



MARCH 2024 Northampton District Newsletter

Northampton District

MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA



NEWSLETTER... RECRUITING!!

In March, Scouting units typically engage in various recruiting activities to attract new members. Some recruiting strategies that might be used include: *School Visits, Open Houses, Community Events, Parent Information Meetings, Social Media and Online Promotion, Peer-to-Peer Recruitment,* and *Cub Scout Join Nights* among others.

These are just a few examples of recruiting efforts that your unit may want to try in the spring (or any other time of the year). If you have an approach that works, share it with others; send it to Bernie Suess at newsletter@minsi-northampton.com.

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 cancelled	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

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

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

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

MARCH 7 - Northampton District Committee meeting

MARCH 14 - Northampton District Mobile Office, Dunkin' 855 S Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091, 10 AM to Noon

MARCH 16 - District Pinewood Derby

MARCH 28 - Northampton District Mobile Office, Panera Bread 3714 Nazareth Rd Easton PA 18045, 10 AM to Noon

APRIL 3 - Northampton District Committee meeting

APRIL 6 - Trade-O-Ree at Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield

APRIL 11 - Northampton District Mobile Office, Dunkin' 855 S Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091, 10 AM to Noon

APRIL 11 - District First Aid Meet at Klecknersville Fire Company

APRIL 12 to 13 - BALOO Training at Camp Minsi

APRIL 12 to 13 - IOLS Training at Camp Minsi

APRIL 25 - Northampton District Mobile Office, Panera Bread 3714 Nazareth Rd Easton PA 18045, 10 AM to Noon

COUNCIL-WIDE ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

Time and location(s) TBA

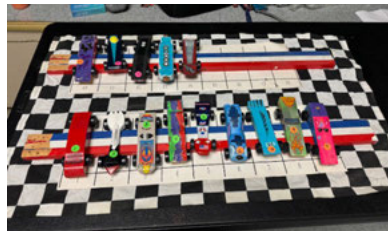
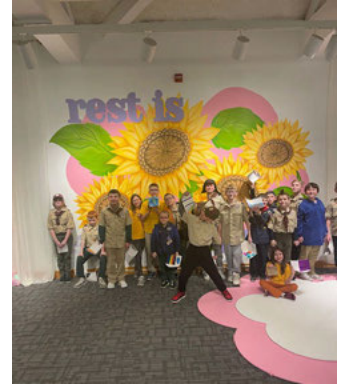
DATE	MAIN TOPIC	CUB SCOUTS	SCOUTS, BSA	SCOUTBOOK
May 8	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

In Northampton District

**Council-wide Roundtable - Northampton Community College, Bethlehem
February 15, 2024**



**Pack 306 - Museum visit and Pack Pinewood Derby
February 2024**



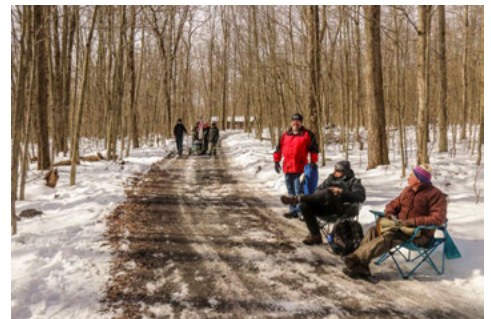
MARCH 2024 Northampton District Newsletter

-4-

Northampton/Warren Districts Klondike and Webelos Winter Event Camp Minsi February 24, 2024



MARCH 2024 Northampton District Newsletter



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIR

Hello Northampton District scouters.

As per Punxsutawney Phil, we should have turned the corner and our weather should be brightening in the coming weeks. Let's hope he's right. I have three items I would like to touch on in this month newsletter.

The first is a thank you to all the scouts and especially their leaders who made the trek up to Camp Minsi for a wonderful scout Klondike derby and Webelos Winter event. The weather mostly cooperated but was a little chilly when the wind decided to kick up. A huge thank you to Chris Fluke and his Klondike team of volunteers, as well as Ashley Leeper and her team of Winter event volunteers for all of their time, effort, and enthusiasm. There were over 200 scouts of various age groups participating in scout skills and learning. All in all, two great events.

