioners	3 rd Wednesday
OA Family Banquet	January 6, 2024 [13]
Winter Fun Fest	January 13 [2]
Council Recognition Dinner	January 26 [10]
Scout Sunday	February 11
Klondike Derby	February 24 [2]
Winter Webelo Event	February 24 [2]
University of Scouting	TBD
District Pinewood Derby	March 16 [17]
District Bike Hike (Cubs/Troops)	TBD
District First Aid Meet	April 11 [3]
BALOO training	April 12-13 [2]
IOLS training	April 12-13 [2]
Cruise the Gap	May 3-5 [14]
Council Pinewood Derby	May 11 [11]
Hang Dog Event	May 17 [5]
Council Beaver Weekend	May 17-18 [2]
Northampton District Picnic	May 22 [6*]
Spring OA Weekend	May 31-June 2 [2]
OA Section E-17 Conclave	June 7-9 [4]
District Day Camp	July 26-28 [6]
Fall OA Weekend	September 6-8 [2]
National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)	September 20-22 & 27-29 [2]
OA OctoberFest Weekend	October 4-6 [2]
Council Fall Family Weekend	October 11-13 [2]
Scouting for Food	November 2 and 9
District Recharter Night	TBD

MEETING LOCATION KEY

Some meetings may be online or hybrid (link sent via email or posted on calendar)

- [1] Minsi Trails Council Office
- [2] Camp Minsi
- [3] Klecknersville Fire Co.
- [4] Camp No-Be-Bo-Sco, Hardwick Township, NJ
- [5] Hang Dog Outdoor Adventure, 410 Cedarville Rd, Easton, PA 18042
- [6] Louise Moore Park, 151 Country Club Rd, Easton, PA 18045
- [7] Jordan Lutheran Church, 5103 Snowdrift Rd, Orefield, PA
- [8] Northampton Community College
- [9] Wind Gap Fire Company Social Hall, 111 North Broadway, Wind Gap
- [10] East Hills Moravian Church, 1830 Butztown Rd, Bethlehem
- [11] Kelly Jeep
- [12] St. Anne Church, 450 E Washington Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18017,
- [13] DeSales University
- [14] Wind Gap Park, 334 S Lehigh Ave, Wind Gap, PA 18091
- [15] Summit Bechtel Reserve, 2550 Jack Furst Dr, Glen Jean, WV 25846
- [16] Becky's Drive-in, 4845 Lehigh Dr, Walnutport, PA 18088-9597
- [17] Kelly Nissan 3830 Easton-Nazareth Highway, Easton
- [18] PPL Center
- [19] East Hills Middle School, Bethlehem
- [20] Coca-Cola Park, 1050 Ironpigs Way, Allentown, PA 18109
- [21] National Canal Museum, 2750 Hugh Moore Park Rd, Easton, PA

PLEASE NOTE: All dates and locations are tentative and should be confirmed online or at registration.

NOTICE: If you have a question regarding any date or activity, please contact the respective Chair listed on the District Committee Page.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The Northampton District is a geographical area located in Northampton county which serves the youth of Bethlehem, Bangor, Chapman, Easton, Freemansburg, Glendon, Hellertown, Nazareth, North Catasauqua, Northampton, Pen Argyl, Portland, Roseto, Stockertown, Tatamy, Walnutport, West Easton, Wilson, Wind Gap, and all areas between.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT LINKS

Northampton District Home Page on Council Website:

<http://www.minsitrails.org/districts/northampton-district/60269>

Northampton District Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthamptonDistrict/>

Trail to Eagle Resources:

<http://www.minsitrails.org/eagle-rank/trail-to-eagle-resources/60185>

Northampton District school policies (for recruiting Scouts):

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/2022-northampton-school-policies/210661>

Cub Scout Go and See Guide for Packs, Dens, & Families:

<http://www.minsitrails.org/document/cubscoutgoandseeguidecouncil2021q3/207571>

Current district newsletter (permalink):

http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/current_newsletter.php

District newsletter archive (permalink):

http://www.minsi-northampton.com/newsletters/newsletter_archive.htm

Minsi Trails Council Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/minsitrailsbsa>

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP: 2024 NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 7 - Northampton District Committee meeting

FEBRUARY 15 - Council-wide Roundtable

FEBRUARY 24 - Northampton Klondike @ Camp Minsi

FEBRUARY 24 - Northampton District Winter Webelo Event @ Camp Minsi

MARCH 7 - Northampton District Committee meeting

MARCH 14 - Council-wide Roundtable

MARCH 16 - District Pinewood Derby

COUNCIL-WIDE ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

Time and location(s) TBA

DATE	MAIN TOPIC	CUB SCOUTS	SCOUTS, BSA	SCOUTBOOK
Feb. 15	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
March 14	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

In Northampton District

**Silver Beaver and North Star Awardees, Council Recognition Dinner
East Hills Moravian Church, Bethlehem January 26, 2024**



Troop 311's annual winter campout in Dushore PA, where they stayed in a 100 year old farm house during a snow storm. It's the scouts favorite campout in winter every year. It was between 5° and 20° F the whole weekend.



In Northampton District

**Pack 368 Cake Sale - Advent Moravian Church, Bethlehem
January 27, 2024**



Pack 359 Bowling meeting



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIR

Hello Fellow Scouts,

I trust the new year is treating you well and by now you have stopped writing "2023" whenever you write the date!! I have 3 topics I want to call your attention to this month.

First, a thank you to all who have addressed the open items on Unit Rosters and helped to close the rechartering for their unit. We have a few left to complete and with your help in working with Patti Davis, we hope to complete these in the next week or so. Thanks for your help!

Next, I would like to call your attention to our upcoming District Klondike and Webelos Winter event being held February 24th, 2024 at Camp Minsi. We have a large group of volunteers working each of the venues to provide a fun, active day in the outdoors for your scouts. All we need at this point is YOU! Please sign-up ASAP so we can properly prepare for you and your scouts. Signups can be completed online, and a link is available on the Minsi Trails website under the Upcoming Scout Events calendar found on the right side of the home page (<https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3012029>). Thank you!

My final topic is our 2024 Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) initiative. Councils within the BSA do not get any type of funding from the National Council. They are required to raise the necessary funds to run camps, run our service center and scout shop, and, provide Scouting Professionals who make the programs work for our Scouts, Leaders, and Units. These funds come from numerous sources such as program/camp fees, foundation funds, fundraising events, and, private donations through the Family FOS. Some of you have already signed up to conduct an FOS presentation. Thank you for signing up and we encourage someone within your unit to help conduct that presentation. If necessary, we can find one of our District volunteers to attend your function and conduct the presentation instead. Either way, we need your help to schedule an FOS presentation at a Unit event when there is a large participation from your Unit Scout families present. If you have already set a date, thank you and I hope that you can help provide a presenter (a great role for a Committee Chair or COR). If not, please work through our Family FOS Chair, Bob Obermeyer, to set up a day/time. Bob can be emailed at Obie1949@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for helping our Council keep Scouting alive here in Northampton District.

