

MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL -AUG 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

https://unitedwaytv.com/

To see more upcoming events and activities, please visit our website

Midnight Sun Council News 15 August, 2024



It is with heavy heart that we mourn the passing of a member of our valued staff. Phil Burkett passed away peacefully in his sleep on July 25. Our prayers go out to his family and friends. He will forever hold a special place in this Council and our hearts. The Council will be planning a memorial to celebrate his life. An announcement will be made with the time and place. We are collecting funds for a James E West in memory of Phil. Please contact the office at (907) 452-1976 for more information.

IMPORTANT DATES

See what's happening! (click here for complete calendar)

REMEMBER SCOUT SHOP AND COUNCIL OFFICE ARE CLOSED ON MONDAYS THROUGH AUGUST 2024!!

August 2024

Aug 15 - Popcorn Kick off @ 6 pm

Aug 16-18 - OA Toontuk Fall Ordeal

Aug 20 - Eagle Books due

Aug 21 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm

Aug 21 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm

Aug 22 - TV District & Commissioner Meeting

Aug 27 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

Correction:

We missed adding Mike Abels as a Board member in the last newsletter.

Mike has worked with our Council at the Council level for many years.

We apologize to Mike, for missing his name.



Sep 2 - Council Office and Scout Shop CLOSED in

observance of Labor Day

Sep 13-15 - Council Rock

Sep 14-15 - IOLS Training

Sep 17 - Eagle Books due

Sep 19 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm

Sep 19 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm

Sep 20-22 - OA Toontuk Fall Fellowship

Sep 21 - Equinox Fundraiser

Sep 24 - Eagle Board (by appointmnt only)

Sep 26 - TV District & Commissioner Meeting

Sep 27-29 - Fall Camporee

October 2024

Oct 4 -TV District Roundtable

Oct 5 - Freeze up Canoe Race

Oct 5 - University of Scouting

Oct 12- OA Toontuk Vigil weekend

oct 14 - Council Office and Scout Shop CLOSED in

observance of Indigenous People's Day

Oct 17 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm

Oct 17 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm

Oct 18-19 Haunted Trail

Oct 22 - Eagle Books due

Oct 24 - TV District & Commissioner Meeting

Oct 25-26 Haunted Trail

Oct 27 - Popcorn orders are due

Oct 29 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)



LOST LAKE SUMMER CAMP



Summer Camp was a huge success this year thanks to our wonderful staff. We



When: Sept 13-15, 2024

Time: Activities start at 8:30 am on

Saturday

Where: Lost Lake Scout Camp

Click here or on image for registration

Troops: we are looking for Scouts to run or assist at stations. Please let Amanda know if your Troop is willing to run a station or you have Scouts that are willing to assist! Email her at foley.amanda.scouts@gmail.com

Fall Camporee

The dates for Fall Camporee are September 27-29, 2024 and will be held at Fort Wainwright. Troop 38 B & G are planning an Amazing Race where patrols will compete to be the first across the finish line.

2024 FUEL OIL RAFFLE

had 84 scouts, 29 adults, and 54 staff members attend Summer Camp and 105. The nearly 1.5-to-1 ratio between campers and staff, allowed for some great experiences. New this year, was a 3-D archery range for the scouts to test their skills on. A big thank you to members of the Great Alaska Council, who came up to help out this year! Partnering with GAC allowed us to have more in-state staff, saving us airfare costs. Their experience and knowledge went a long way in supplementing our normal offerings. On Wednesday, we held family night and our Board meeting. Tommy G's supplied our main course - prime rib, to add to the celebrations. During the same day, the National Camp Accreditation Team visited and assessed our administration, program and facilities. We passed and are once again a Nationally Accredited camp. Below is a link to a 2-minute video that highlights our 2024 Summer Camp season and can be used for camp promotion for 2025.

https://vimeo.com/989113971



Thank you for Troops 56 and 65 for adopting the Anaktuvuk campsite and for building its pavilion. The campsite is looking great and has already seen quite a bit

of use.