Next on my agenda is membership. All of the press over the past five or so years, in addition to the impact Covid had, has decimated the number of young people involved in scouting. But our mission hasn't changed and the need for our young people to be involved learning skills they will use in their lifetime, from caring adults who are fulfilling the scout oath in their lives by helping others has not changed. We all need to collectively invite youth to consider scouting. But just as importantly, relay to new parents the benefits for our children that we all see through our years of scouting. Word-of-mouth sharing is free and has always been found to be the most effective. Please reach out and make the invitation. If everyone invites 10 people and only 10% say yes we can build our ranks by 1,000 new scouts. And with new scouts come new adult volunteers. Please help spread the benefits of Scouting!

The last topic is our Family Friends Of Scouting (FOS) season! Many people do not realize that the re-charter registration fees collected all go to the National Council to support the Scouting framework and structure as well as insurances. Our local Minsi Trails Council needs to raise its own funds to operate our local framework and support the professional staff. Some funds come from our Council camps, some from events like the annual Leadership Dinner, golf tournament, and so on. Some comes from local foundations. One other key source is our Family FOS program. Unit personnel and District personnel conduct short presentations at a Unit event (Pack Meeting, Court of Honor, Blue and Gold, etc...) and ask for financial support from individuals within our Scout family. These presentations, and the funds raised, are a necessity to keep our Council functioning. If you have not yet set an FOS date for your unit, please reach out to Bob Obermeyer our Family FOS chair (obie1949@gmail.com) to set a date. For those who have set a date, and/or have had a presentation already, thank you!

Thank you for your continued support of Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,

Mike Caffrey
Northampton District Chair



Membership News

Attention All Units

Northampton District has received a grant which will pay registration fees for one year for any new Scout that joins your unit. In addition, the Scout will receive a \$50 credit at the Scout Shop. In order to receive these funds units must have the Scout complete a paper application and turn it in to either Mike Borgman or Melissa Mohr. This is an excellent initiative to help in recruiting new Scouts to your unit. **Do Not accept online applications!** We also have a grant for new Scouts who join and have a Nazareth mailing address. The same applies for these Scouts as well. **Again, paper applications only!**

PA Clearances

The Pennsylvania Act 15 law requires all units and Charter Organizations in addition to Council maintain a copy of all registered adult clearances. This includes Child Abuse, Criminal history, and FBI fingerprint or waiver. We recommend that you ask each adult for a copy of their clearances and make sure that your chartered organization also retains a copy. We suggest that you get a binder and clear inserts to keep the information safe. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Davis at davispr91@outlook.com.

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. Completed awards should be forwarded to either Drew Draper at acdramer31@rcn.com or Mike Caffery at mikecee1062@yahoo.com. All nominations must be in no later than April 1.

BeAScout Pin

Units, please review your BeAScout pin to make sure that the information is up to date. Verify contact information, meeting location, day, and times that you meet. Make sure your pin is turned on.

BeAScout Leads

Units when you receive an email through BeAScout please reach out to the family and address any questions they may have. Invite them to a meeting so they can see your unit at work and meet the Scouts and leaders. We ask that you make a note on the invitation to let us know that the family has been contacted and the results of the contact. These leads are an excellent opportunity to grow your unit. Don't forget to let them know that there are funds available to cover the cost of the first-year registration and towards the purchase of a uniform, etc. at the Scout Shop.

University of Scouting

Minsi Trails Council will be holding a University of Scouting Conference on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at Northampton Community College, Monroe Campus. Please see the flyer attached for details regarding courses. Sign up via the council website.

Council Wide Roundtable – February 2024

For units who were unable to attend the February roundtable regarding spring recruiting a video can be found on the Council website. To access it go to <https://www.minsitrails.org/training/roundtables/74141>.

Friends of Scouting

We are asking all units who have not scheduled an FOS presentation to please contact Family FOS chair Bob Obermeyer at obie1949@gmail.com and provide him with the date, time, and location as well as a contact name and number. We appreciate your continued support of our Scouting program.

Membership News

National Marketing Bootcamp

The National Marketing Bootcamp is a two-session virtual seminar designed to educate volunteers at the unit, district, council, and national level on the best practices of raising awareness of Scouting in your community. The bootcamp will cover new strategies to take your recruiting and marketing efforts to the next level, including exciting new research on the outcomes and benefits that families get from being involved in Scouting and tips to help you recruit. Sessions will be held on March 14 and 21 both are at 8 pm. See the flyer elsewhere in the newsletter for signup information. Take your marketing to the next level with the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp (scoutingmagazine.org)

Northampton District Mobile Office

Our District Executives Mike & Melissa have set up some dates and locations as mobile offices. Their hours are 10 am to noon at various locations around our district. This information is posted on the MTC website as well as in this newsletter. This is an opportunity to drop off paperwork that needs to go to council or discuss issues/concerns you may have. We hope that you take advantage of this opportunity to meet with them. If you need paperwork from council let them know in advance so they can bring it along. Thanks to Mike and Melissa for making it easier for all of us. We appreciate it.

