



MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL - FEB 2024 NEWS!



United Way
of Tanana Valley

As a United Way agency the Midnight Sun Council has various resources at their disposal to help with food, shelter, and other needs. Here is their website:

<https://unitedwaytv.com/>

[To see more upcoming events and activities, please visit our website](#)

Midnight Sun Council News 15 February, 2024

IMPORTANT DATES

See what's happening!

[\(click here for complete calendar\)](#)

February 2024

- Feb 17 - Annual Recognition Dinner @ 6 pm
- Feb 19 - Scout Shop and Council Office CLOSED
- Feb 20 - Eagle Books due
- Feb 21 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting
- Feb 22 - TV District Meeting @ 6pm
- Feb 23-25 - wOAdstOAK
- Feb 27 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

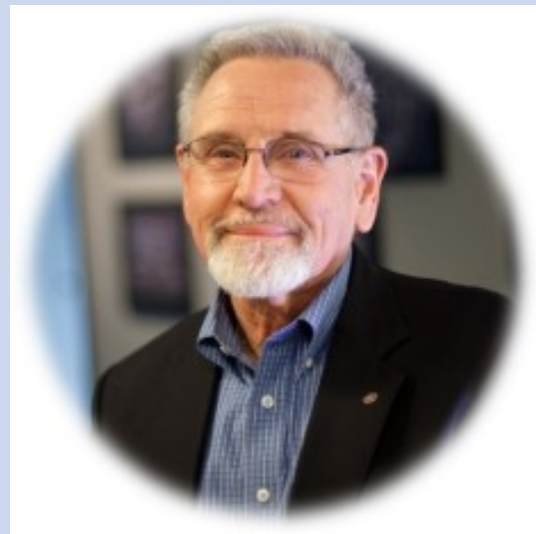
March 2024

- Mar 7 - TV District Roundtable @ 7 pm
- Mar 19 - Eagle Books due
- Mar 20 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting
- Mar 22-24 - Klondike Derby
- Mar 26 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)
- March 28 - TV District Meeting @ 6pm
- Mar 29 - Scout Shop and Council Office CLOSED in observance of Good Friday

April 2024

- Apr 5 - TV District Roundtable @ 7 pm
- Apr 18 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting
- Apr 20 - Board Retreat and Board Meeting
- Apr 23 - Eagle Books due
- April 25 - TV District Meeting @ 6pm
- April 27 - Scouting University (tentative)
- Apr 30 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



This month's volunteer spotlight features a quiet professional that has been a pillar of knowledge, leadership, generosity, influence, and devotion to the Scouting movement here in the interior of Alaska.

Mr. Larry Bennett has served in many ways and held various instrumental positions throughout our Council. To highlight just a few, Larry is a member of our properties committee who helps decide and prioritize projects to improve Lost Lake Camp. He then takes the information and has personally led many projects in and around Lost Lake Scout Camp. He gives direction to youth and other adults as well as his own hand swinging a hammer to complete a task. As he leads, he sets the example for many youths and adults in all aspects. While serving on our volunteer board he is a leading advocate for the Friends of Scouting campaign which ensures the

[REGISTER](#)

FOR 2025 PHILMONT TREK BY FEB 29th, 2024



Only 10 spots still available!



Klondike Derby

The Klondike Derby is next month, March 22-24. Troop 1 has been busy planning a fun weekend event for our Scouts BSA members. The Early Bird rate ends on Thursday, March 7, so now is the time to make sure your Unit Leader has a login for the system or asks for help.

Here is the link to the event and to register through our Council website:
<https://sites.google.com/view/msc-klondike-derby/home>

Registration for the Klondike Derby is open for Unit Leaders to register their Troop. <https://scoutingevent.com/696>

Remember, Troops register as a Unit. The Unit Leader needs to make a login and sign up. Payments can be made in the office or over the phone with a credit card or through the Unit Accounts. Please call the office to reserve your Unit's cabin.

For AOL's that are coming out to visit for the day (Saturday), they will sign up individually with a parent or guardian. Use the link above. They will be able to observe and visit with different Troops.