Sparrowhawk Pavilion Reborn

After the winter's snow caused the

pavilion at Sparrowhawk to collapse, Troops 56 and 65 jumped right in and rebuilt it! They showed their scouts how to measure, measure again, then cut wood to the proper specs. They were taught how to stabilize the framework as THE FRIENDS OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL, BSA AND VFW POST 10029 ARE RAFFLING OFF

1000 Gallons of Heating oil!!





(1) 1400 Gillam Way (Midnight Sun Council office)

(2) 4122 Boat St

(Compeaus)

(3) 157 Old Steese Hwy (Graphic North, Inc.)

(4) 3157 VFW St North Pole (VFW post 10029)

1st Prize: 500 Gallons of Heating oil (delivered within North Pole, Fairbanks area) (Prize donated by Compeaus)

2nd Prize: 300 Gallons of Heating oil (delivered within North Pole, Fairbanks area) (Prize donated by Everts Air)

3rd Prize: 200 Gallons of Heating oil (delivered within North Pole, Fairbanks area) (Prize donated by the Friends of the Midnight Sun Council, BSA)

\$20 per ticket! 1000 available. Drawing held when all tickets are Proceeds will benefit the Midnight Sun Council, BSA. sold or October 19th 2024, which-Need not be present to win ever happens first. Permit # 704-24



click here or on image to view/download flyer

Northern Lights High Adventure (NLHA)

The high adventure base wraped up earlier this month, when our last trek headed out to Denali. We had a total of 105 participants and 12 staff members.

A special thank you to Linda Hill and Tasmine Stebbins for assisting with driving. A very special thank you to GAC for allowing us to rent three of their 15passenger vans this year and to Tammy Illguth for letting us use her van as well for one of the treks.

We served scouts from Maryland, Colorado, Texas, Massachusetts, Michigan, and California. One unit told me that they offered their troop 3 different options - the Summit, Northern Tier, and NLHA - and their troop overwhelmingly chose to come to Alaska.

The Northern Lights High Adventure Base was also acknowledged as a Nationally Accredited camp.

the roof was hoisted up and set in place. Then they helped to connect everything. What remained after all of their hard work, was a wonderful new pavilion.

Thank you, Troops 56, and 65!



Troop 487, Alvin, Texas

Troop 487 from Alvin, Texas came up for a few days before attending Lost Lake for their summer camp

experience. Thet camped at Chena Lakes, before heading to Lost Lake. While in North Pole, they visited the world-famous Santa Claus House and took a day trip to Denali National Park. While at Lost Lake, they enjoyed our various programs, earned merit badges, and created memories that will last a lifetime.





Troop 156 of Lansing, Michigan, heading out down the Yukon River for a 155-mile canoe trip from Eagle to Circle



Iceland

While we had an exciting summer full of Scouting activities locally, we sent a contingent of 6 scouts and 5 adults to attend the Iceland National Jamboree.

The scouts had a wonderful time enjoying the activities and scenery (read all about it further below).

They represented our Council well on an international level, made new friends, and traded patches. Rumor has it that they were invited to go to a National Jamboree in Denmark.



FORTY FIRST ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARD BANQUET

Midnight Sun Council, Boy Scouts of America

Jo Kuchle & Gene Therriault

Please join us Wednesday, December 4th, 2024 at the Westmarks Gold room 6pm social hour - 7pm dinner Information & RSVP contact (907) 452-1976 or Stacy.Brandon@Scouting.Org

\$125 per seat, tables and sponsorships are currently still available





Help Needed - Canoe Fund!

We'd like to give our scouts the opportunity to enjoy their summer experiences a little more comfortably and with better equipment. To that end, we are looking to replace some canoes and begin a swap out program going forward. Some of our canoes are getting pretty old and have been well used.

Please help us in getting the word out to any business owners and community groups that you are affiliated with, using the <u>Canoe Fund Form (click here to view/download)</u>

We will start up a temporarily restricted fund to put donations in, in order to purchase canoes and other aquatic equipment (row boats, paddles, oars, lifejackets, etc.), after we have raised enough money to do so. Any remaining money will be kept in the fund to be used for future change outs, and we plan on building the fund over time. If a business, service club, or family would like to donate a full \$1,500, we will gladly recognize them in an appropriate manner, including a mention in our newsletter. The manner of recognition is yet to be determined.

We would like to purchase a minimum of 6 canoes before next season as our immediate concern. Who would like to join me in making a donation towards this worthy cause?

