

Los Padres Press

News You Can Use for the Members of Los Padres Council

Happy Season of Gratitude!

I am thankful for you.

Los Padres Council continues to positively impact youth and families across our communities, thanks to your unwavering dedication and support.

As the holiday season is upon us, it's the perfect time to reflect on what we've achieved in 2024. Together, we empowered our Scouts to provide over **12,000 hours of service**—collecting thousands of pounds of food for local food banks, removing trash from outdoor spaces, and completing various Eagle Scout projects that will enhance our communities.



We're also thrilled to share that **Rancho Alegre** is now open. The Outdoor School, Scouting activities, family events, mountain bike riding, and camping are all happening at Rancho Alegre. There are some important projects to get a full menu of Scouting activities going and we could still use your help with final touches. If you would like to get involved or visit camp, please contact **Glen Goddard** at glen.goddard@scouting.org for more details.

Our Scouts are thriving—earning ranks, including the prestigious Eagle Scout, and preparing for exciting milestones. Summer camps are on the horizon, Cub Scouts are gearing up for Pinewood Derby races, and Arrow of Light Scouts are ready to bridge into Troops. We're proud to support them as they continue their Scouting journeys.

In 2024, we celebrated the **grand re-opening of Rancho Alegre**, but it was also the council's **105th anniversary**. As we continue to provide cheerful service, we remain committed to fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment while molding young people into the positive leaders of tomorrow, **"Preparing Them for Life."**

Your contributions of cheerful service, financial support, and leadership are the foundation of our success, ensuring every youth has the resources they need to thrive. Join us in making a difference by <https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/053/appeals> or contact us to find ways to get involved.

I am deeply thankful for our Scouts, leaders, and families as we work together to help youth become the best versions of themselves. I wish you all a joyful holiday season and look forward to hiking the trail with you in 2025!

Yours in Scouting,

Carlos Cortez
Scout Executive
Scouting America, Los Padres Council



Scouting America

Featured Articles For December 2024

- Scout Executive Message 1
- New Eagles 2
- Rancho Alegre Updates3
- Order of the Arrow 3
- Merit Badge Requirement 3
Updates
- Program Updates 4
- NYLT 2025 Flyer6
- Service Center Sale 7
- Are You Still Trained??? 7
- Trek Trails Mountain Biking 7
- Multiple Unit-Coordinated 8
Camping
- Registration Assistance 8
Application
- Jamboree 2026 9
- Knots of the Month 10
- Nots of the Month 11
- District Award of Merit 12
Application
- Silver Beaver Application 14

Website Domain Update

Some of you may have noticed that the council website has a new domain link:

<https://lospadrescouting.org/>

The old website address will redirect to this link for the foreseeable future, but we wanted to share this with you for your information.

Los Padres Council is proud to congratulate the following Scouts in achieving the highest rank in Scouting, The Eagle Rank. These young people committed to becoming the best versions of themselves and strive to be examples to others as they lead the path forward. In achieving this rank, they have just begun their journey of leading progress that will improve the life of many and change our world for the better.

A large, semi-transparent watermark of the BSA Eagle Scout logo is centered in the background. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched on a shield with a blue triangle and a red triangle. The shield is flanked by two stars. Below the shield is a banner with the motto "BE PREPARED". The entire logo is enclosed in a circular border with the text "EAGLE SCOUT" at the top and "BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA" at the bottom.

William Matthews	Troop 4
Seamus Fergus	Troop 4
Matthias Everest	Troop 33
Joshua Stone	Troop 26 PC
Keithan Olson	Troop 413

Rancho Alegre Updates

Outdoor School News

The Outdoor School has successfully concluded its fall season! We welcomed five incredible schools to our science camp programs, and the feedback has been fantastic. Students and teachers alike loved the engaging naturalist-led activities and raved about the delicious meals.



We are gearing up for an exciting and busy spring, with an estimated 1,300 students scheduled to attend camp. We're thrilled to be back in action, providing unforgettable outdoor education experiences to so many young learners.

Looking ahead, we are now accepting reservations for the 2025-2026 school year. Our program is designed for 5th and 6th-grade classrooms and offers hands-on learning in a beautiful natural setting. Don't miss out—reserve your classroom's spot today by emailing Amanda Chick at amanda.chick@scouting.org.

