

MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL - June 2025 NEWS!



United Way
of Tanana Valley

MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL
SCOUTING AMERICA



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 June, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

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

June 2025

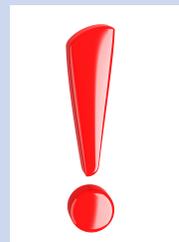
- Jun 5 - District Picnic
- Jun 17 - Eagle Projects only due
- June 18 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm
- June 18 - Bush District meeting @ 6:45 pm
- June 21 - Kiwanis at the Goldpanners-Tickets available soon!
- Jun 24 - Eagle Projects by appointment only

July 2025

- Jul 4 - Council Office and Scout Shop CLOSED in observance to Independence Day
- Jul 6-12 - Summer Camp Staff Week
- Jul 13-19 - Lost Lake Scout Resident Camp
- Jul 22 - Eagle Books due
- Jul 23-31 - NYLT Set/Staff Training
- Jul 24 - TVD Commissioner @ 6:00 pm
- Jul 24 - TVD Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm
- Jul 29 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

August 2025

- Aug 2 - MSC Sporting Clays Tournament
- Aug 7 - TVD Roundtable @ 6:30 pm
- Aug 15-17 - OA Toontuk Fall Ordeal
- Aug 19 - Eagle Books due
- Aug 20 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm
- Aug 20 - Bush District meeting @ 6:45 pm
- Aug 26 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)
- Aug 28 - TVD Commissioner @ 6:00 pm
- Aug 28 - TVD Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm



EAGLE PROJECTS IN JUNE 2025

BE AWARE THAT IN THE MONTH OF JUNE 2025 **ONLY EAGLE PROJECTS AND EAGLE PROJECT REVIEW ARE SCHEDULED.**

Eagle Projects ONLY due on June 17th, 2025

Eagle Projects Review (by appointment only) on June 24th, 2025



**Now
Accepting
Interest
for
NYLT 2025 –**

All-Alaska Youth Leadership Course!

The Midnight Sun Council is proud to host National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) this summer at Lost Lake Camp, from July 27 to August 1, 2025.

This all-Alaska course is open to any registered youth member of Scouting America — including Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouting — who meets the following:

2026 National Jamboree UPDATE



Due to still needing 14 youth and a female leader, and payments already due to National, the Midnight Sun Council's 2026 National Jamboree Committee has decided to **cancel** our participation in the 2026 event and is focusing on the 2030 National Jamboree.

We are sorry to have to make this decision and wish it had been different. Please know that we also tried to work with other councils facing the same interest issues and couldn't recruit the necessary amount of youth to attend among all of us together.

Merit Badge Program Revolutionized with Ongoing Digital Transformation

As discussed during the National Annual Meeting, Scouts BSA volunteer leadership, working closely with Scouting America professional staff, has launched a major digital transformation of the iconic merit badge program for Scouts BSA youth, making all merit badge pamphlets available as free PDFs online, and planning for the release of exciting new badges later this year.

Additionally, as part of the upcoming launch of the Scoutly chatbot, Scouts will be able to have an additional resource to help them learn about badge requirements for select merit badges.

Earlier this year, the Scouts BSA Merit Badge "Test Lab" launched to gather feedback on potential new merit badges, including Auctioneering, Life Skills, and Wildland Fire Management. Remind Scouts to keep an eye on the

- Has completed *Introduction to Leadership Skills* for their unit-type (Troops, Crews, or Ships)
- Is at least 13 years old and First Class by July 27, 2025

OR

- is a registered Venturer or Sea Scout who has completed 8th grade

NYLT is Scouting's premier youth leadership experience, teaching real-world skills like communication, team-building, ethical decision-making, and problem-solving in a challenging and fun outdoor setting.

Want to attend or serve on staff?
Fill out the quick Interest Form
here: t.ly/midnightsunnylt25

Submitting the form ensures you're notified when paid registration opens through BlackPug.