New Charter Fees

National fees for new and existing Scouts and leaders are effective as of April 1, 2024. National has done away with the \$25 new Scout joining fee. See the attached fee information.

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.**

Membership News

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.*

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:

Membership News

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.

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/mtcenews>

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:

March 14	National Marketing Bootcamp	Zoom
March 14	District Mobile Office	Dunkin', Wind Gap (see flyer in newsletter)
March 16	NRA Basic Rifle Training	Camp Minsi
March 16	District Pinewood Derby	Kelly Nissan
March 21	National Marketing Bootcamp	Zoom
March 23	Markmanship Madness	Camp Minsi
March 28	District Mobile Office	Panera Bread, Easton
April 6	Trade-O-Ree	Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield
April 11	District Mobile Office	Wind Gap
April 11	District First Aid Meet	Klecknersville Fire Company
April 12-13	BALOO training	Camp Minsi
April 12-13	IOLS training	Camp Minsi
April 25	District Mobile Office	Panera Bread, Easton
May 8	Council-wide Roundtable	TBA
May 17-18	Hang Dog outing	Hang Dog Outdoor Adventure
May 17-18	Beaver Weekend	Camp Minsi
May 22	District Picnic	Louise Moore Park

Please Note: Cruise the Gap has been cancelled. Adults who were planning to do their BALOO training may want to consider the April 12 & 13 course at Camp Minsi.

Patti Davis

Northampton District Membership Chair

TIMES: 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

March 14—Dunkin' 855 S Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091

March 28—Panera Bread 3714 Nazareth Rd Easton PA 18045

April 11—Dunkin' 855 S Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091

April 25—Panera Bread 3714 Nazareth Rd Easton PA 18045

***If you need specific items please reach out via email 2 days prior to ensure we can get them.**



MOBILE

OFFICE HOURS

COFFEE HOUR

Northampton District, Minsi Trails Council

- Come meet with your District Executives closer to home
- Drop off applications and paperwork that needs to go to council
- Pick up paperwork you need for youth, volunteers and fundraising
- No appointments needed, come when we are scheduled for “mobile” office hours

QUESTIONS

mike.borgman@scouting.org
melissa.mohr@scouting.org



The Takhone Corner



Hello Everyone!

Here are some photos from our last chapter meeting at The Arcade ERA!



Don't forget to check out the Trade-O-Ree on April 6 at Jordan Lutheran Church in Orefield. Admission is free to youth under 18. And sign up for the Lodge Spring Fellowship Weekend, May 31 to June 2.

**SCOUTING'S
NATIONAL
HONOR
SOCIETY**

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.

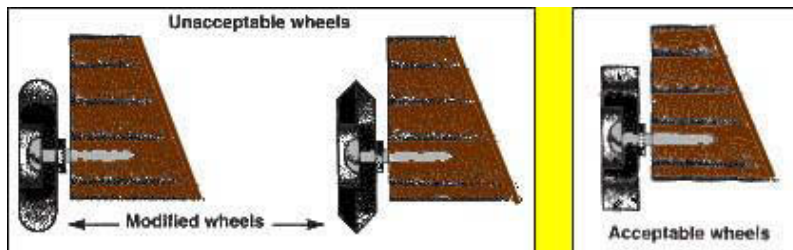
WHEEL BASE: (Length) Length of wheel base (front axle to rear axle) must be within the limits of 4 1/2" maximum and 4 1/4" minimum (essentially, the distance provided by the grooves precut into the supplied wood block).

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.

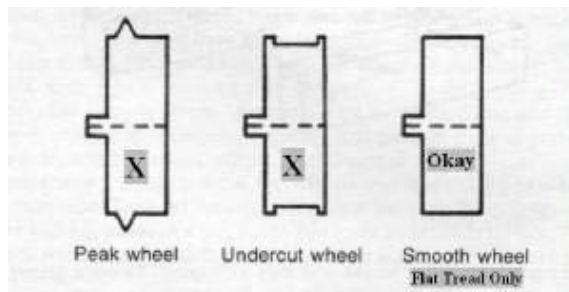
WHEEL BEARINGS: Bearings, washers, or other types of bushings are NOT permitted.

