



## MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL - FEBRUARY 2023 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 February 16, 2023

### IMPORTANT DATES

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

#### February 2023

Feb 18 - Annual Meeting at 4 pm  
Feb 18 - Annual Dinner at 6 pm  
Feb 20 - Council Office and Scout Shop closed in observance of Presidents' Day  
Feb 21 - Eagle Books due  
Feb 23 - TV District Committee Meeting @ 6 pm  
Feb 28 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

#### March 2023

Mar 2 - TVD Roundtable at 7 pm  
Mar 15 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting  
Mar 21 - Eagle Books due  
Mar 23 - TV District Committee Meeting at 6 pm  
Mar 24-26 - WoodStoak  
Mar 28 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

#### April 2023

Apr 6 - TVD Roundtable at 7pm  
Apr 7 - Council Office and Scout Shop closed in observance of Good Friday  
Apr 15 - Board Retreat and Executive Board Meeting  
Apr 18 - Eagle Books due  
Apr 19 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting  
Apr 21-23 - Spring Camporee  
Apr 25 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)  
Apr 27 - TV District Committee Meeting at 6 pm

### VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH!

Most of you know, or



### Snowbox Derby hosted by Pack 6

Monday, March

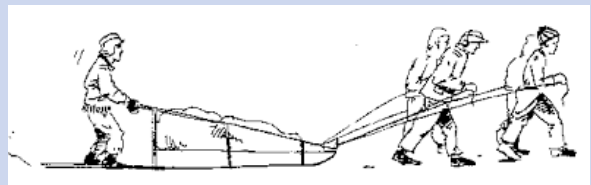
13 @2pm  
UAF Sledding Hill (UAF Nanook Recreation)

This is a friendly create and race event. Lions do have an adventure that this will help complete.

Challenge: Create a sled using cardboard and duck tape to race down the hill. Scouts will be going to the top of the hill as the starting point. HELMETS are required to race.

Participate at your own risk.

### 2023 Spring Camporee



### Klondike Derby April 21-23rd Lost Lake Camp Hosted by Troop 20 & 20G

Video for Troops and Leaders:  
<https://youtu.be/TuXiW0o4zAA>

[click here for flyer](#)

Link to Google Site:



recognize, Mark Smurda from scouting events here at the Midnight Sun Council. Mark is currently the scoutmaster of Troop 20 and is planning and hosting the Spring Camporee this year. His tireless efforts and commitment to our scouting programs

here in the interior of Alaska embody the spirit of living the scout law and oath. Mark began his Scouting career in 1978 as a Cub Scout in Pack 152 in Follansbee, WV with the Fort Steuben Area Council. He earned his Arrow of Light crossing over to Troop 152, where he climbed to the rank of Life Scout before leaving Scouts and pursuing his dream of becoming a firefighter. Mark joined the US Air Force and served for 21 years as a firefighter, retiring in 2010. In 2015, Mark's wife, April, was reassigned to Eielson AFB and it was there that their son, Liam joined Cub Scout Pack 9. With a departure of all but 1 adult leader, Mark took on the role of Cub Master. Mark served as the CM for 3 years and was awarded the Unit Leader Award of Merit. He and his family moved from Eielson to Fairbanks and Mark took on the role of Cub Master yet again, but this time with Pack 92 and with his daughters joining the Pack. One year later, as his son bridged out of Cub Scouts and into Scouts BSA, Mark and Liam moved to Troop 20 where Mark became Asst. Scoutmaster with the boy Troop and Advancement Chair with the girl Troop. He assumed the role of Scoutmaster of Troop 20 in 2021. In all, Mark has served 13 years with the BSA as a Scout and a Scouter

**THANK YOU MARK FOR ALL YOU DO!**

<https://sites.google.com/view/msc2023springcamporee-klondike/home>

**SAVE  
THE**



**DATE!**



Mark Smurda from Troop 20 has been asked to provide color guard for the Senior Recognition Day, May 11th at the Carlson Center.

This is a "school day" during "school hours", so he is looking for any Homeschoolers who are interested in participating.

Uniforms required.

For more information contact Mark Smurda at [troop20ak@gmail.com](mailto:troop20ak@gmail.com)

## NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2023

**July 19th-28th, 2023**



The Midnight Sun Council is hosting a Jamboree Troop to attend next year's National Jamboree at the Summit in West Virginia. Current plans would be to tour Washington D.C., visit various museums and then head to the Summit for a week of exciting fun with other Scouts from all over the country and world. [click here for more detailed information and registration!](#)

**CLICK ON IMAGES OR LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION**



The **next** Bush District Roundtable will be held **in-person** on **February 15, 2023** **starting at 6:15 pm** at the Mt. McKinley Bank in Delta Junction. Please come and



join us by visiting the link below or downloading the Zoom app and entering this information:

The **next** Tanana Valley District Roundtable will be at the Council Office on **March 2, 2023** at 7:00pm. **It's GREEN FOOD night!** **In-Person participants** are asked to bring any green food. **Food will be ready at 6:45pm.** Roundtable will also be available **online** through Zoom. Please



join us.