For additional information contact Troop 1 at troop1fai@gmail.com

financial needs necessary to bring the Scouting program to the interior. Mr. Bennett is always one of the first to not only give an annual donation but also support our fundraising events and campaigns throughout the year. Larry is also one to make the "discrete donation" to cover an unexpected cost of a building project at camp.

Many times, Larry has led our events, meetings, and gatherings with an opening prayer. Which again sets the example to our youth and adults with the "Duty to God" portion of our program. He truly believes in the program and sees the value gained by investing his time, finances, patience, and wisdom back into Scouting.

Help me by thanking him for all he does for our youth and our volunteers! Without Larry and people like him we would not be as strong of an organization as we are today.

**THANK YOU, LARRY FOR ALL
YOU DO!**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are an organization that could not operate without the commitment of our volunteers. Our regular readers are familiar with our monthly **Volunteer of the Month** shout out. Currently our office staff has been featuring volunteers that we see come into the Scout Shop or help at the district and council levels. We know there are a TON more volunteers that make our program keep growing. We would love to share these dedicated people with everyone. We encourage you to do a quick writeup of parents, siblings, community members and anyone else you can think of that help make your unit successful. It doesn't have to be fancy; a few sentences are enough, and a picture would be great. Help us give thanks to our volunteers. You can email your Volunteer of the Month to linda.hill3@scouting.org or any staff member you work with, and we will see they get the recognition they deserve!

WEBSITE UPDATES

Some of you may have noticed that our website has a new look. We recently contracted a new website designer. It was a huge conversion, and we are still making changes so the information is easier to find.

Scouts and Scouters – Save the Date!

The **Wise Wolf Camporee** will be held at Lost Lake Camp on May 3-5. Four outdoor skill tracks will be offered: Trapping (learn about furbearers, fur and conservation), Fly Fishing (be ready for fishing season!), Outdoor Gourmet (show your troop how to prepare feasts on campouts) and Search & Rescue (learn how not to get lost and help on a mock search effort). Scouts get to choose the track they will attend on Saturday and will learn skills, complete some merit badge requirements and have lots of fun!

We expect some classes to fill up, so when registration opens, don't wait!

Attention: We are asking for Scouts to enter a patch design for the Wise Wolf Camporee by the March 7th Roundtable. The design must include one of the following: "BSA", "Boy Scouts of America", or a fleur de lis. It should be based on the name and/or activity tracks. Please send the artwork to the Council office or bring to the Roundtable. By doing so, you are giving the Council permission to use its likeness to advertise and make into a patch. The artwork will become the property of the Midnight Sun Council, BSA.



Save the Date for Medical MB Saturday

Matt Cooper has been working with Bassett Community Hospital on Ft Wainwright, to offer Merit Badges in the medical field. It is scheduled for March 2, and he is waiting on some final information. If you have Scouts that are interested in working on Medical Professions, Dentistry, Public Health or Disability Awareness, have them save the date. A finalized list with more information will be sent to Scoutmasters soon.

Please browse the new site and tell us what you think. Let us now if we need to add or change some information.

We are aware that some people are having trouble finding the calendar.

- On a desktop, make sure you are on the home page by clicking home and scroll to the bottom of the page.
- On a mobile device, tap the 3 little lines to navigate home and to other pages on the website. Once you are on the home page, turn your phone to a vertical or landscape position and scroll down. The calendar should be there. We are working to make it easier to find.