Questions? Email midnightsun.nylt@gmail.com or call the Midnight Sun Council office at (907) 452-1976

Scouts BSA Unveils Streamlined Troop Self- Assessment Tool to Replace JTE

Scouts BSA has launched a revised Troop Self-Assessment program designed to replace the Journey to Excellence (JTE) system with a more user-friendly approach that takes just 10 minutes per topic to complete. The new assessment features 9-12 targeted questions that help troops identify strengths and growth opportunities throughout the year—not just annually.

"This resource puts the power of program improvement directly in the hands of unit leaders," explains Angelique Minett, Chair of the Scouts BSA program.

Developed in response to feedback that JTE was too complex and underutilized, the streamlined tool provides immediate feedback, connects troops with tailored resources, and integrates with the Unit Metrics system. Scout leaders can access this game-changing assessment tool through the Troop Leader Resources website, with additional implementation

Test Lab for updates with future potential merit badges.

This multi-year digital plan aims to modernize the merit badge experience with interactive content, resource videos, and digital guides—recognizing that today's Scouts expect digital experiences to be easy, effective, and engaging – like the tech platforms they've grown up with. More information can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-scouts-bsa/>.

Come on out and check out



our parking lot. We had a donation of one 10-yard truck load of D-1 delivered today and CJ used his equipment to spread it. This took care of

the main pothole at the entrance and smoothed out the parking area in the front of the building. We could use another three loads (approximately \$1,500) to finish the rest of the parking lot. If you know of someone who would like to donate the \$1,500 or the D-1 gravel, please let me know.

Office Clean-up day was held on Monday, and much brush was trimmed back. Three trees were removed, and flowers were planted. Thank you to CJ, Linda, Tasmine, Dave Minto, and David Hill for their hard work. Hamburgers and hot dogs were all they accepted in return.

Needed: Someone to remove our gutter that is rotted and appears to serve no purpose, plus realign our heat tapes on the roof. We have a

guides coming soon.

More information can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-scouts-bsa/>.

Tanana Valley Friends of Scouting



The Tanana Valley FOS Family Campaign is over 100% with 9 Units; Pack 25, Pack 42, Troop 1B, Troop 1G, Troop 38B, Troop 38G, Troop 42, Troop 47 and Troop 78 reaching their Goal!

Click [here](#) or scan QR code above to donate directly online

2025 Fund the Adventure Race to Nome!

Midnight Sun Council Board Campaign

The Midnight Sun Council Volunteer Board started its annual fundraising campaign to raise funds to support our Scouts' programs. This year's theme honors the famous 1925 serum run from Nenana to Nome and YOU can be part of it.



The Board is set up in four sled teams each named after a famous sled dog.

Balto - The dog who was credited for leading the final leg into Nome

Togo - The dog who ran the most dangerous leg of the run

Fox - According to Leonhard Seppala, was the real leader of the team

Granite - Not part of the serum run, but was Susan Butcher's greatest lead dog

Pick a team to support by following <https://form.jotform.com/250635980581059>

ladder. Let me know if you know of anybody.



or by scanning the QR code below



Donations of \$100 or more will be sent the above patch of an Alaskan Malamute, but any amount is welcome.

Make sure you enter your contact information on the form, so we can get you your patch!

Friends of Scouting

We have officially kicked off the Friends of Scouting (FOS) or referred to by our Council "Fund the Adventure" campaign season.

We introduce the theme of the Klondike Derby featured on the patch and coin design depicting youth participating in a Klondike Derby competition. Keeping with the theme of a dog mushing sled carrying vital supplies long distances as our Scouts have this year.



Our volunteer board has similarly themed their campaign with the famous 1925 serum run that delivered desperately needed serum to Nome. Their goal is to raise the much-needed funding (serum) of \$60,000 to the Midnight Sun Council operating fund that supports over 10,000 youth annually. This is a friendly competition to get our teams sledding down the path to Nome, where we need to deliver much needed vials of serum (funding). Leading each of their 4 sled teams are famous sled dogs (team names) Togo, Fox, Balto and Granite. Will history repeat itself when Balto gets to the finish first or will teams Togo, Fox or Granite get there first??

We only show amounts given to the board campaign here, most board members also contribute to individual Units or sponsor fundraising events. Not showing are those amounts that were given to a district and/or unit level, as they get accounted for in a different campaign.