YIS,

Mike Caffrey
Northampton District Chair



Membership News

Northampton District/National Award information can be found on the Minsi Trails website under District/ Northampton (<https://www.minsitrails.org/districts/northampton-district/60269>). We ask that each unit review the awards. Please nominate a candidate from your unit for the District Scouting Spirit Award and send it to Drew Draper (acdramer31@rcn.com) or Mike Caffery (mikecee1062@yahoo.com).

Pinewood Derby Kits

We are fortunate this year to again have Kelly Automotive sponsoring the Northampton District Pinewood Derby. They have also graciously offered to provide each registered Cub Scout with a Pinewood Derby kit. Please contact the Scout Shop to place your order for the kits. You will be notified when the kits are in and available for pick up. Pinewood Derby rules are on the Minsi Trails Council website and following this article in this newsletter.

72 Hour Rule

As you are aware, the 72-hour rule expired on September 1, 2023. What does this mean for your unit? Any adult who attends a **Troop** overnight activity will be required to be a registered adult. That can be as an Assistant Scoutmaster, a member of your unit committee, or an adult program participant; **this applies to Scout BSA units only**. Cub Scout exceptions are listed below.

Volunteers who help at fundraisers, community service and/or Eagle projects do not need to be registered. However there **always** needs to be at least 2 registered adults at these events. See details below:

The following is from the Guide to Safe Scouting under Youth Protections & Adult Leadership section (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/>):

Registration Requirements

The chartered organization representative, or in their absence the executive officer of the chartered organization, must approve the registration of the unit's adult leaders.

Registration includes:

- Completion of application including criminal background check and mandatory Youth Protection training
- Volunteer Screening Database check

Current Youth Protection training is required for leaders when renewing their registration or at unit charter renewal.

Adult program participants must register as adults and follow Youth Protection policies.

Adult Supervision

(Effective September 1, 2023) **Two registered adult leaders 21 years of age or over are required at all Scouting activities, including all meetings. There must be a registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over in every unit serving females. A registered female adult leader 21 years of age or over must be present for any activity involving female youth or female adult program participants.**

Notwithstanding the minimum leader requirements, age and program-appropriate supervision must always be provided.

All adults staying overnight in connection with a Scouting activity must be currently registered as an adult volunteer or an adult program participant. Adult volunteers must register in the position(s) they are serving in. Registration as a merit badge counselor position does not meet this requirement. See FAQ (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/yp-faqs/>) for list of approved adult registration fee required positions. *Limited exception below for Cub Scout overnight Programs.*

Membership News

Cub Scout Programs – Overnight Exception: Cub Scout parents or legal guardians taking part in an overnight Cub Scout program with their own child or legal ward are not required to register as leaders. All adults must review the *“How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide”* that can be found in the front of each Cub Scout Handbook or online at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/parents-guides/>. In addition, the parent or legal guardian must be accompanied by a registered leader at any time they are with youth members other than their own child/ward. All other overnight adults must be currently registered in an adult fee required position. *(End Effective September 1, 2023 Update)*

We strongly recommend that any parent who attends an outing with your unit take Youth Protection Training.

Keep in mind that any adult who registers in a position will also need to provide all Pennsylvania clearances in addition to the Youth Protection training as well as any requirements associated with your Charter Organization.

Adventures for Cub Scouts:

Packs check out the Cub Scout Go and See guide on the Minsi Trails Council website under districts/Northampton. A resource of local activities and locations and what Cub Scout requirements they can help fulfill. Lots of opportunities to work on adventures towards rank.

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/cubscoutgoandseeguidecouncil2021q3/207571>

Cub Scout Rank Advancement Changes Coming June 2024

National is working on updating requirements for Cub ranks. These changes will take effect in June 2024. We would urge you to make sure that all Cubs complete their current rank requirements and update them on Scoutbook before June. For details see the website below:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>

Scouts BSA Interpreter Strip

For Scouts taking a foreign language in school, this is an excellent opportunity to earn your Interpreter strip. Adults and Scouts BSA are eligible for this strip. Below are the requirements. Thank You Troop 302 for reminding us.

Overview

To signify that a youth or adult member speaks a foreign language (one other than English)

French; German; Spanish; signing; Dutch; Italian; Portuguese; Russian; Cantonese (Chinese); Greek; Japanese; Simplified Mandarin (Chinese); Traditional Mandarin (Chinese); Vietnamese; American Sign Language; Hebrew; Morse Code.

Who Can Earn This Award?

Any member who speaks a specific foreign language; demonstrate knowledge by carrying on a five-minute conversation in this language, translating a two-minute speech or address, and writing a letter in the language (does not apply for sign language); or, translating 200 words from the written word.

Requirements

Youth and adults may wear this strip if they show their knowledge of a foreign language or sign language by:

1. Carrying on a five-minute conversation in this language.
2. Translating a two-minute speech or address.
3. Writing a letter in the language (does not apply for sign language).
4. Translating 200 words from the written word.

Membership News

2023 Eagle Class - Eagle Scout Scholarship Award

Congratulations to those who have achieved the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. You have just begun your life journey and with the skills and character you've developed in Scouting, you have a solid foundation to build upon. As a future leader, Eagle Scouts like you, are critical to preserving the fabric of our great nation.

As part of the Minsi Trails Council Eagle Scout Class, a Scholarship Award is offered. All Eagle Scouts from their respective Eagle Class Year are invited to submit an application. Awardees are selected based on activities, experiences and accomplishments in Scouting, school, and other aspects of their personal life.

Application process closes on March 1, 2024. Awardees are recognized at the Minsi Trails Council Court of Honor and Recognition Dinner in May 2024.

Download Form at <https://www.minsitrails.org/document/2023eagleclass-eaglescholarshipaward/211816>

National Eagle Scout Association & General Financial Scholarships

Scholarships - The National Eagle Scout Association (<https://nesa.org/scholarships/>)

Eagle Scout Scholarship Award FAQ

Q. When will the 2023 Eagle Scholarships be announced?

A. Awardees will be announced mid April 2024.

Q. What determines my class?

A. Simply, the year date of your Board of Review is your class!

Trail Notes

To get a copy of Minsi Trails Council's Trail Notes in your in-box, sign up at:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/p149DPC/mtcnews>

Unit Commissioners Needed

Volunteers are needed as Unit Commissioners. Contact District Commissioner Bill Brugger at we.brugger@gmail.com if you are interested. This is a great way to continue serving in Scouting after your daughter or son has aged out.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

February 15	Council-wide Roundtable	TBD
February 24	Northampton Klondike	Camp Minsi
February 24	Northampton District Winter Webelo Event	Camp Minsi
March 14	Council-wide Roundtable	TBD
March 16	NRA Basic Rifle Training	Camp Minsi
March 16	District Pinewood Derby	Location TBD
March 23	Markmanship Madness	Camp Minsi
April 6	Trade-O-Ree	Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield
April 11	District First Aid Meet	Klecknersville Fire Company
April 12-13	BALOO training	Camp Minsi
April 12-13	IOLS training	Camp Minsi
May 3-5	Cruise the Gap	Wind Gap Park
May 17-18	Hang Dog outing	Hang Dog Outdoor Adventure
May 17-18	Beaver Weekend	Camp Minsi
May 22	District Picnic	Louise Moore Park

Patti Davis

Northampton District Membership Chair

2023-24 MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL PINEWOOD DERBY RULES

INSPECTION: Each car must pass inspection by the official inspection committee before it may compete. The car is to be held by the scout NOT THE PARENT as you prepare for inspection and throughout the race. The inspectors will disqualify those cars which cannot be made to meet these specifications. The race committee will hold cars that pass inspection until the race and inspect the winning cars following the race.