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  MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors  FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness  KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship  LION ROAR Personal Safety  LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors  TIGER BITES Personal Fitness  TEAM TIGER Citizenship  TIGER ROAR Personal Safety  TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors  RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness  COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship  SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety  FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  BEAR HABITAT Outdoors  BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness  PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship  STANDING TALL Personal Safety  FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors  STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness  MY COMMUNITY Citizenship  MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid  MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	 BOBCAT Character/Leadership  OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors  PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness  CITIZENSHIP Citizenship  FIRST AID Safety/First Aid  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 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

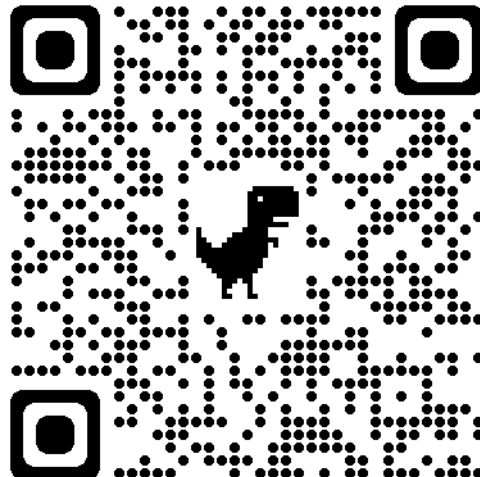
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Council Programs</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Resources for councils and districts to plan for programs for the summer of 2024</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Presenters Trained</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December 18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



Who knew fundraising could be carb-a-licious?



Think outside the box and get in the bag with some pasta fun fundraising!





Grow Your Unit

We are here to help!

**ARE YOU HAVING A RECRUITING
EVENT?**

Let's get it on FaceBook

We can put your events on our FaceBook page for you! Ask us if it qualifies for Geofencing.

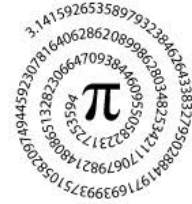
mike.borgman@scouting.org
melissa.mohr@scouting.org

Print your flyer!

We will help you design and print a flyer for your recruiting event!



Fun Fundraising Idea!



Pie for Pi Day!

Have a pie sale with your local bakery to raise money for Pi day 3/14

A delicious way to raise funds!



JOIN US!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to minsitrails.org

We are excited to announce University of Scouting will be happening again this Spring. Courses will include:

- New Cub Scout Program
- ScoutsBSA Girl Troop Summit
- Recruitment in 2024
- More to be announced soon!

Save the Date:
April 20th, 2024

At Northampton
Community College
Monroe Campus





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>Scouting allows youth to build more confidence, responsibility and a broader set of friends. Donations allow entry fees to remain low.</p>	<p>HEALTHY LIVING</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>MENTORING</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>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>SERVING OTHERS</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>LIFELONG LEARNING</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]
2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]

INSUFFICIENT CLEARANCE

INSUFFICIENT CLEARANCE

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!



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



HANG-DOG

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE



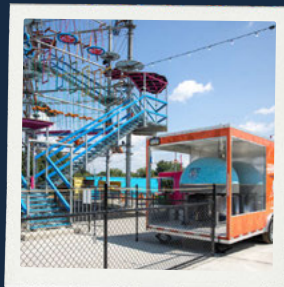
CAMPING - CLIMBING ADVENTURE



SAVE THE DATE
MAY 17, 2024 - MAY 18, 2024
CAMP, CLIMB, AND MORE!



Family Fun



High adventure



Four-stories



Details to come! Save the Date!
Come out for an entirely new experience!

National Youth Leadership Training Two weekend course

September 20-22 and 27-29, 2024

Camp Minsi

Registration is open



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

<https://www.minsitrails.org/event/3032250>

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



Camp Minsi Beaver Weekend & OA Callout Ceremony

106 Camp Minsi Rd, Pocono Summit, PA 18346

with Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser & Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

May 17-19, 2024

www.minsitrails.org/beaverweekend

Join us for a weekend of fun and service with your fellow Arrowmen at Camp Minsi's Beaver Weekend! Help make our camp shine for the Summer Camp season!
See details and registration link above

This event counts towards your Lodge Service Award requirements!
OA Callout Ceremony is Saturday evening.