Checks can be made out to Midnight Sun Council and mailed to 1400 Gillam Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701. We also can take credit card payments over the phone at (907) 452 1976.

Far North Currant Festival

The UAF Georgeson Botanical Garden is hosting their second annual Far North Currant Festival on August 24th from 1-4pm. This is a free educational event connecting people with these amazing berries.

They are having educational stations teaching people all about currants. There will also be informational tables from outside vendors to help spread the good work organizations are doing in our community.

They also are hoping to have a few tables with fun activities for kids as well.

Contact Tasmine at tasmine.bennett@scouting.org for more information about this event.

FOS Family Campaign

The Tanana Valley District reached their goal and the following Units met or exceeded their Unit goal; Troop 47B, Troop 38B, Troop 38G, Troop 78B, Pack 25 and Pack 20.

If your Unit has not met their goal, please reach out to your families and remind them to help "fund the adventure!"

Two Units in the Bush District also reached their goal, Troop 56B and Troop 65G.

If you have any questions about FOS, please email Tasmine Stebbins at tasmine.bennett@scouting.org or CJ Stewart at clinton.stewart@scouting.org.

Pick. Click. Give.

Each year many of the Midnight Sun Council supporters contribute their Friends of Scouting donations through the <u>Pick Click Give</u> 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. Elections can be made until August 31, 2024.

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

CLICK ON IMAGES OR LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

FROM THE REGISTRAR

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

New Cub Scout Welcome Kit – Free Recruiter Strip Emblem

All new Cub Scouts that register online at BeAScout.org from August 1 to October 31, 2024, will receive a welcome kit from National. This kit will be sent via mail (excluding APO/FPO addresses) shortly after completing registration.

Each kit will contain one car magnet, one water bottle sticker, one Scout Life Mini Magazine and a Peer-to-Peer Recruiting card that provides details on how to recruit a friend into Cub Scouts. Each Cub Scout that recruits a friend will be eligible to earn a FREE Recruiter Strip Emblem at any Scout Shop.

The new Cub Scout Adventures are now available at the Scout Shop!

Scout Shop articles!!

Please share this information during your recruiting events.

New Yearly Registration Renewals

As a reminder, the new yearly registration renewals are beginning to come up for renewal. Please be understanding as we all learn this new process. As National is working out this new process, we are finding that the simplest way to get your renewal completed is to either stop by the Council office or call and we can do the renewal over the phone here. When you call, please ask for the Registrar, Linda. By registering at the Council office, you save on the credit card fee that is charged for the online registration and your renewal is completed within 24 hours. For units that have members registering online, please have a member of your Key 3 check for any renewing registrations that may have a pending approval associated with them.









Cub's Biking Adventure

The district offered two events using the new biking adventures over the summer. Robin and Chelsea from Pack 6 set up an event where Cubs could complete all or most of their requirements.

Special thanks to Robin, Chelsea, Volunteers in Policing (Fairbanks) and Beaver Sports. Last weekend Amanda and

Sue from Troop 1 offered the opportunity for Webelos and Arrow of Lights to complete the riding portion of the adventure. It turned out to be a beautiful day and all the Cubs finished their 5- or 10-mile ride.









NOAC

The National Order Arrow of the Conference (NOAC) was held July 29-August 2, 2024, in Boulder, CO. The theme for NOAC 2024 was "Seeking New Heights".

Toontuk Lodge had a six-member contingent attend. Our contingent included James Hill (Lodge Chief), Sam Lentz (Vice Chief), Ayden Foor, Oskar Cooper, Matt Cooper and Linda Hill. While in

Colorado, our contingent participated in some fun activities before NOAC started. They went to an Air and Space Museum, the zoo, on a hike and to a water/amusement park.

While at NOAC, Toontuk Lodge participated in a various amount of training and events and enjoyed nightly shows. The shows while entertaining and enjoyable, also, were a time of learning. Activities at NAOC included, the Goodman Edson Observatory Museum, Arrowment Conservation Education &Sustainability (ACES) Village, Lodge & Section Leadership Reception just to name a few. Training was offered for Patch Design, National Council of Chiefs (NCOC)-both adult and youth, and Leadership Styles plus many others. The last day was a day of fun culminating with The Elevate Festival. The festival was, also, a time to see what other lodges offer.