JUDGES: The decision of the judges on race day is final. Pinewood cars not meeting rule requirements will be permitted to race but **WILL NOT** be eligible for trophies! Questions and polite discussion will be allowed up to the point of a decision by the judges. Failure to follow this rule may lead to the disqualification of the car involved by the judges. At the discretion of the judges persons may be ejected from the premises of the race for behavior they deem disruptive, un-sportsman-like, or un-scout-like.

ATTACHMENTS: The car must be freewheeling with no starting devices.

AXLE CHANNEL: The BSA Pinewood Block's pre-cut slots must be used for the axles. The channel or groove designed to hold the axle must not be filled-in. The judge must be able to inspect the axle. If axles are loose secure them with transparent glue.

AXLES: Only the nails supplied with the kit are permitted. They must be mounted in the wood grooves only. The axles may be glued in place with transparent glue. They may be polished or lubricated but not machined or narrowed. Full length axles that can be purchased at hobby shops ARE NOT PERMITTED.

DETAILS: Details such as Steering Wheels, Driver Decals, Painting, etc. are permitted as long as these details do not exceed the maximum length, width and weight specifications.

HEIGHT: The bottom of the car must clear the guide strip (3/8 ") on the track. The car may not be more than 3" high.

HUBCAPS: No type of hubcap is permitted. This includes decals.

LENGTH: Overall length shall not exceed 7".

LUBRICATION: Dry Lubrication only is permitted. **ABSOLUTELY NO ADDITIONAL LUBRICATION PERMITTED AFTER INSPECTION!**

NEW CAR: A new car must be built each year. Pre-cut cars that can be purchased at hobby shops ARE NOT PERMITTED! Scouts must use the Grand Prix Pinewood Derby kit.

NOSE OF CAR: The nose must extend beyond the leading edge of the front wheel; however, no portion of the car can extend past the starting gate / peg.

SPRINGING: The car shall not ride on any type of springs or suspension.

WEIGHT: Weight shall not exceed 5.0 ounces. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in the car. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal -provided that it is securely built into the body. Electronic scales will be used for the weight check.

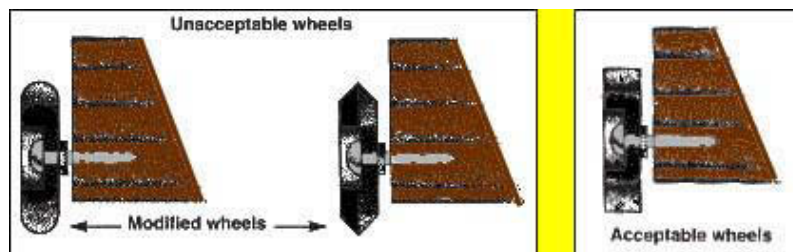
WHEEL BASE: (Length) Length of wheel base (front axle to rear axle) must be within the limits of 4 1/2" maximum and 4 1/4" minimum (essentially, the distance provided by the grooves precut into the supplied wood block).

WHEEL BASE: (inside) Do not make the distance between the left and right wheels narrower than 1 3/4 " or the car will not run down the track.

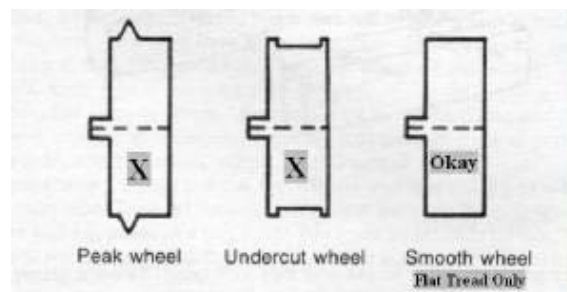
WHEEL BEARINGS: Bearings, washers, or other types of bushings are NOT permitted.

WHEELS: Only BSA licensed Grand Prix Wheels may be used. Wheels must have "BSA" printed on them from the manufacturer. BSA - Black, Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, Pink, Purple, Orange and Glow-in-the-dark are only wheels permitted. Alterations to the wheels are not permitted - the wheels may not be cut, drilled, beveled or rounded. The shape must remain the same. The plastic flashing may be removed (outside edge). All 4 wheels **must** make contact with the track surface (this is tested by free rolling the car). **Wheel surfaces must remain flat with full tread contact and cannot ride on edges or they WILL NOT pass inspection!**

WIDTH: Overall width shall not exceed 2 3/4 ".



Wheel Tread Example



Wheel surfaces must remain flat with full tread contact and cannot ride on edges or they WILL NOT pass inspection!



NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT

PINEWOOD DERBY



**March 16th, 2024
Time: 8:00am-2:00pm**

**Kelly Nissan
3830 Easton-Nazareth Hwy
Easton, PA 18045**



**Fun for the whole family!
Bring a friend!**

For more information:
Mike Borgman mike.borgman@scouting.org



*An annual scouting
tradition, come and
see the Northampton
District Pinewood
Derby!*

Advancement Updates 2024

As of January 1, 2024, the following changes to Scouts BSA requirements become effective.

Rank Requirements:

There were minor changes to Scout (6), and Star (6).

The Cyberchip has been phased out. Scouts should use the Personal Safety Awareness training at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/> for both Scout and Star ranks.

Eagle Palms:

Scouts BSA will no longer have to wait three months between Eagle Palms. They will have to earn five additional merit badges, and live by the Scout Oath and Law.

Merit badge with significant changes to content are:

- Automotive Maintenance – updated to include electric/hybrid vehicles (1c,d,e,f,g,h) (2a,b,c,d,e) (3c) (8a,e,f)
- Canoeing – major reorganization (3) (4b) (7) (8) (9)
- Coin Collecting – reorganization and updated for new/retired coinages (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)
- Fire Safety – safety updates (1c) (2) (4) (6b,c,d,g) (7a) (9a) (10a) (11)
- First Aid* – more hands-on (2) (4) (7) (8d) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)
- Golf – reorganized and added disc golf option (1) (2)
- Insect Study – expanded requirements (2) (4) (6a,b) (12)
- Journalism – included social media (2a1)
- Nuclear Science – updated, more active options (1a,b,c,d,e) (2b) (3a,b) (4,4c) (6a,b)
- Safety – updated to include natural disasters (1c) (2c,d,e)
- Skating – added skateboarding option (1b)(2) (Skateboarding Option), Ice Skating Option (2b1) (2d2), Roller Skating Option (2c1)(2d2)
- Surveying – added use of drones (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)
- Sustainability* – major reorganization (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)
- Swimming* – added correct demonstration of strokes (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

Merit badges with minor changes

include:

Backpacking (11b)	Indian Lore (2) (3) (4) (5)
Bird Study (2) (4) (7) (8c) (9d) (11) (12)	Law (1) (5) (11)
Camping* (9c)	Mining in Society (8c)
Chemistry (2c) (5)	Photography (1a)
Cooking* (5 a,b,c,d,e)	Plant Science (8 Option 1: Agronomy E5c)
Digital Technology (1)	Programming (1a)
Engineering (5) (6c)	Radio (9a5)
Fly-Fishing (3b,c) (10)	Scouting Heritage (2b3, b4) (3) (4c)

The current merit badge requirements are found at <https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>

"*" indicates Eagle required merit badge

The Guide to Advancement Section 7.0.4.3 addresses what to do when merit badge requirements change and Section 4.0.0.1 addresses changes to rank requirements. This can be found at <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

Cub Scout Program Updates Announced

- November 9, 2023

It's official! The Cub Scout program will be updated for the 2024-25 program year. Over the past several years the National Cub Scouting Committee under the leadership of past chair Lisa Wylie and current chair Audrey Oakes has identified four areas to improve the Cub Scout program to ensure that it is fun, simple, and easy.