BEAVER WEEKEND Questions? – campminsi@minsitrails.org
FUNDRIASER Questions? – foodservice@witauchsoman.org



Breakfast and Dinner Fundraiser proceeds go to **OA Youth Scholarship Fund**, which helps send Lodge Youth Arrowmen to NOAC – National OA Conference

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser – Saturday, May 18



- **8:00am to 8:45am** in Camp Minsi Dining Hall
- Pancakes (plain / chocolate chip / blueberry), Sausage, Coffee, Orange Juice
- Bring your whole Troop / Pack / Family!
- \$7 per person
- Money collected at door

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Saturday, May 18



- **5:00pm to 6:30pm** in Camp Minsi Dining Hall
- Spaghetti with meatballs, Garlic Bread, Salad, Cannoli's
- Bring your whole Troop / Pack / Family!
- \$10 per person
- Money collected at door

What to bring to Beaver Weekend:

- Work gloves
- Work boots
- Water bottle
- Rain gear
- Rakes / Leaf Blowers





February 21, 2024

Dear BSA Leader:

The National Safe Scouting Committee has fully engaged with the goal of *Becoming the National Leader in Youth Safety* as presented in the *5 Imperatives of the BSA Roadmap*. This letter is to ask you to assist us in our effort.

Over the past century, we have made significant strides in establishing a robust safety culture within Scouting. While we believe our movement is generally safe, we recognize the ongoing need to enhance safety measures and focus on harm prevention.

Given your role as an owner or influencer of our published materials, we kindly request your assistance in disseminating the message of safety in *all* your print and electronic publications. To achieve this, we propose the following actions as you edit or prepare various materials:

1. **Coursework Syllabi:** Include a focus on safety by incorporating Safety Moments (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/>) at the beginning of each session or activity. While over 100 safety moments are available, course leaders may create activity-specific safety moments as needed to make the moment more relevant to participants.
2. **Printed Materials:** In all handbooks, syllabi, pamphlets, and other printed materials, we ask you to prominently feature the one-page SAFE information sheet (www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safe/). Ideally, this information should be placed in the front cover or on a flyleaf. Examples of our preferred location and appearance can be found in recent editions of the Handbook for Officers and Advisers (oa-bsa.org) or the ShootingSportsManual.pdf (scouting.org), which both display the checklist, use the logo, and present the material in the initial pages of the document.
3. **Resource Listings:** Include the *Guide to Safe Scouting* (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>) in printed materials where resources are listed. This will draw attention to the *Guide*, emphasizing its importance as a key BSA resource.
4. **Program Planning Materials:** For materials intended for program planning, such as Troop or Den Meeting Planning Forms and Annual program planning conference guidance, incorporate references to SAFE, Safety Moments, and the *Guide to Safe Scouting*. Pay special attention to highlighting prohibited activities and age-appropriate activities as well as incident reporting and risk assessment.

We appreciate your collaboration in spreading the SAFE Scouting message. Your support is crucial in ensuring the continued safety and well-being of our youth within the Scouting community.

Thank you for your dedication to the principles of Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,

David Berry
Chair, National Safe Scouting Committee

Richard R. Bourlon
Director, Environmental, Health and Safety, BSA



**NORTHAMPTON & WARREN
DISTRICTS**

WILD WEST DAY CAMP

July 26, 2024 5:00-8:00
July 27, 2024 8:00-4:00
July 28, 2024 8:00-4:00

**Louise Moore Park
151 Country Club Rd
Easton, PA 18045**



**Three Days of
Wild West Fun!**

Only \$55.00 Each

**For more information:
Barb Emert: Daycampmoore@gmail.com**



***An annual adventure!
The Northampton &
Warren Districts Day
Camp, wild west fun!***





2024 BSA National Annual Membership Fees

EFFECTIVE



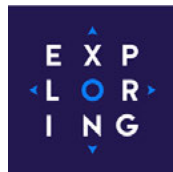
FOR ALL NEW
AND EXISTING
MEMBERS

\$85/YR

Participants in kindergarten through age 20.



\$50/YR



For all Exploring youth and adults.

\$65/YR



All registered adult volunteers in unit and non-unit positions. (Volunteers with multiple registrations will continue to pay for only one position).

\$30/YR

Scoutreach participants in kindergarten through age 20.



\$25/YR



This fee is for Merit Badge Counselors **who are not already registered volunteers.**

Merit badge counselors who are not also registered in a unit position are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities/events.

Additional fees might be charged by local councils and units.

UNIT RENEWAL FEE

\$100/YR

For all new and existing units.

SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE FEE



\$15/YR





- Unique Philmont Family Adventure for Scouts with disabilities and their family.
- Hiking, Shooting Sports, COPE/Climbing, Horsemanship.
- Customized experience to meet the Scout's abilities.
- Support from trained volunteers and staff.