F O S Race Update

We are into the first weeks of April, and we have exceeded \$1,000 in donations from the online link. Please post it on your Facebook page and share

it via email with your contact list. It's working and is a great way to ask someone, if you are bashful about doing so.

Team Balto is still relaxing at the hot springs and their skin is getting wrinkly.

Team Granite has not made it to Ruby yet. They encountered a Hairy Man and thought to hide, but it appears that he just wanted to pet the puppies. Unfortunately, he didn't have any money to donate for the cause. Team Granite did receive a gift of raw meat (don't ask, just accept it). Don't upset the Hairy Man.

Team Fox has moved on after some ice fishing, stopped at the Old Woman Cabin for a short time, and then proceeded to pass it on their way to Unalakleet.

Team Togo is really spooked by the ice conditions as they continue to try to find their way across the Sound.

Rest Area or current location for each team:

Fairbanks Start

Nenana \$2,500

Manley Hot Springs - **Balto**

Tanana \$5,000

Outside of Ruby - **Granite**, made a new friend

Kaltag \$7,500

Somewhere between Old Woman Cabin and Unalakleet - **Fox**

Unalakleet \$10,000

Just past Ungalik - **Togo**

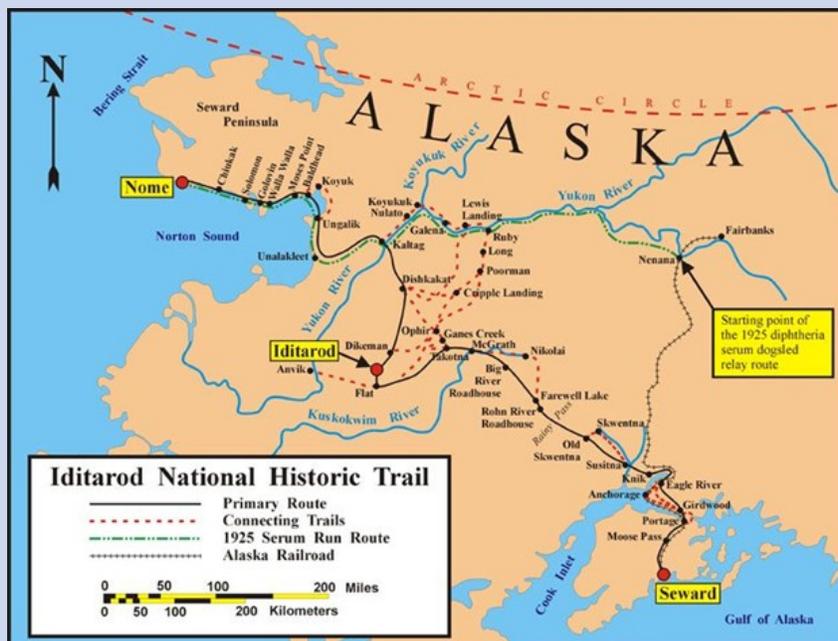
Seward Peninsula \$12,500

NOME \$15,000

Total Goal: \$60,000 raised. Total value of serum delivered: Priceless!

52.04% of the goal has been attained.

Project Sales Goal: \$33,000. **79.88%** has been attained.



CLICK ON IMAGES OR LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

FROM THE REGISTRAR

Anyone that has dropped from lapse (S/R) and is reregistering should do it manually through the council!

That is the only way to maintain one member ID number and history. If they register through OLR or through BeAScout, the system is going to treat them like a new member and assign them a new member ID number and new profile.

By reregistering them at the council through Add Reg, you are able to pull in their existing member ID number and connect it with the new registration maintaining one member ID number and one complete history.

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

The Scout Shop will be closed on Fridays from June 6 to September 1, 2025.



Features and Benefits:

- Scouting America Design: Features "Scouting America Since 1910"; message, celebrating Scouting heritage.
- Generous Size: 50 x 70" dimensions offer ample coverage for comfort and warmth.
- Dual-Sided Fabric: Micro plush on the front and soft sherpa on the back for ultimate coziness.
- Durable and Versatile: Perfect for camping trips, home decor, or as a thoughtful gift.
- Classic Blue Color: Complements the iconic Scouting America branding.