Over the past five years the National Cub Scouting has been working on these updates. These updates are based on feedback from over 23,000 parents and Cub Scout leaders through various surveys and data. Listening to and identify the key opportunities to improve the program the National Cub Scout committee is excited to finally reveal these improvements. Over the past year these improvements have been socialized to thousands of individuals with overwhelming support.



BOBCAT

- One set of requirements is ineffective
- What to do with returning Cub Scouts
- Rank or not a rank?



ADVENTURES

- Disjointed required adventure topics
- Inconsistent number of adventures for each rank
- Volunteers want more elective adventures



WEBELOS (4TH/5TH GRADE)

- Length of Webelos program
- Does not follow the pattern of other ranks
- Purpose of the program



AWARDS


































- Awards are not in the direct line of sight of Den Leaders
- Average attachment rate of 1.5%
- Awards do not drive behavior

The four areas of improvement are the Bobcat badge, Cub Scout Adventures, Webelos, and Cub Scout Awards.

Bobcat will no longer be a badge that is earned once when a Cub Scout joins. It will become a required Adventure for each rank and earned each year. The requirements for the Bobcat Adventure are different for each grade to make them age-appropriate.

2024-2025 Cub Scout Badges of Rank Requirements

The Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required Adventure. Each badge of rank is earned by completing six required and two elective Adventures. The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA.

 LION Kindergarten	 TIGER 1 st Grade	 WOLF 2 ND Grade	 BEAR 3 RD Grade	 WEBELOS 4 TH Grade	 ARROW OF LIGHT 5 TH Grade
 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership
 MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	 TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors	 PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors	 BEAR HABITAT Outdoors	 WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors	 OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors
 FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	 TIGER BITES Personal Fitness	 RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness	 BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness	 STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness	 PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness
 KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	 TEAM TIGER Citizenship	 COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship	 PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship	 MY COMMUNITY Citizenship	 CITIZENSHIP Citizenship
 LION ROAR Personal Safety	 TIGER ROAR Personal Safety	 SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety	 STANDING TALL Personal Safety	 MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid	 FIRST AID Safety/First Aid
 LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	 TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	 FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	 FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	 MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	 DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
 2 Elective Adventures	 2 Elective Adventures	 2 Elective Adventures	 2 Elective Adventures	 2 Elective Adventures	 2 Elective Adventures

11/9/23

Cub Scout Adventures have been improved to make it easier to deliver the program to multi-rank dens or as a Pack. To earn each rank in Cub Scouting will require a Cub Scout to earn the six required Adventures and two with elective Adventures. Required Adventures reflect the aims and focus areas of the BSA. The number of elective Adventures increases.

Webelos and Arrow of Light will be separated. Webelos becomes the 4th-grade program in Cub Scouting. Arrow of Light becomes a stand-alone badge of rank for 5th graders and will no longer be associated with Webelos. Arrow of Light will be the program that prepares Cub Scouts to join Scouts BSA.


Cub Scouts Awards will be reimagined as Cub Scout Adventures. Topics like camping, STEM, and range and target sports will remain and are reimagined into elective Adventures that can be used towards earning a badge of rank.

The changes will take effect officially on June 1, 2024.



CUB SCOUT PROGRAM UPDATES ROLLOUT

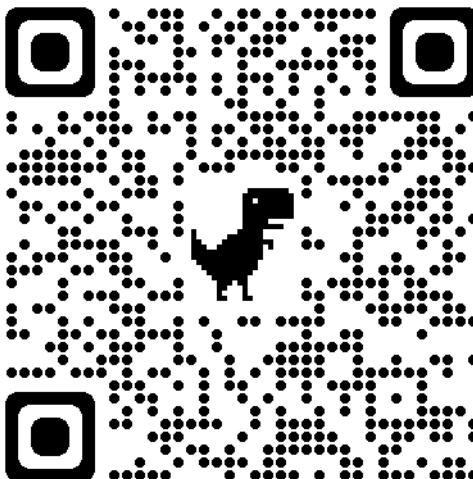
NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Cub Chat Live! 11-10-23 General Announcement	Cub Chat Live! 12-1-23 Rank Advancements and Bobcat	Cub Chat Live! 1-12-24 New and Improved Adventures	Cub Chat Live! 2-2-24 Webelos and Arrow of Light	Cub Chat Live! 3-1-24 Handbooks and Leader Resources	Cub Chat Live! 4-5-24 Den and Pack Meetings	Cub Chat Live! 5-10-24 Top 10 Most Common Questions	Cub Chat Live! 6-7-24 Safety Integration

<p>Council Programs</p> <p>Resources for councils and districts to plan for programs for the summer of 2024</p>	<p>Presenters Trained</p> <p>December 18 Team of experts trained and available to present to local councils and districts.</p>	<p>Prime Time Episodes of Cub Chat Live!</p> <p>January 16th @ 7 p.m. Central January 23rd @ 7 p.m. Central January 30th @ 7 p.m. Central</p>	<p>Scouts BSA</p> <p>Resources for Scouts BSA Leaders</p>	<p>Scout Shops</p> <p>Spring of 2024 New Cub Scout Handbooks New Cub Scout Adventures Loops and Pins</p>	<p>Training</p> <p>Position Specific Training Updated Updated Cub Scout Roundtable Videos</p>	<p>On-line Tools</p> <p>Scoutbook Updated Online Reports Updated</p>
	<p>Commissioners</p> <p>Resources for Commissioners</p>					

There are a lot of details that will be shared in future episodes of [Cub Chat Live!](#) Make sure to check out the episodes. Cub Chat Live! is a weekly Facebook Live show that streams live every Friday at 2 p.m. Central. Episodes are recorded and are now available as a podcast.



Official information and updates can be found on [Scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org)



Northampton-Warren Districts Klondike

Save the Date

February 24th 2024

Gold Rush



12 stations of scout skills

Tie breaker is a scout trivia quiz for leaders– No open book test.

Campsites are available for overnight camping

Patrols of 4 to a max of 8 scouts per sled.

Location

Camp Minsi

For overnight camping reservations contact

Brian Dungan at Brian.dungan@scouting.org

For registration and event questions contact

Chris Fluke at dfluke15@gmail.com

Registration is now open at <https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3012029>

2024 Northampton-Warren Klondike

Day of Event Schedule

7:30-8:45 am - Registration in the Dining Hall (SPL and Scoutmaster) with two rosters. Sled Inspection will be done right after registration.