Camp Rancho Alegre News

Camp Rancho Alegre rebuild is concluding phase one projects. The Buildings have been approved by the County of Santa Barbara and the grading permit is close to being finalized as well. Thank you to all who donated time and funds to see the dream become a reality. The Los Padres Council Phoenix Committee will now turn its energies to developing the rest camp to include Boy Scout Program areas (Nature, Trail to First Class, Low C.O.P.E., Handicraft, etc.), camp sites and the swimming pool.

Information on the Native Plant Garden

Some of our Scouters are trying to learn more about the Native Plant Garden before the fire. This includes what plants were originally planted there as well as who contributed to the garden. If you or anyone you know has any information related to the pre-fire garden, please reach out to Terri Bowen (bowptjk@aol.com).



Order of the Arrow

This November, six exceptional members from our Lodge took part in the Order of the Arrow's leadership experience at the National Leadership Seminar (NLS) and the Developing Youth Leadership Conference (DYLC). These incredible individuals joined leaders from across California, Texas, and even Japan, all coming together to strengthen and grow our program.

During this event, they collaborated, learned, and shared valuable insights aimed at improving our community and fostering teamwork and personal growth. It was a weekend filled with inspiration, reflection, and connection.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to making this weekend truly special. You helped create memories and experiences that will last a lifetime.



Our Lodge leadership has exciting plans for 2025, and we encourage our members renew their annual dues so they can join use in the fellowship and service. Please follow this link to pay your dues: <https://chumashlodge90.net/dues/>

Yours In Scouting,

Alex Singleton
Chumash Lodge Adviser

Merit Badge Requirement Updates

National revisits the requirements for merit badges every couple of years, and 2025 is one of the lucky years to introduce some new changes. If you are a merit badge counselor we encourage you take a look to see if there are any changes for your merit badges. The full list of changes is available: <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/merit-badge-updates-for-2025/>

Program Updates

The last few months have been busy!

At the council level:

- The Chumash Lodge Order of the Arrow (OA) held its Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) & Annual Banquet on October 19. Training was held for over 20 members, and the night was capped off with an evening of fellowship with their annual banquet. Awards were given to youth and adult leaders for their service to the Lodge, and a new set of officers were inducted, including the newly elected Lodge Chief Jozlyn (Jozi) Wimberley.
- Local chapters are holding holiday parties and other activities in December and January, and your Lodge Executive Committee (LEC) have an exciting 2025 planned, kicking it off with a major Fellowship event coming up in February.
- Youth and adults participated in Powder Horn training held by Ventura County Council, focused on high adventure opportunities for Scouts. This national training program has been discontinued, so these Scouts and Scout Leaders attended among the last courses ever offered. We're glad that they had this opportunity and look forward to seeing them share what they learned.
- On November 9-10, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) was held for some of our Scouts BSA Leaders, and Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) was held for some of our Cub Scout Leaders. As a result we have more trained leaders in our units to enhance their programs.
- The practical phase of our Council's Wood Badge course (jointly run with Ventura County Council) was held over two weekends in October and November. Our adult leaders were placed into dens and then patrols, using the models of our scouting program to learn about leadership and other skills they can add to their toolboxes to become better leaders. We are grateful both to all of our leaders who were able to attend this year's course, and also to our adult leaders who helped serve on our Wood Badge staff.
- Feedback was overall positive from every participant. A number of leaders who attended shared that the advice they'd give others was to take this course early / earlier in their volunteering with Scouting. For those looking for your next opportunity, discussions with the Ventura County Council leaders indicated that we will likely try to hold a joint course with them roughly every 18 months; so our council's next two opportunities will be in spring of 2026 (dates not yet selected) and then a next course in fall of 2027. There are other opportunities run by nearby councils as well. Whenever and wherever you can take the course, we strongly encourage you to do so.



Program Updates Continued

Coming Up In 2025 – Hold The Dates:

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) July 28 – August 2, 2025

After failing to see enough Scouts sign up for our council's NYLT this year, we are holding a joint course with Ventura County Council and Southern Sierra Council. This course will be held at Rancho Alegre. We ask that unit leaders and committees try to schedule around this week, to enable at least one of your scouts to attend this excellent course.

(For more information, see the flyer on Page 6)

BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) – March 22-23, 2025

BALOO is an important training for our Cub Scout leaders. BALOO is an essential training to enable our Cub Packs or dens to hold campouts; each unit requires at least one BALOO-trained leader on every overnight activity. BALOO teaches leaders how to hold a safe and fun overnight camping experience.

IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills) – March 22-23, 2025

IOLS is a required training for our Scouts BSA Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to be fully trained. IOLS teaches (or introduces) the key skills that Scouts will be learning in their outdoor activities, so that leaders can become familiar with these skills and the rules to teaching them safely within their units.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

- As you can read in our "Knot of the Month" column (*Page 10*), our district recognition banquets will be held in February, and our Council Recognition banquet will be held March 8. In addition to seeking nominations for the District Awards of Merit and Silver Beaver awards for active leaders at our district and council levels, this is the time to help let our district and council leaders hear about those in your units who deserve to be recognized for their excellence. This includes adult leaders who have qualified for various training milestones (Scouter Key and Scouter Training knots), Unit Leader Awards of Merit, Den Leader Training Awards, and other local awards offered to youth and adults. Also, those who have been registered for a multiple of 5 years (5, 10, 15, ...) in Scouting as a youth and/or adult qualify for Veterans service medals.
- As we wind down 2024, and independent of any specific awards, I want to recognize and thank every volunteer who spends their free time helping our scouts and scouting units. Without your energy, support, and encouragement of our youth and leaders, we would not have the excellent programs that I get to see in action.
- I also want to ask all of you, who might be interested in getting more involved at your district or council level, to reach out to me or others and share what you'd like to help with. This could be an instructor at a training course, helping with our Eagle Scout candidates, helping run our district or council awards and recognition banquets, helping to run a program, or more. We always have a need for more volunteers and will help find the right role for you.

We look forward to seeing you around the council. Happy Holidays, and have a very Happy New Year!.

Len Kamlet
Council VP of Program



Join Us At NYLT 2025

July 28 – August 2, 2025
At Camp Rancho Alegre
2680 CA-154, Santa Barbara, CA

What is National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)?

NYLT is a leadership program for Scouts (ages 13 – 20). Participants learn skills and techniques they can use in their Units and other situations requiring of leadership of self and others.

Pre-Requisites

- Registered member of a Scouting Unit
- Recommended by the Unit Leader
- BSA Medical Forms A, B, & C
- First Class Scout Rank (minimum)
- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, Crews, or Ships (ILST, ILSC, ILSS)

Cost and Registration

\$300 Early Bird (*Before May 1, 2025*)
\$350 Regular (*After May 1, 2025*)

Follow the link or scan the QR Code
to sign up now

<https://lospadrescouting.org/training/national-youth-leadership-training/>



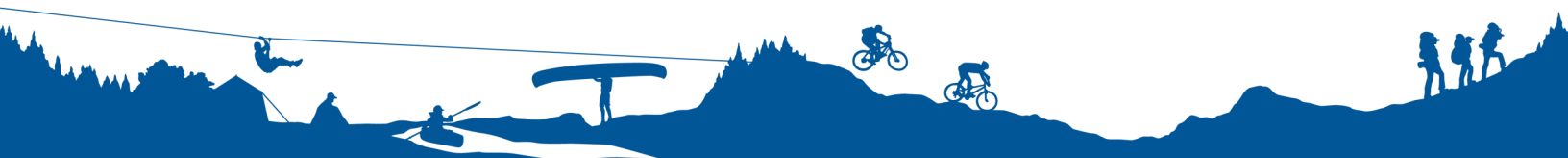
Additional Questions?

Reach out to our Course Director or your Council's Contact

Jeremy Brown – Course Director
Southern Sierra Council
jeremy.brown1775@gmail.com

Joey Kamlet
Los Padres Council
jskamlet@gmail.com

Clyde Allen
Ventura County Council
callen1048@aol.com



Los Padres Stores Year-End Blowout Sale!

Happening All December (and maybe into January!)

Looking for the perfect holiday gifts? Stop by the Los Padres Service Center Stores for amazing deals and discounts!

Special Perks:

- **Free Gift** with every \$50 purchase (while supplies last)!
- **Raffle Entry:** Get entered into a drawing for every \$50 spent during December! (Advancements not included.)

Holiday Deals Galore:

Swing by your local **BSA Store** to discover even more discounted items this month!

Don't miss out – stock up on your Scouting essentials and holiday gifts today!

Yours in Scouting,

Jeanne Gard

Customer Service Manager / Council Registrar



ATTENTION! Are You Still ???