Calling all Arrowman of Toontuk Lodge!!

Our General Lodge Meetings are on the second Thursday of every month and are usually located downstairs at the Scout Office from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

Toontuk Lodge has several events in the coming months. Please note the dates and look for the Lodge's emails for sign-up times and additional details.

Fall Ordeal - August 15th-17th
Section G-15 Conclave - September 12th-14th
Fall Fellowship - September 26th-28th
Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) November 14th-16th.



T V S F A



We are seeking volunteers to scrape and repaint our displays for competitive exhibits in the next few weeks.

Anyone looking for volunteer hours can reach out by call or text at 907-415-9571

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 or [click here to download](#)

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.

Reminder: The Midnight Sun Council requires all registered adults to complete their youth protection training on an annual basis.

Scouting America Launches Enhanced Safeguarding Youth Training

Scouting America has unveiled a new comprehensive Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT)

program, reinforcing its unwavering commitment to creating the safest possible environment for young people. This updated training represents a significant step forward in Scouting America's multi-layered approach to youth protection.

The new training is mandatory for all registered adult volunteers and has been developed with insights from leading experts in child safety, law enforcement, and child psychology. It incorporates the latest strategies for recognizing, responding to, and preventing various forms of abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse.

Key Features of the Updated Training:

Comprehensive Focus: Our new Safeguarding Youth Training (formerly Youth Protection Training) program reflects the more comprehensive nature of the training and its focus on safeguarding youth from all threats.

Inclusive Content: The training covers a wide range of topics, ensuring volunteers are well-informed about potential risks and best practices for youth protection.

Annual Refresher Courses: Recognizing the ongoing need for education and awareness, Scouting America will now require annual refresher courses, estimated to take 15-20 minutes, to keep youth protection knowledge current.

Alignment with Best Practices: Scouting America regularly consults with experts to ensure its policies and training reflect the most up-to-date knowledge and prevention techniques in the field of youth safety.

Focus on Prevention: The training emphasizes proactive measures to prevent abuse and create a culture of safety within Scouting.

Your existing Youth Protection Training remains valid until its expiration date, at which point the new Safeguarding Youth Training will be required.

Scouting America's proactive approach to youth safety underscores its dedication to providing a secure and enriching environment where young people can learn, grow, and thrive. The launch of this enhanced Safeguarding Youth Training demonstrates a continuous effort to adapt and improve safety measures, ensuring the well-being of all Scouts remains the top priority.

Join Our Northern Lights High Adventure Staff!

Are you over 18, passionate about the outdoors, and eager for a summer filled with adventure? The Midnight Sun Council is excited to announce staffing opportunities for our Northern Lights High Adventure program! We're looking for dedicated individuals with experience in trekking, canoeing, and wilderness guiding. If you hold special certifications in these areas, we want to hear from you!

This is a rewarding opportunity to immerse yourself in the breathtaking Alaskan wilderness while guiding scouts through incredible outdoor experiences. However, we want to be upfront: this role will involve hard work, long days, and modest pay. You will be challenged both physically and mentally, but the fulfillment that comes from teaching and leading young adventurers is truly unparalleled.

Working with the Northern Lights High Adventure program means you'll be part of a supportive team, creating memories that last a lifetime—not just for the scouts, but for you as well. This is your chance to explore some of the most stunning landscapes Alaska has to offer while making a real impact on the lives of young people.

If you're ready to embrace the challenge and adventure of a lifetime, apply to be part of our Northern Lights High Adventure staff this summer!

To apply, please fill out the form below:

You can email your application to Stephen Smith at stephen.smith@scouting.org or send it via mail to Midnight Sun Council, Attn: Stephen Smith, 1400 Gillam Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701

We look forward to your application and hope to see you this summer!

**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](#)

The National Scouting Museum at Philmont Scout Ranch has a wide variety of digital assets to help us tell the story of Scouting America and how Scouting and the world are connected in many unexpected ways.

Visit our Facebook Page to view our Artifact of the Week video series. This started in the summer of 2019 when the summer season at Philmont was closed and the Museum was looking for ways to reach our audience when they couldn't reach us.