Zia Family Experience

Philmont Training Center

The Zia Experience is a customized, highly supported, personalized experience for your special needs Scout, you, and your family!

June 23-29, 2024



BOOK NOW

<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/ptc-conferences/>



Your training opportunities

Do it now and become a better leader!

**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...

**MAR
16**

BSA Wilderness First Aid - Emergency Care & Safety Institute

**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 - Registration Now Open

MINSI TRAILS COUNCIL, BSA LEAVE NO TRACE LEVEL 1 INSTRUCTOR COURSE (Formally Leave No Trace Trainer...

**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...

**APR
20**

University of Scouting Save the Date

Please mark your calendars! University of Scouting is happening. Keep checking back for registration and cost information. Looking...

**APR
20**

2024 University of Scouting

MORE DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED...

**MAY
11**

2024 Commissioner Conference - Camp Minsi

Tentative date for the 2024 Commissioner Conference - topics will include: New Cub Program Online Leader Registration Charter Renewal - brainstorm...

**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...

[Take your marketing to the next level with the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp \(scoutingmagazine.org\)](https://scoutingmagazine.org)

By Aaron Derr February 6, 2024



The best way to increase membership in your Scouting unit is to learn some easy, simple ways to market your unit in your community. And the simplest, easiest way to learn how to market your pack, troop, crew, ship or team to your community is to attend the [2024 National Marketing Bootcamp](#), an exciting virtual event designed to teach volunteers new marketing and public relations strategies to help get the word out about Scouting.

What is the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp?

The 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp is a two-session virtual seminar designed to educate volunteers at the unit, district, council and national level on the best practices of raising awareness of Scouting in your community. The bootcamp will cover new strategies to take your recruiting and marketing efforts to the next level, including exciting new research on the outcomes and benefits that families get from being involved in Scouting and tips to help you recruit in the digital space. You'll also get tips on taking impactful photos of your Scouts in action, and on producing engaging websites for your unit.

When is the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp?

There will be two sessions.

- Session 1 is March 14.
- Session 2 is March 21.

Both sessions will be at 8 p.m. Eastern / 7 p.m. Central / 6 p.m. Mountain / 5 p.m. Pacific.

If you attend both sessions, you'll become a BSA Certified Marketer for 2024 and will be awarded this year's digital badge.

Who should attend the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp?

Basically, everyone.

This event is designed for volunteers at all levels of Scouting, as well as council staff. Are you excited about Scouting but have little marketing experience to share your enthusiasm? Attend the bootcamp and learn skills and strategies that will come in handy and could inspire you to become your unit or district's marketing lead.

Are both sessions the same?

No! Each session will contain unique information and tips for marketing your Scouting unit.

Will recordings of the sessions be made available for later viewing?

Yes! We'll share links to the recorded sessions as soon as they are available.

What other resources are available to help me spread the word about Scouting?

Start with the [BSA Brand Center](#), where you'll find materials to help you create marketing materials for a variety of uses.

The Brand Center also features several [short, fun videos](#) that are great for sharing digitally with your friends and fellow community members.

[You can visit this website](#) for more tips on marketing and recruiting.

How do I sign up for the 2024 National Marketing Bootcamp?

[Click here to register now.](#)

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT COMMITTEE

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Roundtable Commissioner—Cub Scout			
Roundtable Commissioner—Scouts BSA	Jim Swain	610-974-9150	jim.swain@rcn.com
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Webmaster	Greta Bergstresser		
Finance Chair			
Family FOS Chair	Bob Obermeyer		obie1949@gmail.com
	Bill Brugger		
Popcorn Chair			
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Exploring Chair			
Marketing Chair			
Cub Scout Day Camp Chair	Barbara Emert		
Activities Chair	Chris Fluke		ddflluke15@gmail.com
Cub Scout Activities Chair			
Scouts BSA Activities Chair			
Scouting For Food Chair			
Pinewood Derby	John Van Camp		
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Cub Scout Advancement Chair	Lucy Martin		
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Backup Eagle Scout Chair	Bernie Marth		
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Training Chair			
Cub Scout Leader Training Chair			
Scouts BSA Leader Training Chair			
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	Chris Martin		
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	Bernie Suess		
	Charles Chase		
	Chris Martin		
	Drew Draper		
	Ed Cool		
	John Van Camp		
	Melanie Hunt		
	Sheryl Padgett		
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*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.*