If you are a direct contact leader – that is, a Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Cubmaster, Den Leader, etc. – you may know that one of the training course requirements in order to be fully “Position Trained” is “Hazardous Weather Training”, available through your my.scouting.org account at https://training.scouting.org/courses/SCO_800. BUT – did you know that this expires every two years? If you have not re-taken this course recently, you may no longer be fully trained. To check your status, you can go into your my.scouting account and look at your profile. It should show the Trained patch if you are currently fully trained.

If your Hazardous Weather Training is expired, please retake this course as soon as you are able.

Trek Trails

Mountain Biking at Rancho Alegre

Some of you may be aware that Los Padres Council has partnered with the SAGE Trail Alliance to develop over 5 miles of bike-optimized trails: Trek Trails Rancho Alegre. These trails are open to the public on designated days, and the calendar can be found at <https://trailsatra.com/calendar/>. If you, or any of your friends, enjoy mountain biking then we encourage you to try out Trek Trails Rancho Alegre!



TREK TRAILS

RANCHO ALEGRE

Multiple Unit-Coordinated Camping

The Guide to Safe Scouting requires that all unit-coordinated camping activities with units from more than one chartered organization be approved by the council. The National policy states:

“Local council approval is needed for unit-coordinated overnight camping activities involving other units not chartered by the same organization. Units that wish to host events involving other units that do not share the same charter partner must have approval from their council. This includes events for packs, troops, crews, and ships from the same council; neighboring councils; the same territory; or other territory.”

Please use this form to submit information about your multiple unit camping activities at least 20 days before the campout. Before submitting this form, please inform the chartered organization representatives from all of the organizations involved in the camping activity. You will be contacted within three to five business days about the status of this request. Information recorded on the form will be forwarded to the chartered organization representatives.

All activities must follow the newest versions of:

1. Scouting Age Appropriate Guidelines <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-685.pdf>
2. Guide to Safe Scouting <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>
3. Guidelines for AOL Scouts camping overnight with Scouts BSA <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss03/>

A multi-unit camping activity is not approved until approval is received by the person filling out this form, all unit leaders, and all chartered organization representatives. Incomplete or inaccurate information will delay the approval process.

This form is not needed for council-hosted camping events, which include:

- Camporees
- Summer Camp
- Webelos Woods
- Day Camps
- Day Trips

Units that share a charter organization (Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship)

To submit your request, please locate the form here: <https://forms.gle/8fESnPwU9Zyy8NwV9>

Registration Assistance Application

Registration assistance is given to make up the difference that a Scout, their family, and the unit cannot cover towards their BSA membership fees. Generally, the Council membership grant is not more than \$85 for youth and \$35 for adults. The finance committee feels that it is important for a Scout to contribute some portion of their fees through personal resources, or unit fund raising projects, thus meeting the spirit of the 9th point of the Scout Law – “A Scout is Thrifty” – a Scout pays his/her own way. Scouts are also encouraged to participate in the annual fall Popcorn Sale to help the Scout pay their way. Registration assistance funds are restricted to Scouts & Volunteers registered in Los Padres Council. Registration assistance funds are limited and will be applied until funds are depleted.

To register for assistance, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/bmJ8pXcD43zbTYLu8>

The 2026 National Scout Jamboree is Coming!



The Scouting event of a lifetime is coming – July 22 - 31 2026, and it's time to sign up and get ready! Join over 10,000 Scouts and Venturers from around the world for a mind-blasting and fun experience. The 2026 theme, "Elevate," this event will ELEVATE your Scouting and will be a life changing experience not just for your Scouts but for you as well.

This Jamboree will be held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia's adventure sports region known as the New River Gorge. Located on a sprawling 10,600 acres, the property includes more than 5 miles of zip line and challenge courses, 36 miles of mountain bike trails, and 13 acres of shooting sports ranges, as well as venues for kayaking, rock climbing, stand-up paddle boarding, bouldering, skateboarding, BMX, and many other activities. Want to know more about Jamboree? Check out the Jamboree Overview on the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve website.

It's A Big Deal – And It's Coming Soon!

There is so much to do to get ready! Los Padres Council will be sending a mixed gender Troop with both boys and girls. With a limited number of spots that fill up fast, you want to make sure that you can attend with all your friends from your home Troop! There is lots of planning and preparation for this trip, which includes four or more days of touring historic locations in the Washington D.C. area in addition to the ten days of Jamboree.