Remember the website is:

www.midnightsunbsa.org

Outdoor Adventure - Cub Scout Day Camp 2024

The Day Camp organizers had their first meeting to finalize some preliminary information for this summer. Day Camp will continue to be held at Birch Hill Recreation Area but the dates were changed to May 21-23. This is a Tuesday - Thursday. A save the date flyer is being finalized and we will get that out as soon as it's available. Day Camp is going to be so much fun! We have a core group of committee members returning although some of their roles are changing. Amanda Foley (former Pack 6 Committe Chair) is considering taking the role as Day Camp Director, and she's been busy planning how to utilize the new Cub Scout program adventures for our Cubs. She has moved out of our Council, so she'll need a good group of local volunteers for support! If more people volunteer, we can serve more Cubs in camp. If you or someone in your Pack wants to be on the committee or would like to help with specific things like shooting sports, let us know. A discount will be given to Cubs that have adult volunteers who volunteer as part of the Day Camp Staff. The next meeting is February 20 (Tuesday) at 5 PM. If we have enough interest, an in-person meeting will be an option along with zoom. Email Tasmine at tasmine.bennett@Scouting.org with questions or to volunteer.

FOS Family Campaign

Thank you to every Unit that has scheduled a Friends of Scouting presentation. We started the campaign on time this year and currently the TV District is at 33% with three Units (T47, T38B and T38G) already reaching their Unit goal! The Bush District has reached 20% of their goal! The deadline for Unit Incentives is April 30 so if you have not scheduled your Unit's presentation, please do it ASAP. Contact Tasmine at tasmine.bennett@scouting.org or CJ at clinton.stewart@scouting.org if you have any questions. The Bush District should contact Stephen Smith at stephen.smith@scouting.org or CJ.



Each year many of the Midnight Sun Council supporters contribute their Friends of Scouting donations through the [Pick Click Give](#) option. This is just another option of support which allows Alaskan residents to pledge and pay a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) in support of the youth, volunteers, and Scouting.

Below is a link that takes you right to the Councils summary on the PFD webpage. This is a great way to pledge now and pay later. For more information, please contact CJ at Clinton.Stewart@Scouting.Org

<https://www.pickclickgive.org/index.cfm/pfdorgs.info/Midnight-Sun-Council-Boy-Scouts-of-America>

Scouting magazine had an article about Larry Gumina, with a shout out to our Council. If you aren't aware, he also served on our High Adventure staff for a couple of years, in addition to his being a guest speaker at our recognition dinner.

[Former NESAW Explorer shares how the program shaped his life \(scoutingmagazine.org\)](#)

CLICK ON IMAGES OR LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

FROM THE
REGISTRAR

SCOUT SHOP
NEWS






If you have Scouts participating in **Scout Sunday** and would like the patches, please contact Linda at linda.hill3@scouting.org so that she can special order them for you.

2024 BSA National Annual Membership Fees

EFFECTIVE

APRIL
1
2024

FOR ALL NEW
AND EXISTING
MEMBERS

NATIONAL \$85/YR	Participants in kindergarten through age 20.
COUNCIL \$0 /YR	
NATIONAL \$50/YR	For all Exploring youth and adults.
COUNCIL \$0 /YR	
NATIONAL \$65/YR	All registered adult volunteers in unit and non-unit positions. (Volunteers with multiple registrations will continue to pay for only one position).
COUNCIL \$0 /YR	
NATIONAL \$30/YR	Scoutreach participants in kindergarten through age 20.
COUNCIL \$0 /YR	
NATIONAL \$25/YR	This fee is for Merit Badge Counselors who are not already registered volunteers.
COUNCIL \$0 /YR	 <small>Merit badge counselors who are not also registered in a unit position are not allowed to attend overnight Scouting activities/events.</small>

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



You can also call the office at (907) 452-1976.

ADULT APPLICATION PROCESSING

Reminder: a new process will be implemented beginning Monday, March 4th. (Please note the revised date). At that time, the adult application flow will change to require the completion of the CBC (results received) before the new adult volunteer can assume a leadership role.

Once an adult application is processed the person is put in "pending." The adult leader will get an email notice informing them their registration is being processed and they are not to assume any leadership role until the completion of the CBC. The unit key 3 will also get an email.

If the CBC comes back as "red" then the normal process needs to be followed for the clearance of the person or the denial and refund.

If the CBC comes back as "green" the system will finish registering the person and send an email to the person and unit key 3 that they can now be an active leader. Please keep in mind the CBC processing time and the impact that will have. For example, a new adult application coming in the last day of the month for a recharter will not be usable until the CBC has cleared to "green", which will be in the following month.