Toontuk Lodge met people from all over the U.S., and even Arrowmen that traveled from Lodges overseas and befriended many. There was a Section get-together that they attended along with Boulder Bash. Boulder Bash was a time of camaraderie and community. While there, we did plenty of patch trading. Members of our contingent came back with many patches from lodges across the U.S. NOAC offered plenty of opportunities for training and fun. Our contingent members came back with fond memories and ambitions for their future in 'Seeking New Heights'.





Icelandic National Jamboree





A small group of Scouts recently returned from a big trip after visiting Iceland and participating in the Icelandic National Jamboree at Úlfljótsvatn. The weeklong event hosted not only the local Icelandic scouting organizations, but included scouts from all over the globe, outnumbering the island resident participants and aptly themed Different Worlds.

As an Assistant Scoutmaster and father of a scout I had the wonderful opportunity to witness the growth and experience of our youth firsthand as they traveled into the unknown like the explorers of old. These are my observations.

The children, who range in age from 12 to 15, represented Troop 20, Troop 38B, and Troop 38G respectively, all from the greater Fairbanks area of the Midnight Sun Council. They spent a week exploring the capital city of Reykjavík and the surrounding area before the official start of the Jamboree. They tasted some traditional Icelandic cuisine including Hákarl, which is made from Greenland or basking sharks undergoing a rotting and curing process. They experienced white water rafting along the beautiful glacial river Hvítá, the White River, full of thrills and spills. Another day was spent horseback riding along the lava fields. "My favorite single thing there was the Icelandic ponies," said Ethan, who spent considerable time trying to convince his dad to bring the handsome brown and blonde pony back to Alaska. The answer was of course no, but with the added fact that once an Icelandic pony leaves the island nation it cannot return, one of the safeguards against disease necessary for such isolated livestock. Other favorites included the waterfalls and geysers found on the Golden Circle tour, including a walk through the rift between the North American and European tectonic plates. The rain falling during the week of the Jamboree did little to dampen spirits as well over 2500 campers came together in celebration. A group from Denmark camped alongside the Alaskans and quickly became friends, going so far as to combine their dining areas and kitchen. The Danish scouts sported light blue knitted hats, making them easy to pick out in the crowds and became a chant from their Alaskan supporters during a volleyball tournament. "Let's go Blue Hats!" echoed from Clara and others as they cheered the Danes to a tournament championship. The Alaskan Scouts managed to complete all the requirements for the individual element badges as well as the "World Sheep" award, conquering the tallest climbing wall in Iceland, obstacle courses over land and water, and even a BMX course along the way.

The five adults on the group also emersed themselves into the Jamboree, Craig becoming the head chef to ensure the Scouts had every opportunity to engage in the activities around the clock, while Amy, Matt, Jamie, and James were enlisted into the ranks of volunteers working the concessions and merchandise stands in the center of camp. When the week had concluded it was marked by live music that played late into the night with throngs of dancing Scouts at the close of the festivities. The next day the camp emptied out, leaving the Alaskans alone in the field they occupied for two weeks. The Scoutmasters set up a final surprise, having the group leave the campsite a few hours early so they could partake in a photo shoot as Vikings before boarding the plane bound for Seattle and then home.

As I marvel at the table full of patches, neckerchiefs, polo shirts, and even a Hong Kong contingent sweatshirt my son had traded for during his time in Iceland I couldn't help but think that this impressive pile of treasure paled in comparison to the once in a lifetime experience shared with him. I watched him tackle the unknown in a foreign land, the farthest he had ever travelled from home, and he thrived with his fellow scouts engaging with other likeminded souls from so many different nations. This is what it was all about.

What adventures will the next international scouting opportunity bring?

James Johnson Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 38B

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. As of March 4th, 2024, the BSA will be requiring that the Criminal Background Check is completed before you can become an active adult leader.

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.

Please check your YPT training as some members are past the one year date required by the Midnight Sun Council.



Good day everyone! Just a quick spotlight on a great opportunity for youth to express their own thoughts while earning college, tech school or any other higher learning scholarships!

(Deadlines are October!)