Requirements to attend:

Scouts must be at least twelve years of age by July 1st, 2026, or completed the 6th grade, but not have reached their 18th birthday by July 30th, 2026. Additionally, we have room for one or two Junior Assistant Scoutmaster that are over 18 years old, but under 21 years old by July 30th, 2026.

A National Jamboree is a rewarding and lifetime experience that takes place in the outdoors. It includes walking/hiking many miles a day with activities in the humid summer climate of West Virginia. Youth and adults must be in good physical health and pass a BSA physical.

The cost of this event is being determined, but you can expect it to be approximately \$5,100 per Scout. This includes all meals, lodging, activities and transportation for the entire Jamboree and tour. Extensive fundraising activities are planned in order to assist all Scouts to cover the costs. Scholarship support may be available on an individual situation basis.

How Do I Sign Up?

To submit your interest in attending, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/eeKaD14DsP4tHYiq7>

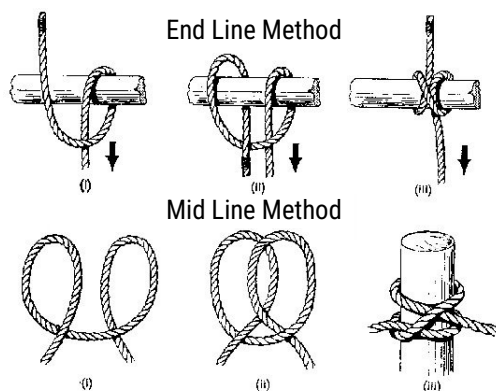
Knot of The Month: The Clove Hitch

During the recent Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS) course, some of our Scouts BSA leaders tied a lot of knots. The most common knot that they tied that day was the Clove Hitch. The reason that it was the most commonly tied knot is because the Clove Hitch is used to start and end most lashings, but this hitch has a broad usage. From Scouting, to Climbing, to Boating, this knot can be used as a quick and easy way to secure a rope to a post or object.



How To Tie: End Line or Mid Line

One of the main reasons the Clove Hitch is super useful is that it can be tied at the end of a line or in the middle of a line. To tie the Clove Hitch on the end of line, first wrap the working end around the post. Continue wrapping in the same direction and go underneath the line that bridges between the first and second loop. To tie this in the middle of the line, form two loops with the ends on the opposite sides of the joining line. Stack the lower loop on top of the upper loop, and throw this stack over the end of a post or carabineer.



Fun Fact 1:

The Clove Hitch is the only knot of the knots required in Scouts BSA that can be tied without the end of a rope.

Fun Fact 2:

If you wrap the line around the post and then tie the Clove Hitch around the standing line, you tie the Two-Half Hitches.

Limitations

While reviewing knot resources in preparation for this article, it was noted that certain applications (mainly mooring) recommends not using this knot by itself. This is because this hitch can slip or bind depending on how / where it is tied. For most Scouting and Climbing applications, this knot has minimal issues, but it is good to be aware of the limitations of the knots you use. If you would like to learn more about the limitations, and alternative knots you can use in those applications, we recommend reading the Clove Hitch page on [Animated Knots](#)

Knots of the Month: District Award of Merit and Silver Beaver

Adult leaders in the BSA have multiple opportunities to be recognized for their achievements and dedication to helping deliver outstanding programs to our youth. This recognition typically comes with a knot which may be worn on that leader's field uniform.

As we approach the end of 2024, we again want to take a moment to look to recognize volunteers who have made significant contributions to Scouting at the district and council levels. With our volunteer awards banquets coming up in February and March, now is a good time to think about those who have made a difference, and ask you to nominate them for one of these awards.



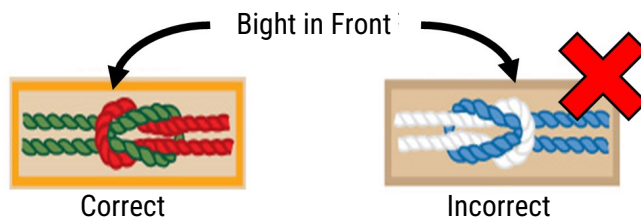
The District Award of Merit is the highest award that is given to a Scouter at the District level and also the only "non-square knot" in the knot award group. A nominee must be a registered Scouter and must have rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside Scouting, or both. Consideration must be given to the nominee's Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position. And the nominee's attitude toward and cooperation with the district and/or council is to be taken into consideration.