Youth Protection Training (YPT)

As part of the BSA's goal to become the National Leader in Youth Safety there are some changes coming to Youth Protection Training. The Unit Key-3 will no longer be able to edit the YPT dates. The BSA will be requiring that the Criminal Background Check is completed before you can become an active adult leader. This will have a release date of March 4th, 2024.

Units that are rechartering, should encourage their leadership to check on and update their YPT if it has been at least a year since they last completed it. Remember that this can be done individually or the leadership can set up a training date for their unit to complete it all at the same time. Please remember that if your unit does their Youth Protection Training as a unit to turn in a Training Attendance report to the Council with the updated information. This form is available at the Council office, and can be picked up or emailed to you. As a reminder the Midnight Sun Council requires our adult leaders and merit badge counselors to complete their YPT yearly.



How cold is too cold for Cub Scout winter camping?

The BSA's Outdoor Programs and Properties division were nice enough to provide an answer: *There is no national policy for Cub Scout winter camping temperatures. Instead, this is a local council-based discussion and decision.*

The Midnight Sun Council's decision is to leave it up to the unit leadership, as you know best what the conditions are for your locations, be it Fairbanks, Delta Junction, or the North Slope. Keep in mind when you are making your unit decision, safety first for all and age and skill levels, clothing, and equipment needed for the activities.

[Read More](#)

NORTHERN LIGHTS HIGH ADVENTURE TREKS ARE BACK! CLICK HERE AND BOOK YOURS NOW!!

BOOK YOUR 2024 TREK NOW!

Our Alaska High Adventure website is currently undergoing some changes and updates. Therefore it might not open for you or just partly open up. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause.



For questions please contact Phil at phil.burkett@scouting.org, or call the office at 907-452-1976 or find us on Facebook [@NorthernLightsHighAdventureBase](https://www.facebook.com/NorthernLightsHighAdventureBase)

Congratulations to all our 2023 Eagle Scouts

2023 Eagle Scouts will be recognized at the Annual Dinner on February 17th, 2024



Isabel Brown
Lone Scout
Denali Park, AK

Tyler Hansen
Troop 1001
Rotary Club of Fairbanks

McKinley Rhoades
Troop 1042
Vol. Fire Department, North Pole

Daniel Beuchaw
Daniel Dicken
Henry Simoneau
Troop 1138
Midnight Sun Council, BSA

*Trail to Eagle
workbook*

*Midnight Sun Council Eagle
Scout Candidate Checklist*

Visit the [Distinguished Eagle Scout Awards page](#) for more information. Updated timeline and FAQ attached.

A FINAL SHOUTOUT TO THE 2023 GOLDEN EAGLE SPONSORS!

THANK YOU! to our 2023 Golden Eagle Sponsors



Carol and Steve Adamczak	CSG, Inc	Dave Minto
Steve Adams	Denali State Bank	Mt McKinley Bank
Alaska Airlines	Design Alaska	Nenana Ice Classic
Alaska Riverways	Peter Dillon	North Pole Coffee Company
Bella Luce Fine Arts	Doyon Utilities LLC	The Optimist Club of Fairbanks
Portraits	Shelley and Richard Ebenal	Patrick Mechanical
Bert Bell	Robert Everts	Karen Perdue
Bell Development	Fairbanks Gold Mine	Sani-Can
Robert Bell	Joe Faulhaber	Mark Simon
Scott Bell	Foundation Health Partners	Stephen Smith
Bell Wealth Advisors	Stephen Frank	Niesje Steinkrager
Ben Lomond Inc	Fullford Electric	Rob Taylor
Bennett Engineering	GCI	Brad and Danielle Tilden
Andrew Bennett	GHEMM Company	Toontuk Lodge #549
Larry Bennett	Golden Heart Emergency Physicians	Cathie Tordoff
C.B. Bettisworth	Bob Groseclose	TOTE Maritime Alaska
Bettisworth North	GVEA Foundation	Jean Tsigonis
John Binkley	Hale & Associates	Noah Tsigonis
Mary Binkley	iPlow	Usibelli Foundation
Wade Binkley	Bernie Karl	Walsh Kelliher & Sharp
Chena Hot Springs Resort	Kal Kennedy	Warwick and Schikora CPA
Cold Spot Feeds	Aldean Kilbourn	Weeks Charitable Foundation
Dennis "Skip" Cook	Kiwanis Club of Fairbanks	Dan White
Jeff Cook	Lotto Alaska	Carol and Jack Wilbur
Cooper Family	Jim Lund	Sue and Gary Wilken
	Chris Miller	Women's Auxiliary Unit 11
		VFW Post #10029