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

The NSM YouTube Channel also carries our Artifact of the Week videos, but also has additional video resources for the Scouting Heritage Merit Badge. Check out all of the new material but also the legacy videos from prior to 2017.

<https://www.youtube.com/@NatScoutingMuseum>

Our website just recently was updated to an all new look and feel. From here you can take a virtual tour of the NSM, The Villa Philmonte, and the Kit Carson Museum at Rayado. Access to the Philmont Photo library and the Philmont archives are also found here. Need a gift? Then you can shop our online gift shop which offers access to nearly everything you can buy in person. Don't see something you are looking for? Give us a call at 575-376-1136 and let's see if we can get you taken care of.

<https://www.philmontscout ranch.org/museums/>

If you are interested in doing something special for your Scouts, just let me know. We do live virtual tours and live virtual educational programs for Scouts and Scouters around the world. Let me know what you want to accomplish and we will help you deliver a unique program to your event.

Good morning, my name is Andrew Johnson and I am the Alaska State Advocate for the Leave No Trace Center. I am a Member of the Eagle class of 1992, and my son is a member of the Eagle class of 2023. I have been involved in the Leave No Trace community for just under 10 years in Arizona, Georgia, the United Kingdom, and now



leave no trace™
CENTER FOR OUTDOOR ETHICS

leave in Alaska. I also currently run the Leave No Trace Alaska Facebook page as part of my role as the State Advocate

(<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069079574875>).

As the Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate for the Great Alaska Council, I have worked hard with troops, crews, packs, and scouters to recognize the value of the program, especially with the renewed emphasis in the cub scout adventure program as well as with Scouting rank requirements. I'm sure we agree that having trained adults provides for a better program and there is an opportunity coming up in August.

Our regional director for Outdoor Ethics, Daryl Krossman, informed me that there is an LNT level 2 Instructor course (formerly known as a Master Educator) at Camp Pioneer in Oregon running from 10-15 August. The cost is \$275, for which there is a scholarship available. Transportation would be up to the individual to get to Portland. Registration closes at the end of July. More information on the course can be found at <https://scoutingevent.com/492-lnt2#>

Please feel free to reach out with any questions you have on the Leave No Trace program. Thank you for your time.

Andrew Johnson
Alaska State Advocate for LNT
LNT Trainer
AKadvocate@LNT.org
(907) 203-5193

Congratulations to all our 2025 Eagle Scouts



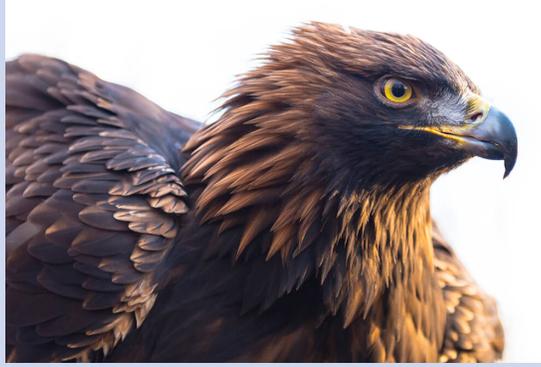
Will Mingus
Edgar Nichols
Troop 1138 B
Tanana Lodge #3

Mary Burke
Troop 1138 G
Tanana Lodge #3

**Midnight Sun Council Eagle
Scout Candidate Checklist**

*Trail to Eagle
workbook*

THANK YOU! to our 2025 Golden Eagle Sponsors



Mike Abels

Steve & Carol Adamczak

Alaska Outdoor Council

Alaska Riverways

Andrew Bennett

Larry Bennett

Dennis Cook

Jeff Cook

Matt Cooper

James Davis

Fairbanks Gold Mining

Bob Groseclose

iPlow

Kal Kennedy

Jim & Carrie Moore

Optimist Club of Fairbanks

Rasmuson Foundation

Kayla Smith

Stephen & Mary Ann Smith

CJ & Megan Stewart

Summit Telephone

Cathie Tordoff

Weeks Charitable Foundation

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

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!