The Silver Beaver Award is presented to adults 21 and older who are registered with the Boy Scouts of America as volunteer Scouters for outstanding service to youth within the Council or for outstanding longtime service to youth by a registered Scouter residing within that Council. The average tenure for Silver Beaver candidates is ten years or longer. Consideration of the volunteer's impact are similar to the District Award of Merit, but at the council level.

Once the requirements are met, an application form can be downloaded by going to <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf> for the District Award of Merit, or <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/92-103.pdf> for the Silver Beaver Award, and submitting it to the District or Council Training Chair. A copy of each of these forms can also be found in this month's Los Padres Press. (Pages 12 and 14)

Once earned, this knot – like any knot - is worn over the left pocket on the field uniform as shown above. For the Silver Beaver knot, the loop in front of the standing part is to the wearer's right.



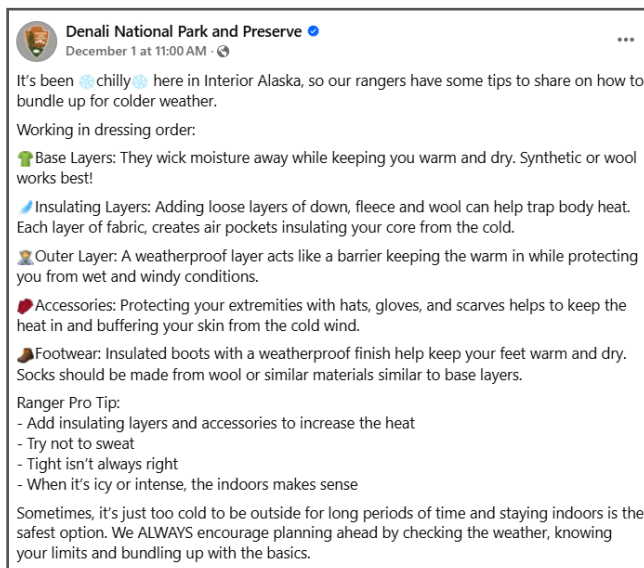
Not of The Month: Monthly Safety Moment

Along with our Knots of the Month, we want to share a “NOT” of the month, to remind our leaders that safety plays a central role in enabling our youth to have FUN and memorable experiences.

As we enter winter (yes, even with our California weather it’s still winter), this month we will be focusing on the importance of staying safe in the outdoors by wearing (and encouraging others to wear) proper attire.

Proper attire is an essential element of every safe Scouting program. To dress for cold weather you will want to wear multiple layers, both so that the number of layers you are wearing matches the immediate need to stay warm, and wearing layers appropriate for the weather which also keeps you warm and dry.

Taking advice from experts in dressing for cold weather, Denali National Park and Preserve’s Facebook page recently shared:



The post also included pictures of a Ranger preparing for a -30 degree day.

In addition to dressing for cold weather, staying dry, or being able to change into fresh dry clothes, is important for staying warm. Especially on Scouts BSA camping and backpacking trips, the act of hiking or other activity will cause you to perspire. Being able to change into dry clothes to sleep in will help you stay warmer after arrival or overnight. If you encounter snow or rain, depending on your choice of gloves these may also leave your hands wet and cold, so having an alternate set of gloves or mittens is helpful in keeping warm and keeping safe.

Scouting offers a training module which has additional information on staying safe in cold weather. Going to the online training courses offered by Scouting U (through your my.scouting.org account), you can take a course called “Hazardous Weather Training” (https://training.scouting.org/courses/SCO_800). This is required training for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, and like many of the other program safety trainings, leaders are required to retake this course every two years to remain fully trained. But any leader is able to take this course.

As an adult leader you play a critical role in ensuring that our Youth are safe. Thank you for your continued efforts and diligence.

Not of the Month: This is a Scouting Rule... NOT!

In this month’s Myth-busting article, we are focusing on myths regarding Advancement.

True or False:

At both Cub Scout and Scouts BSA levels, requirements must be completed AS WRITTEN in order to be marked as complete.

As the name of this article implies, this is NOT the way that all advancement works; the above statement as written is False.