Meeting ID: 845 4672 9933 Passcode: r26DUw  
TVD: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84546729933?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84546729933?pwd=WmlmRzdUYng3MllxeCt4RUtWanVldz09)  
[pwd=WmlmRzdUYng3MllxeCt4RUtWanVldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84546729933?pwd=WmlmRzdUYng3MllxeCt4RUtWanVldz09)

### **Bring your kids to Roundtable!**

There will be fun activities for them to participate!

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## **FRIENDS OF SCOUTING**

What is a family Friends of Scouting presentation and why is it something you don't want to miss? Courts of Honor and Blue & Gold Banquets will be here before you know it! What goes hand-in-hand with those events is the Family Friends of Scouting presentations at your unit. As Scouts, we all know the quality of the program, but we don't all know how we are able to offer it to any family who wants to participate. One of the answers to how we provide a quality program is Family Friends of Scouting (FOS).

These presentations are a chance for a District level volunteer to visit with your unit, often at a Blue & Gold Banquet or Court of Honor. This works well because units celebrate the Scouts success, it gives us a chance to also share the good news of Scouting throughout the Midnight Sun Council. Funds raised in FOS go to help provide training, insurance, lower camp fees, and better facilities. All funds raised through FOS stay with the Council.

If you are a unit leader and have not yet submitted a presentation date, please contact your district leadership to do so. Thank you!

For comments, questions or to donate contact the Council Service Center at (907) 452-1976 or email CJ at [Clinton.Stewart@Scouting.Org](mailto:Clinton.Stewart@Scouting.Org) or Tasmine at [tasmine.bennett@scouting.org](mailto:tasmine.bennett@scouting.org)

**Pick.  
Click.  
Give.**

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 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. The deadline to make adjustments for donations from the 2023 PFD is August 31, 2023.

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

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**From the  
Registrar**

### **UNIT RECHARTER SEASON ENDS FEBRUARY 28TH, 2023!!**

If your unit is not chartered yet, submit your online or manual charter no later than February 24th, 2023 for all remaining Charters to be processed and finalized before the deadline!

**SCOUT SHOP NEWS**

### **Scout Shop and Council Office Holiday Hours:**

**February 20th -  
CLOSED in observance  
of President's Day**

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For questions please contact the Council Office at  
907-452-1976 or via email to  
[yvonne.orsini-boone2@scouting.org](mailto:yvonne.orsini-boone2@scouting.org)

## Congratulations to all our 2023 Eagle Scouts



**Isabel Brown**

*Lone Scout*  
Denali Park, AK

*Midnight Sun Council Eagle Scout  
Candidate Checklist*

*Trail to Eagle  
workbook*

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

## THANK YOU! to our 2023 Golden Eagle Sponsors



Fairbanks Gold Mine

The Optimist Club

Stephen Smith

Midnight Sun Council  
News

National BSA  
news





## **SAFETY CORNER!**

**Winter Sport Safety!** Beyond camping, a number of cold-weather activities present challenges to Scouts and leaders, such as alpine or cross-country skiing, ice skating, sledding, ice fishing, and snowshoeing. Essential ingredients for fun include skill training and an awareness of the hazards unique to these activities....[Read more](#)

**Click for Training Opportunities**

Did you know that there are training plans designed specifically for your position on [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)?

Every Scout deserves a trained leader, and you can complete these courses at your own pace!

Please log into [My.Scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org) and follow the steps (Menu>My Training>Training Center) to see what kinds of training plans are available that relate to your position.

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



### **BOOK YOUR 2024 TREK NOW!**

Slots are still available for 2023.

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



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**Pick.  
Click.  
Give.**

**UPDATED Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse**



As Scouting continues to improve the safety of our youth, please visit the links below check for updates. The Barriers for Abuse FAQs were last updated 3/11/21

[Youth Protection and Adult Leadership | Boy Scouts of America](#)

[Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse FAQs - Boy Scouts of America](#)

**DON'T FORGET!**  
**The Midnight Sun Council, BSA requires**  
**ANNUAL**  
**YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING!**

- Youth Protection training is required for all BSA registered volunteers and is a joining requirement.

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Midnight Sun Council | 907-452-1976 | 1400 Gillam Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701 |  
[www.midnightsunbsa.org](http://www.midnightsunbsa.org)

CONTACT US

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



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Newsletter