VFW Scout of the Year Program

Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States recognizes individuals who are Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients, and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank.

Please review the attached materials to see if you know someone who may qualify and share the application with them. A Scout may enter the contest through one VFW Post only. Locally, we have VFW Post 3629 in Fairbanks, and VFW Post 10029 in North Pole.

Remember to choose just one to apply through.

Deadline to apply is March 1st.

[2023 VFW Scout of the Year](#)

Preparedness Presentations

The American Red Cross is reaching out to see if our Boy Scout Troops would be interested in preparedness presentations. They have different presentations depending on the age. Prepare with Pedro is pre-k-2nd grade and The Pillowcase Project is 3rd-5th grade.

See some of the basic information linked below. The presentations take about 30 minutes. They go through what to do in case of a home fire, coping skills, and what to pack in an emergency kit. The children will be able to answer and ask questions throughout the presentations- it is interactive and there are times the kids get to get up and get the wiggles out when we explain how to, "get low and go!"



[download/view info Prepare with Pedro \(Pre-K-2nd Grade\)](#)

[download/view info Project Pillowcase \(3rd-5th Grade\)](#)



Hello!

My name is Kelly and I work for ALPS Mountaineering, an outdoor brand of camping and hiking gear. We offer a free program to the scouting community, called Hiker Direct, that offers roughly 40% off MSRP to scouts, every day of the year! You do have to sign up for the program to access the special scout pricing, and we encourage all leaders, scouts, and parents to do so, to take advantage of these great deals. I've included a flyer below that can be shared with anyone in your scouting group and we'd be happy to mail you physical copies to share as well, if interested. This short video also highlights the program if you'd like to take a couple of minutes to watch. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to let us know and we hope to have you and your crew as part of the Hiker

Direct family, soon!

[Click here to view/download hikerdirect flyer](#)

The Lynden Training Center will conduct:

**80-hr Wilderness First Responder Course (WFR)
/ Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)**

Wednesday-Friday, February 21 – 23, 2024 (\$750pp)

16-hr REFRESHER Wilderness First Responder (WFR) / Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)

Thursday-Friday, March 21 – 22, 2024 (\$280pp)

Lynden Training Center – 4325 Cinch St., Fairbanks, AK 99701

View our current course schedule at www.lynden.com/training, or call (907) 456-2223 to register.
[click here to view/download LTC map](#)

Wilderness First Responder (WFR) / Wilderness EMT (WEMT)

This 80-hour course combines online course material with classroom and field instruction. It gives students the ability to make critical decisions when medical care is delayed and to administer emergency care to life threatening injuries and illnesses. The course includes instruction for providing care to non-life threatening situations when evacuation is impractical. This course offers several hands-on scenarios. Medically trained personnel with EMT 1 or higher will receive a WEMT certification. State of Alaska Emergency Trauma Technician IS INCLUDED with this course.



Feb. 12-15 AND Feb. 21-23, 2024
(7 days)
Fairbanks, Alaska

Lynden Training Center | (907) 456-2223
Register Online: lynden.com/training (MED07)

16hr WFR Refresher available March 21 - 22, 2024

DONATE /
SUPPORT



Midnight Sun Council | 907-452-1976 | 1400 Gillam Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701 |
www.midnightsunbsa.org

CONTACT US

Visit the Midnight Sun Council website for updates and more news and information!



Join our Newsletter

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