Let’s start with areas where this DOES apply. First, as stated in 4.2.0.0 (*Mechanics of Advancement in Scouts BSA*) in the Guide to Advancement, subsection 4.2.0.1 states “In Scouts BSA, advancement requirements must be passed as written. In fact, the phrase “as written” appears 18 times in the Guide to Advancement. But exploring this further, there are some places where this applies absolutely, and some areas where there are exceptions:

- Merit Badge requirements must be completed as written. No exceptions can be made.
 - If a Scout cannot complete all requirements as written, and the merit badge is required for the rank of Eagle, then the Scout, their parents, and unit can work with the Council Advancement Committee and Council Disabilities Awareness Committee to identify alternate merit badges to fulfill a similar function; but then this alternate merit badge must be completed as written.
- Rank advancement for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class must be completed as written. But again if there are issues for a scout with special needs, alternative requirements or adjustments to the requirements can be made, working with the committees mentioned above.
- Rank advancement for Star, Life, and Eagle must be completed as written. There are no exceptions, other than the specific merit badge exceptions listed above.
- Also, for Lone Scouts, there are minor adjustments allowed when a requirement cannot be met as written for obvious reasons, such as when the requirement asks a scout to cook for or do an action for or with their patrol.

But with Cub Scouts, advancement has a different standard. As found in the Guide to Advancement section 4.1.0.0 (*Mechanics of Advancement in Cub Scouts*), sub-section 4.1.0.4 states:

- Cub Scouts—even those of the same age, grade, and gender—may have very different developmental timetables. For this reason, advancement performance in Cub Scouting is centered on its motto: “Do Your Best.” When Cub Scouts have done this—their best effort possible—then regardless of the requirements for any rank or award, it is enough; accomplishment is noted.

Remember that Advancement in Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA is just one of the methods that we use to deliver the Scouting program. The Guide to Advancement is a great resource to help you lead our scouts and recognize them for their accomplishments.



NOMINATION FOR THE DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT



NOTE: The nomination is confidential.
To avoid possible disappointment,
please do not advise nominee in any
way of your action in his or her behalf.

_____ Council
_____ District
_____ Unit

TO THE DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT COMMITTEE:

It is a pleasure to present for your consideration for the DISTRICT AWARD OF MERIT:

Name _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ Zip _____

Currently registered in Scouting as _____

The nominee has earned the following (provide dates):

_____ Den Leader's Training Award or Den Leader Award	_____ Scouter's Religious Award	_____ Other (specify)
_____ Den Leader Coach's Training Award or Den Leader Coach Award	_____ Silver Beaver	_____
_____ Cubmaster Award	_____ Order of the Arrow	_____
_____ Cub Scouter Award	_____ Wood Badge	_____
_____ Webelos Den Leader Award	_____ Venturing Awards	_____
_____ Scouter's Training Award	_____ Distinguished Commis- sioner Service Award	
_____ Scouter's Key		

The noteworthy service upon which this nomination is based follows:

(Furnish as much information as possible. For example: president, Rotary Club; vestryman, St. Paul's Church; chairman, Red Cross campaign; vice-president, PTA; medical director, hospital; Cubmaster, 3 years; Scoutmaster, 4 years; Venturing Advisor, 3 years; commissioner, etc. Use additional paper, if necessary.)

_____ Date of nomination

_____ Name of person making nomination

_____ Position in Scouting

_____ Contact number

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 on the basis of 1 for each 25 traditional units or fraction thereof. 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.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A nominee must be a registered Scouter.
2. A nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside Scouting, or both.
Note: The nature and value of "noteworthy service to youth" may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.
3. Consideration must be given to the nominee's Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position.
4. The nominee's attitude toward and cooperation with the district and/or council is to be taken into consideration.
5. Nominations cannot be considered for posthumous awards.

PROCEDURE

1. Annually, district chairmen will appoint a temporary special District Award of Merit committee of not more than five persons who will consider all candidates and make recommendations of those to receive the award to the council through the Scout executive.
2. The Scout executive will inform the district chairman of those nominations approved by the council committee.
3. The following procedure is suggested for such presentation ceremonies:
 - a. The recipient and spouse should be in attendance at the annual meeting or recognition dinner.
 - b. A district and/or council officer should explain the award and its significance.
 - c. Eagle Scouts or Silver Award Venturers should be asked to escort the recipients to a place of honor at the head table or on stage.
 - d. A suitable citation for each recipient should be read indicating what each has done in Scouting.
 - e. The award (certificate, No. 33719; plaque, No. 17565; and lapel pin, No. 17551) may be presented at this time with appropriate congratulations.
 - f. The only uniform insignia which accompanies this award is an embroidered overhand knot, No. 05013.
 - g. A group picture may be taken for use in neighborhood or community newspapers (district responsibility).