8:45 am - Opening on the parade field.

9:00-9:30 am - Station 1

9:30-10:00 am - Station 2

10:00-10:30 am - Station 3

10:30-11:00 am - Station 4

11:00-11:30 am - Station 5

11:30-12:00 pm - Station 6

12:00-12:45 pm - Lunch, Each unit will need to provide their own lunch.

1:00-1:30 pm - Station 7

1:30-2:00 pm - Station 8

2:00-2:30 pm - Station 9

2:30-3:00 pm - Station 10

3:00-3:30 pm - Station 11

3:30-4:00 pm - Station 12

4:00 pm - Drop off score cards at the Dining Hall

4:30 pm - Scores will be announced and trophies will be given out to the top 3 sleds. Depart from camp after closing.

Download the Klondike Leaders Guide at:

<https://www.minsitrails.org/document/northampton-warren-2024-klondike-leaders-guide/213132>

ATTENTION WEBELOS!

PUT YOUR SKILLS TO THE TEST DURING
NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT'S
WINTER WEBELOS EVENT.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024
CAMP MINSI
8 AM TO 4:30 PM

KNOT
TYING

GENERAL
KNOWLEDGE

FIRST
AID

SHELTER
BUILDING

FLAG

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

SIGN UP AS PATROLS (4-6 SCOUTS PER)
BY JANUARY 31ST TO SECURE EVENT PATCH.

REGISTRATION CLOSSES
FEBRUARY 16TH, 2024

\$15
PER SCOUT

QUESTIONS?
CALL 610-264-8551
EMAIL: ASHLEY.LEEPER@SCOUTING.ORG

Webelos Winter Adventure
2024

Grab your Webelos and come join us for an Adventure in the cold and snow at Webelos Winter Adventure where we will test their skills on the things that you have learned so far as a Webelos scout.

Where: Camp Minsi

When: February 24, 2024

Who: All Webelos and Arrow of Light Cubs

Register your patrol with a patrol name. Each patrol will consist of 4-6 Webelos. It is recommended to mix your Webelos and Arrow of Lights to form your patrols. Each patrol is asked to have a patrol name as well as a patrol flag. Each member of the patrol is asked to carry a day pack with the Cub Scout six essentials. Make sure at least one of the members of the patrol has their Webelos handbook.

What to bring: Each Webelo is asked to bring a day pack with extra warm clothing (If needed)

Inside the pack is the six Cub Scout Essentials

Whistle

Water Bottle

Snack

Hat or Sun protection

Flashlight

First Aid Kit

NO POCKET KNIVES

Webelos Handbook

Each cub will need to bring a packed lunch. We are hoping to have hot cocoa, coffee, and tea available for the cubs and leaders.

Your Webelos will test their skills in the following areas.

Knot Tying: There are several knots and hitches that a Webelo should know. They are the overhand, square, and bowline knot, and the Half hitch and taut line. They will be asked to tie these. Each cub will be given a section of rope. They will need to know which knot or hitch they need to tie to make one long rope to perform a task. They will be given points for the proper tying of the knot, whether or not they used the proper knot and how well they work as a team.

First Aid: The patrol will be given a scenario. They will need to be able to perform the proper first aid to match the scenario. The first aid scenarios are things that they have learned out of their handbook. Points will be given on how well they perform the task, and how well they work as a team.

Fire Building: The patrol will be given all of the necessary tools to build a log cabin fire. They will be asked to build, light, and hopefully burn through their string. The patrol will be given points on the proper use of their building tools, whether or not they were able to light the fire, and or burn the string, and teamwork.

Shelter Building: The patrol will be given the necessary equipment to build a shelter. The shelter needs to be big enough for all of the patrol to fit into it. They will be scored on the use of their equipment, the knots they used, and teamwork.

Flag Ceremony: The patrol will be given a folded American Flag. They will need to know how to unfold, raise, lower, and refold the flag. The patrol will be awarded points for each area of the flag ceremony. They will also be given points showing the flag the proper respect, and teamwork.

General knowledge: The patrol will be given 25 general knowledge questions. They will be able to use their Webelos Handbook to answer the questions. Each question will be worth 1 point. Points will be awarded for each correct answer along with extra points for teamwork.

Obstacle course: Each patrol will be asked to choose one leader at each station. The leader will need to lead the patrol through the task at that station. All members of the patrol must get through. There will be several tasks within the obstacle course. The patrol will be asked to perform something different at each station. The patrol will be awarded points on each task based on how well they perform as a team and whether or not they were able to complete the task.

Awarding of Points: Each station will be worth 1-25 points depending on the patrol's performance, 5 additional points will be awarded for teamwork, and an additional 5 points will be awarded if the patrol can produce one of the 6 Cub Scout essentials that goes with that station. The maximum points for each station is 35 points.

The obstacle course will be awarded points for teamwork, whether or not the task was completed and points for how well the leader was able to lead the patrol. 5 points for teamwork at each station, 20 points for each task completed, and 20 points for leadership at each station. 100 points are possible for a job well done.

There are a total of 310 points to be awarded. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards will be given out. Also an award for the patrol who scored the highest in each of the stations. All together there will be 10 awards to be given.

Leaders, we ask that you not assist your cubs at the stations. This will only hinder their chance to score points. Remember, a scout is trustworthy, so we are asking you to set an example for our Webelos.

So, let's have some fun!





Breaking 2024 Summer Camp News!

SAVE THE DATE for 2024!

Camp Minsi 2024 Summer Camp

Sign Up Today!

www.campminsi.org

Overnight camping for Cub Scouts & Scouts, BSA

Week 1 June 23: Cub Scout Resident Camp (At capacity, registration is closed)

Week 2 June 30: Cub Scout Resident Camp & Specialty Camps

Week 3 July 7: Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 4 July 14: Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 5 July 21: Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 6 July 28: Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 7 August 4: Scouts BSA Resident Camp & Webelos Pioneer Camp

New Campership Announcement

We are happy to announce the creation of a new campership that will be given automatically to the first 1000 Minsi Trails Council Scouts going to Camp Minsi Cub Scout, Scouts BSA or Venturing/Sea Scouting Summer Camp in 2024. The new **“General Trexler Campership”** is funded by a portion of the proceeds of the sale of Trexler Scout Reservation, and is intended to directly benefit our council’s scouts. \$75 per scout youth will be taken off the 2024 Camper Fee at Camp Minsi for Minsi Trails Council Scouts, so instead of \$455 for a full week of camp the camp fee will be \$380. Scouts can also apply for our other camperships to further reduce the cost of attendance. More info about those camperships is in this email.

Weeks at Camp Minsi are filling up fast. If your Pack or Troop has not signed up for Camp Minsi yet, please do so as soon as possible as some weeks are close to capacity and two are filled. Sign up at www.campminsi.org

Cub Scout Resident Camp

Week 1 June 23-28 **Registration is Closed**

Week 2 June 30-July 5 **Limited space available**

Scouts, BSA and Webelos Pioneer Camp

Week 3 July 7-13 **Limited space available**

Week 4 July 14-20 **Registration is Closed**

Week 5 July 21-27 **Open for Registration**

Week 6 July 28- August 3 **Open for Registration** Also Venturing/Sea Scout Week

Week 7 August 4-10 – **Online Registration is closed, call for more information.**

Join the Camp Minsi Team

Earlier this month we announced our management team. Foof, Kasey, Matt and Trey have been busy interviewing staff and filling up the staff roster. While most of the staff positions have been filled, we are still accepting applications, especially for lifeguards.