Voice of Democracy (High Schoolers 9th through 12th Grade) 2024-2025 theme "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?" (Audio / Voice Recorded)

The national first place winner receives a \$35,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. A complete list of

other national scholarships ranges from \$1,000-\$21,000, and the first-place winner from each VFW Department (state) wins at least a scholarship of \$1,000.

Patriot Pen (6th through 8th Grade)

2024-2025 theme "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

The essay contest encourages young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society, by drafting a 300- to 400-word essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief.

For more info click https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships!

Another program that recognizes outstanding youth, Scout of the Year Program: Applications due in March 2025. Eagle Scouts – Gold Stars – Quartermasters and the Summit Award winners in 2024 or prior are eligible until the age of 18.

Link for more info https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-
/media/VFWSite/Files/Community/Youth-and-Education/Scout-of-the-Year/ScoutoftheYearBrochureandEntryForm.pdf?v=1&d=20210708T183715Z&la=en

Contact CJ at Clinton.Stewart@Scouting.Org

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



BOOK YOUR 2025 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 the Council office at 907-452-1976 or find us on Facebook @NorthernLightsHighAdventureBase



NESA Update 2024

Eagle Scouts from across the nation received post cards relating to the 2025 Eagle Scout directory. The last one done of this nature was in 2020. Please see attached flyer. NESA and Publishing Concepts (PCI) have been working together in the past to create this directory as an opportunity for Eagle Scouts to share their life stories and photos with a much larger audience.

There is no purchase obligation to participate.

There will be an opportunity to purchase the directory

and other items offered by PCI, this is optional.

Once the production of the yearbook is completed, purchased directories will be shipped directly to the purchasers.

Questions can be directed to nesa@scouting.org.



Congratulations to all our 2024 Eagle Scouts



Henry Repasky

Troop 1138

Midnight Sun Council, BSA

Devin Emmett

Troop 1042
North Star Volunteer Fire Dept. Station 1

Slater Jones

Troop 1078
Chena Kiwanis Club

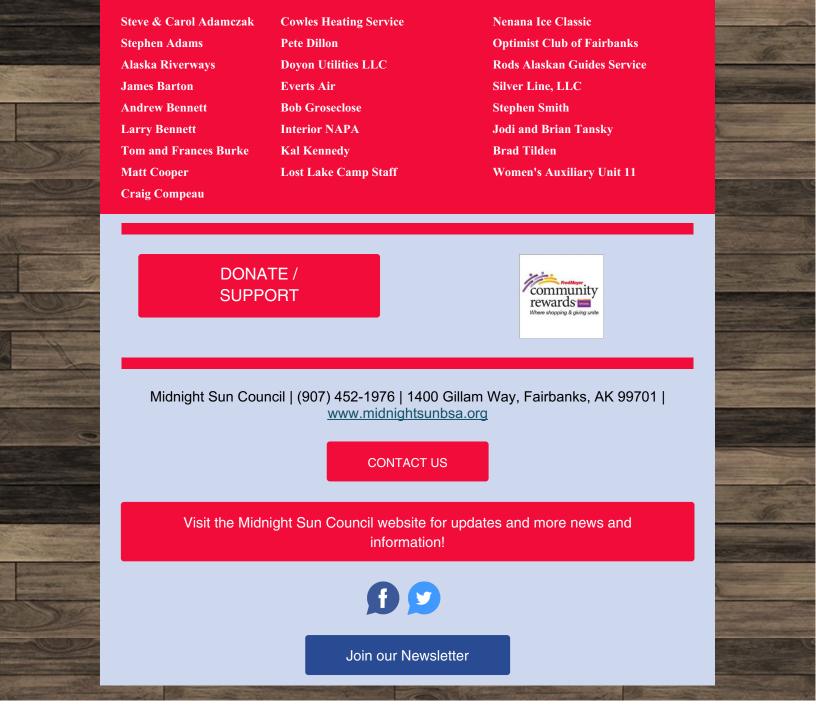
Midnight Sun Council Eagle Scout Candidate Checklist

Trail to Eagle workbook

Visit the <u>Distinguished Eagle Scout Awards page</u> for more information. Updated timeline and FAQ attached.

THANK YOU! to our 2024 Golden Eagle Sponsors





Midnight Sun Council | 1400 Gilliam Way | Fairbanks, AK 99701 US

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