District approval

Council approval



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079
<http://www.scouting.org>

#33720C



33720C

2014 Printing



The Silver Beaver Award Nomination Form



The Silver Beaver Award was introduced in 1931 and is a **council-level** distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given at the council level. **This nomination form must be sent to the local council.**

To prevent embarrassment, the candidate should not be notified of this nomination.

Name _____ Spouse's name _____

Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Country _____ Home phone _____ Mobile phone _____

Company name _____ Professional title _____

Scouting position _____ Unit type and No. _____ District name _____

The nominee is registered in Scouting as _____ and holds a membership certificate expiring _____. (If Scouter is currently unit-connected, give unit number: _____)

If the award is granted, we plan to present it on _____
(This date is required, as it is recorded on the certificate.)

I confirm that the nominee lives by the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law in word and deed, and is exemplary in his/her personal, family, and professional activities.

Confirmation by person submitting nomination: _____
(Printed name)

Scouting position _____
(Signature)

Home phone _____ Mobile phone _____ Email _____

* Silver Beaver Award committee chair signature

* Scout executive signature

*** ONLY NECESSARY IF NOMINEE IS SELECTED**

RECORD OF SERVICE IN THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Please list registered adult positions in the Boy Scouts of America with dates listed chronologically. Indicate unit number, chartered organization, and district where appropriate.

Position	Unit No.	District	Council	Dates From – To	Total Years
Council-level Leadership Roles					
District-level Leadership Roles					
Unit-level Leadership Roles					

Total number of years as a registered adult **Council** volunteer: _____

What significant council-level service to youth has been made by this nominee?

(Attach additional page if needed)

NOTEWORTHY SERVICE OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER TO YOUTH OUTSIDE OF SCOUTING

Please list organization, position held, recognition received and year(s) involved or awarded.

Organization	Position/Recognition	Year(s)

Additional noteworthy comments on service of character to youth outside of Scouting:

ADDITIONAL NOTEWORTHY COMMENTS OF THE NOMINEE'S STANDING IN THE COMMUNITY

Information covering the nominee's standing in the community, citing activities in which he/she is **most active** in business, professional, civic, religious, educational, fraternal, veterans, and other non-Scouting areas.

Organization	Positions Held	Years Served	Accomplishments

Comments

(Attach letters of recommendation if appropriate.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give the full name and titles (if any) of the nominee exactly as you want them to appear on the certificate.
2. Furnish as much information as possible for each section.
3. Long-established policy limits the award of the Silver Beaver to adults 21 and older who are registered with the Boy Scouts of America as volunteer Scouters.
4. Nominations will not be considered for current or former professional Scouters within five (5) years of their leaving employment with the BSA. Other council employees (part time or full time) are eligible to receive the Silver Beaver Award based on their volunteer service, not employed service.
5. Nominations cannot be considered for posthumous awards.
6. Order Silver Beaver insignia using the regular Supply order form from the Supply Group distribution center.

RULES AND REGULATIONS of the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Article X, Section 6, Clause 3 Silver Beaver Award

The Boy Scouts of America, acting through the National Court of Honor, may award the Silver Beaver for distinguished service to youth upon the following basis and procedure:

- a) Each local council may process their own annual allotment of Silver Beaver awards and shall send a list of Silver Beaver recipients presented each calendar year to the National Court of Honor no later than January 31 of the following year.
- b) The award is made for noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth by registered Scouters within the territory under the jurisdiction of a local council.
- c) As evidence of the award there shall be presented: a suitable certificate, duly authenticated by the Boy Scouts of America, pursuant to the action of the National Court of Honor; and a miniature Silver Beaver suspended by a blue, white, and blue ribbon to be worn around the neck.
- d) It shall be a general policy that no public announcements shall be made by the local council in advance of action by the National Court of Honor with reference to names presented for consideration.
- e) These awards shall be made to the recipients by the local council concerned in connection with its annual meeting or other public location.
- f) Each duly chartered local council shall be entitled to one nomination. Councils having more than 60 units shall be entitled to further nominations on the basis of one for each additional 60 units or fraction thereof in their territory, as of December 31 preceding the nomination, according to the records of the national office.
- g) Councils not using their full allotment in any year may accumulate the unused portion for use in any subsequent year.
- h) In extraordinary cases, the Silver Beaver Award may be made by the National Court of Honor to a Scouter upon the recommendation of the duly constituted Scouting authorities having supervision of one or more units of the Boy Scouts of America, located outside of the United States and not under the jurisdiction of a local council.