Please fill out the camp staff application if interested in joining the team.

<https://www.minsitrails.org/summer-camps/summer-camp-staff-application/>

2024 Minsi Trails Council Campership Information

While the pinnacle of any Scouting experience is attending Summer Camp, the leadership of the Minsi Trails Council realizes the cost of providing this experience can be a lot for some families to pay. Funds are available to assist those families who request help so that the Scout may have camping experience. These funds are made possible by individuals and organizations who understand the lifelong impact Summer Camp has on youth. This assistance is provided in the form of a “Campership” through the application and review process.

All applications are due by April 1, 2024 in the Minsi Trails Council office. All applications and FAQ are available on www.minsitrails.org/camperships

Camperships Available

Minsi Trails Council Campership - Approximately \$15,000 will be available in 2024. This campership is available to any Minsi Trails Council Scout going to Camp Minsi Cub Scout or Scouts, BSA Summer Camp or a Minsi Trails Council Cub Scout Day Camp.

Ed Hughes Foundation Camp Scholarship Fund - Over \$15,000 available in 2024 The Ed Hughes Foundation Camp Scholarship Fund was established to assist in making the council’s vision a reality by providing financial assistance to BSA registered youth of the old Anthracite District footprint to attend camp. Scouts in these zip codes 18201, 18202, 18211, 18216, 18219, 18221, 18222, 18223, 18224, 18225, 18227, 18230, 18231, 18234, 18237, 18239, 18241, 18242, 18243, 18246, 18247, 18248, 18249, 18251, 18254, 18255, 18256, 18661, and 18985 are qualified to apply.

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Camp Scholarship - \$1,500 is available in 2024. The Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church Camp Scholarship Fund was established to assist in making the council’s vision a reality by providing financial assistance to BSA registered youth of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church to attend camp. Applicants must be a member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church 4102 S. Main St, Whitehall, PA and a BSA registered youth within Minsi Trails Council. There is \$1500 available in 2024 for this campership.

Camp Minsi Management Announcement and Campership Info



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We are pleased to announce the 2024 Camp Minsi Management Team.

Camp Director – Dr. James "Foof" Feuerstein



We are excited to have Dr. James Feuerstein back as the Camp Director for Camp Minsi. James has served as Camp Director at Akelaland since 2003. He is Scoutmaster for Troop 97 Girls, Cubmaster for Pack 90, and a Crew Advisor. As a youth, James was First Vice Chief and then Lodge Chief of Witauchsoman Lodge #44. He started his camp staff journey by working on staff at Camp Minsi as a youth. Many of you know Dr. Feuerstein better as “Foof.”

James’ many awards include the District Award of Merit, Eagle Scout, Vigil Membership in the Order of the Arrow, and Founders Award for the OA. He was also presented the Silver Beaver Award by Minsi Trails Council. He is a gifted education teacher who has served as chapter president of the PA Association for Gifted Education, a MathCounts coach, an Envirothon coach, and a coach for local youth sports programs. He has also been named the Sigma Xi Educator of the Year.

Program Director Scouts, BSA - Matt Gillespie



Matt has held various positions as part of summer camp staff over the years, and most recently served as the Settlers Camp Program Director for the final year at Trexler Scout Reservation.

He is extremely excited to return for another summer and is looking forward to the unique opportunities present this year, including the development of a new program that will provide Scouts

with the best experiences that had previously been spread out across three camps.

Matt is looking forward to working with the rest of the Camp Minsi management team, and is extremely grateful for their support, as well that of his wife and their two children.

Program Director, Cub Scouts – Kasey Pohl

Since 2021 Kasey Pohl has been the Akelaland Cub Scout Program Director. Kasey has been an elementary school teacher for the past 20 years and currently teaches for the Stroudsburg School District. She has also served as a Den Leader for Pack 90 the past five years.



Assistant Program Director – Trey Wachob



Trey has served on the Akelaland Cub Scout Camp since 2018. He served on Pioneer Staff 2018-2020, Director of Special Operations in 2022, and Assistant Program Director in 2023.

Trey is an Eagle Scout and is on NYLT Staff.

Trey is a Vigil honor member of the OA and has been serving as the Lodge Chief for Witauchsoman Lodge #44 since 2021.



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Support Local Scouting

Support local Scouting by visiting Minsitrails.org/give and making a contribution

• **MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL** •

THE BENEFITS OF DONATING TO SCOUTS

		
<p>BUILDING CHARACTER</p>	<p>HEALTHY LIVING</p>	<p>MENTORING</p>
<p>Scouting allows youth to build more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends. Donations allow entry fees to remain low.</p>	<p>Scouting's outdoor programs such as hiking, swimming, and other physical wellness programs can be offered to mainly due to donations.</p>	<p>The many volunteers would not be able to help these Scouts without the valuable resources, some of which are funded through donations.</p>
		
<p>CAMPING RETREATS</p>	<p>SERVING OTHERS</p>	<p>LIFELONG LEARNING</p>
<p>Donations allow camping costs to be low and even allow no-cost camping trips to those who may not normally be able to afford it.</p>	<p>Boy Scouts prides its focus on helping the community. By giving to Boy Scouts, in turn you're giving to the community!</p>	<p>Donations provide structured settings where young people can learn new skills that will help them succeed.</p>



THANK YOU!
Northampton County



THANK YOU TO NORTHAMPTON COUNTY & THEIR GENEROUS GRANT:

WE ARE ABLE TO REGISTER 95 YOUTH IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY AT **NO COST!**
(Unit dues may apply)

GRANT IS OPEN TO ALL PROGRAMS!

THE FIRST 95 YOUTH TO REGISTER IS AT A **"FIRST COME FIRST SERVE"**

ALL APPLICANTS MUST REGISTER BY **HARD COPY APPLICATIONS!**

ONCE YOUR APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, PLEASE SUBMIT THEM BY HAND TO:

MIKE BORGMAN (610) 465-8575 EMAIL: MIKE.BORGMAN@SCOUTING.ORG

MELISSA MOHR (610) 465-8565 EMAIL: MELISSA.MOHR@SCOUTING.ORG

**IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT:
MIKE OR MELISSA.**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

TOP SECRET

Operation Shadow Recon
A Ministry of Intelligence and National Security Initiative (MINSI) Camporee

Greetings, recruits!

The Ministry of Intelligence and National Security Initiative (MINSI) extends a classified invitation to you, the elite scouts of our council, for a Camporee like no other - Operation Shadow Recon. Prepare to embark on an unforgettable spy-themed adventure where your scouting skills will be put to the ultimate test.

Mission Overview: A clandestine threat looms over our nation, and only the best and brightest Scouts can unravel the mysteries that threaten our security. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to attend the Operation Shadow Recon Camporee and become agents of MINSI. Your objective is to hone your spy skills and thwart the impending danger that lurks in the shadows.

Key Details:

1. [REDACTED] **INSUFFICIENT CLEARANCE**
2. [REDACTED] **INSUFFICIENT CLEARANCE**
3. [REDACTED] **INSUFFICIENT CLEARANCE**

Event Details:

Date: April 26-28, 2024

Location: Camp Minsi, Pocono Summit, PA

Attire: Spy-themed costumes encouraged (disguises may be necessary!)

Equipment: Bring your camping gear, along with a keen sense of adventure.

Remember: This mission is top-secret, and discretion is of the utmost importance. Your scout troop is our last line of defense, and the success of Operation Shadow Recon rests in your hands.

Are you ready to become agents of MINSI and save the day? Your nation is counting on you. Good luck, scouts!

This message will self-destruct in 5...4...3... Just kidding. See you at the Camporee!



Taking Your Scouts To A Civil War Battlefield?

I am a Civil War reenactor with the 153rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and an Eagle Scout. I would be happy to come to your meeting to explain the battlefield you are going to, or just Civil War history in general. I do all presentations in full period uniform.

David Burgermeister
610-694-9520



NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT

1st AID MEET

SAVE-THE-DATE



THURSDAY APRIL 11, 2024
Check-in starts at 6:15pm
Event starts at 7:00pm



Klecknersville Rangers
Fire Station
2718 Mountain View Drive
Bath, PA 18014

SOME THINGS TO KNOW:

- The theme for the event will be a super heroes
- The 1st Aid Meet will consist of a written test and 3-4 scenarios
- Awards will be given to the top finishers
- Patrol sizes will be 4-8 scouts
- Patrol Flag Competition will take place (start working on them now!!)
- Each patrol must provide an adult judge
- Webelos may serve as victims for the patrol, but may not be a “rescuer”
- The event will be completed by 9:15pm
- Sample tests and problems can be found at Venturing Crew #77’s website, www.BSACrew77.org

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SENT OUT IN FEBRUARY

Any questions or concerns, please contact the First Aid Meet Committee at:

VentureCrew77@aol.com

First Aid Meet Committee Chairperson: Chris Lubenetski

SAVE THE DATE

National Youth Leadership Training Two weekend course

September 20-22 and 27-29, 2024

Camp Minsi

Registration starts after New Year



**Venturers and Scouts BSA,
Get ready for your next step
in Leadership Training!**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL

SAVE THE DATE

“Cruise the Gap” Camporee

May 3-5, 2024 | Northampton District | Wind Gap Park

Wind Gap Borough, is joining the Northampton District of Minsi Trails Council to host the Cruise the Gap Camporee. The weekend will offer cub adventures and merit badges connected to the “Cruise the Gap” theme. Cub leaders will have the opportunity to complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation Training (Baloo).

Cub Adventure Program

Tiger - My Tiger Jungle; Tigers in the Wild; Rolling Tigers

Wolf - Call of the Wild; Paws on the Path; Finding Your Way

Bear - Bear Necessities; Fur, Feathers, and Ferns; Baloo the Builder

Webelos/AOL - Cast Iron Chef; Webelos Walkabout; Build It; Into the Woods; Outdoor Adventurer; Scouting Adventurer

Cub Scout Leaders - Baloo Training

Scout Program

Tenderfoot - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Tools; Hiking

Second Class - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Navigation; Nature

First Class - Camping & Outdoor Ethics; Navigation; Tools; Nature

Merit Badges - Cycling, Orienteering

Registration

Online registration will open December 1, 2023 through the Minsi Trails website. Units who register before March 1, 2024 will be guaranteed a patch for their participants and a full registration refund if they check-in to the Camporee. Registration is \$5 per participant.

There are many more exciting activities being planned for this weekend of scouting adventure.

Save the date and prepare to sign-up when registration opens on **December 1, 2023**.

Being a Unit Commissioner in Northampton District

Being a Unit Commissioner in Minsi Trails Council can be a rewarding and fulfilling role. Unit Commissioners play a critical part in supporting and assisting Scout units (such as Cub Scout packs, Scout troops, and Venturing crews) within the district or council. While the position comes with responsibilities, the rewards of being a Unit Commissioner include:

- 1. Mentorship and Support:** Unit Commissioners serve as mentors and provide support to unit leaders. The opportunity to guide and assist leaders in their roles can be personally rewarding as you help with the growth and success of individual units.
- 2. Impact on Youth Development:** By working closely with unit leaders, Unit Commissioners contribute to the positive development of young people. Scouts benefit from the guidance and assistance provided by commissioners, and witnessing the impact on their personal and leadership development can be gratifying.
- 3. Community Engagement:** Unit Commissioners have the chance to engage with the broader Scouting community. This involvement creates a sense of camaraderie and belonging within the Scouting movement and allows commissioners to make meaningful connections with fellow volunteers, professionals, and families.
- 4. Leadership Skills/Problem Solving:** The role of a Unit Commissioner often involves addressing challenges and providing solutions. This experience enhances problem-solving and leadership skills as commissioners work together with unit leaders to overcome obstacles and improve the overall health of Scout units.
- 5. Personal Growth and Learning:** Serving as a Unit Commissioner provides ongoing opportunities for personal growth and learning. Commissioners receive training, updates on Scouting programs, and exposure to various aspects of unit administration. This on-going learning contributes to their own development as leaders and mentors.
- 6. Building Relationships:** Commissioners build relationships with unit leaders, scouts, and their families. These connections create a sense of community and support that goes beyond Scouting activities. Enduring bonds contribute to a positive Scouting experience for everyone involved.
- 7. Contribution to Scouting Movement:** Unit Commissioners play a vital role in the overall success of the Scouting movement. Their efforts contribute to the health and sustainability of individual units, ensuring that scouts have a positive and enriching experience in the program. This contribution to the larger Scouting community is a source of pride for commissioners.



While the position of Unit Commissioner involves dedication and responsibility, the rewards of positively influencing youth, contributing to the Scouting community, and personal growth make it a valuable and fulfilling role for those passionate about Scouting. The Northampton District needs commissioners to service our units. If you are interested in becoming a commissioner, please email me at we.brugger@gmail.com. We would like to get you on board as soon as possible.

Yours In Scouting,

William Brugger,
District Commissioner

The Takhone Corner



Hello Everyone!

I WANT YOU TO HELP OUT WITH A UNIT ELECTION!

We need help covering all of the unit elections in our district; emails will go out about weekly with which units need to be covered.

This will count towards our lodge service award, chapter award, scouting services, and school service hours.

Please contact the Takhone Chapter leadership at takhonechapter@witauchsoman.org, if you can help out!

Thank you!

Casey, Nick, Anthony, Dave, Chris, and Chris

Several Takhone Chapter youth and adult leaders attended the OA's Section E17 Leadership Conference held at The College of New Jersey in Ewing Township, NJ on January 14, 2024.



SCOUTING'S NATIONAL **HONOR** SOCIETY

Put the FUN back into Fundraising!

Plan a spring into Spring Plant Sale!

- Partner with a local greenhouse for deals on plants
- Put together an order sheet to take orders & collect money
- Deliver a spring plants to your friends and family!
- Celebrate a great fundraiser



\$7

VEGETABLES



\$15

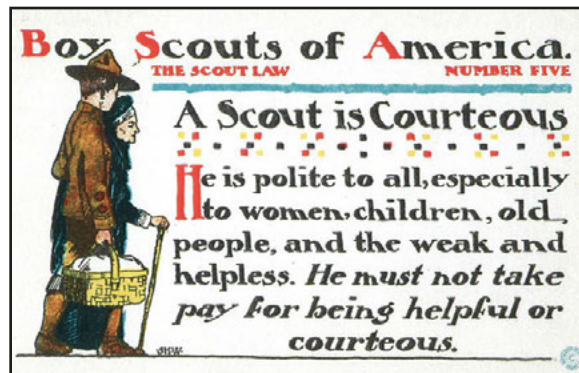
ANNUAL FLOWERS



\$20

HANGING PLANTS

**You can sell flowers, vegetables or both!
Let your greenhouse guide you to what would be a good idea.**



How to earn the BSA Total Solar Eclipse 2024 Emblem

Aaron on Scouting has information about Scouting offering a glow-in-the-dark emblem celebrating the April 8, 2024 total eclipse.

The BSA is celebrating the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, by offering a glow-in-the-dark Total Eclipse 2024 Emblem to youth members. To earn the emblem, participants need to complete five simple requirements:

1. Locate a suitable site for viewing the eclipse using sources like NASA's official site.
2. Describe how to safely view the eclipse, emphasizing the importance of specialized eye protection.
3. Discuss observations and feelings during the eclipse with your group.
4. Complete specific tasks based on scout age groups (Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA members, Venturers, and Sea Scouts).
5. Ask the unit leader to purchase the BSA Total Solar Eclipse 2024 Emblem, available at the Scout Shop along with a glow-in-the-dark patch set and T-shirt.

This emblem initiative aims to engage scouts in the rare celestial event, making it a fun and educational activity for various scouting gatherings.

For more information, visit: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2024/01/24/how-to-earn-the-bsa-total-solar-eclipse-2024-emblem/>



****NOMINATIONS NEEDED BY APRIL 1****

FOR

District Fellowship Award

The Northampton District Fellowship Award is presented annually by the Northampton District to encourage participation at a level of service beyond that of a Unit, or, for long term service to a Unit. The award is available to adult Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature for the District, or, for long-term dedication and service of an outstanding nature for a Unit. The nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to youth. Consideration should be given to the nominee's position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectation of duty. A nominee's attitude and cooperation with the District/Unit is to be taken into consideration. The nominee should exhibit an attitude of fellowship and helpfulness to all Scouters in Unit/District. This award is normally present to a Scouter prior to receiving the District Award of Merit.

District Award of Merit

The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by districts in the same manner that the Silver Beaver is a national award presented by councils. The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. The award is made available annually to two District Scouters. The district need not present all the awards to which it is entitled each year. It is not appropriate to nominate a Scouter who has already received this award. A professional Scouter or other council employee may not receive this award based on employment service. However, a professional Scouter or employee who also serves as a volunteer Scouter may be eligible, based on volunteer service.

The award nomination form is on the Minsi Trails Council / Northampton District website.

Please submit completed forms to Michael Caffrey at mikecee1062@yahoo.com

Training opportunities

Become a better leader!

**FEB
10**

Cub Scout Range Training (Range Master)

Cub Scout Range Training (Range Master) Date - Saturday Feb 10th 2024 Location- Camp Minsi 9am-12 This course is at approx. 2-hours long and...

**MAR
16**

NRA Basic Rifle

NRA Basic Rifle Date - Saturday Dec. 16th 2023 Location- Camp Minsi - Weytrex side A - 8am to 5pm This course is at least 8-hours long and...

**APR
5**

BALOO: Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation 2024

This course is open to all registered Adult Leaders. There is a required prerequisite online training session available at: my.scouting.org> My...

**APR
12**

Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor Course - SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA LEAVE NO TRACE LEVEL 1 INSTRUCTOR COURSE (Formally Leave No Trace Trainer Course) WHEN: April 12-14,...

**APR
12**

BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation

Minsi Trails Council Spring 2024 Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) This course is open to all registered Adult...

**APR
12**

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills IOLS

Minsi Trails Council Spring 2024 Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) This course is open to all registered Adult...

**SEP
20**

2024 NYLT-National Youth Leadership Training

National Youth Leadership Training will be held September 20-22, 27-29, 2024 at Camp Minsi, Pocono Summit, Pa A training designed for youth in...

**SEP
27**

2024 NYLT Second weekend

National Youth Leadership Training weekend two. Please go to <https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3032250> to register This is...



Our BARF Campaign Continues! A reminder that any Scout who signs up a friend to join our program will receive a BARF patch for them and their friend. If you need the paperwork to complete the application contact your District Executive

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT COMMITTEE

District Chair	Mike Caffery	610-295-8816	mikecee1062@yahoo.com
District Commissioner	Bill Brugger		we.brugger@gmail.com
Senior District Executive	Mike Borgman	610-762-8959	mike.borgman@scouting.org
District Executive	Melissa Mohr	610-465-8565	melissa.mohr@scouting.org
Roundtable Commissioner—Cub Scout			
Roundtable Commissioner—Scouts BSA	Jim Swain	610-974-9150	jim.swain@rcn.com
	Melanie Hunt		
Nominating Committee Chair			
Executive Board Liaison	Ed Cool		
Webmaster	Greta Bergstresser		
Finance Chair			
Family FOS Chair	Bob Obermeyer		obie1949@gmail.com
	Bill Brugger		
Popcorn Chair			
Membership Chair	Patti Davis	610-597-5587	Davispr91@outlook.com
Exploring Chair			
Marketing Chair			
Cub Scout Day Camp Chair	Barbara Emert		
Activities Chair	Chris Fluke		ddflluke15@gmail.com
Cub Scout Activities Chair	Juila Varsamas		
Scouts BSA Activities Chair			
Scouting For Food Chair			
Pinewood Derby	John Van Camp		
Advancement Chair	Jim Daley	610-759-7169	j.daley@rcn.com
Cub Scout Advancement Chair	Lucy Martin		
Eagle Scout Chair	Jim Daley	610-759-7169	j.daley@rcn.com
Backup Eagle Scout Chair	Bernie Marth		
Merit Badge Counselor Chair	Bruce Horton	484-281-3441	bhworks@bellatlantic.net
Scouts BSA Advancement Chair	Bill Gade	610-762-9396	wagade@yahoo.com
Training Chair			
Cub Scout Leader Training Chair			
Scouts BSA Leader Training Chair			
OA Chapter Adviser	Anthony Garguilo	484-554-5815	garguiloanthony@gmail.com
Associate OA Chapter Advisers	Dave Hay	610-861-4494	sayhay@ptd.net
	Chris Fluke		ddflluke15@gmail.com
	Chris Martin		
District Committee Members at Large	Bernie Marth		
	Bernie Suess		
	Charles Chase		
	Chris Martin		
	Daniel Dopsovic		
	Drew Draper		
	Ed Cool		
	John Van Camp		
	Melanie Hunt		
	Sheryl Padgett		
Newsletter Editor	Bernie Suess	484-330-6915	newsletter@minsi-northampton.com

*Any Scouter interested in serving on the District Committee, contact Mike Caffrey
or if interested in serving as a Commissioner, contact District Commissioner Bill Brugger.*