

MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL - October 2025 NEWS!



United Way
of Tanana Valley



As a United Way agency members of the Midnight Sun Council have various resources at their disposal to help with food, shelter, and other needs. Here is the United Way's website: <https://unitedwaytv.com/>

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

Midnight Sun Council News 15 October, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

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

October 2025

Oct 15- Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm
Oct 15 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm
Oct 18-19 - OA Toontuk Vigil Weekend
Oct 21 - Eagle Books Due
Oct 24-25 - Haunted Trail
Oct 28 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

November 2025

Nov 6 - TV District Roundtable @ 6:30 pm
Nov 14-15 - OA Toontuk Lodge Leadership Development
Nov 19 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm
Nov 19 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm
Nov 20 - TVD Commissioner @ 6:00 pm
Nov 20 - TVD Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm
Nov 27-28 - Council Office and Scout Shop CLOSED in observance of Thanksgiving

December 2025

Dec 4 - TV District Roundtable @ 6:30 pm
Dec 9 - Eagle Books due
Dec 10 - Distinguished Citizens Banquet @ 6 pm
Dec 16 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)
Dec 17 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm
Dec 17 - Bush District Meeting @ 6:45 pm
Dec 18 - TVD Commissioner @ 6:00 pm
Dec 18 - TVD Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm
Dec 19-31 - Scout Shop CLOSED for Inventory

SAVE THE DATE!!

The 42nd ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARD BANQUET

The Midnight Sun Council, Scouting America

Inductees

Gary & Sue Wilken

Save Date
December 10th 6:00pm

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 10th, 2025
6pm social hour - 7pm dinner
Information & RSVP contact: (907) 452-1976
Stacy.Brandon@Scouting.Org
\$125 per seat, tables and sponsorships are currently still available

World Scout Jamboree Registration is Open!

The World Scout Jamboree is one of the most significant events in the global Scouting movement, bringing together thousands of young people from around the world to celebrate unity, adventure, and cultural exchange. The next one is July 30 - August 8, 2027, in Poland, and registration is now open for the USA Contingent! Want to learn more before you register? Check out the website: <https://wsj2027.us/>

Ready to sign up? Register now: [World Scout Jamboree Registration!](#)

Youth participants must be 14 - 17 during the time of the event. IST, or the International Service Team, is





[Click here or on image to view/download flyer](#)

2025 Fall University of Scouting



[click here or on image to view/download flyer](#)

Midnight Sun Council SALES CAMPAIGN 2025!

You spoke and we listened!

Popcorn wasn't getting you to your goals. Here is what the fundraising committee voted on.... This year we are selling discount cards, working with MVP/ABC fundraising we put together a discount card you can use here locally to receive discounts at local stores and vendors. Big savings at Cold Stone Creamery, Big Daddy's BBQ, Fat Burger, The Cookie Jar,

looking for anyone over 18 who wants to attend and help as staff or leadership for the programs at the World Scout Jamboree. If you're interested in being a unit leader or member of the Contingent Management Team, fill out [this interest form](#), but if you know you still want to go as an IST if you aren't chosen, then fill out your registration form now!

The cost will be \$6,000+ for unit leaders and participants (including travel) and approximately \$3,000 for IST and CMT (excluding travel), but the first deposit is due January 2026, so sign up now and start saving!

[World Scout Jamboree Registration](#)



Details on Upcoming JOTA/JOTI

JOTA /JOTI is back, October 17-19, 2025!

Join us as Scouts gather from around the world to learn about other cultures and Scouting activities in other countries. These jamborees, which attract almost 2 million Scouts from more than 170 countries, require no travel and create an opportunity to have a valuable international Scouting experience.

Haven't participated in the past? Want to learn more? [Learn more here!](#)

If you participated last year, tell us all about your experience here: [JOTA JOTI survey](#)

Arctic Sun VR, Escape Room Ak, Alyeska
Tire, Friar Tucks Hoogie house, 15 total discounts well worth over the \$20 cost. Making this card very easy to sell.



All Scouts need to practice each point of the Scout Law, during fundraising. Scouts practice being trustworthy, helpful, courteous, kind, cheerful, thrifty, brave and clean, while fundraising for their goals to attend camp, High Adventure and basically fund their Scouting goals! This campaign isn't just about fundraising, its also built into the program.

Discount Card Sales continue. If you need more cards, please coordinate with CJ at
Clinton.Stewart@Scouting.Org



Digital Tools Guidance Released for Merit Badge Counselors

Merit badge counselors now have new support for incorporating digital resources through the recently released guidance document "Using Digital Tools to Strengthen the Merit Badge Experience."

The resource tackles a key challenge many counselors face: how to embrace new technology while preserving the personal mentorship that defines the Scouting experience.

This guidance complements the ongoing expansion of digital merit badge materials by helping counselors maintain meaningful connections with Scouts. Counselors can find the complete resource and implementation strategies at <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/scouts-bsa-has-released-new-guidance-for-using-digital-tools-to-strengthen-the-merit-badge-experience/>.

Two New Badges Join the Test Lab for Potential Merit Badges

The Test Lab has expanded with Sewing and Needlework and Physics badges, both responding to specific requests from the field. National added these experimental options based on direct feedback from Scouts and leaders nationwide.

Scouts can now test these potential merit badges alongside the existing Test Lab options: Auctioneering, Wildland Fire Management, and Life Skills. The feedback process is designed to help determine which badges should advance to official status.

Your Scouts' participation and input directly influence future merit badge offerings. Find more information



A new CSP soon to arrive



As inventory dwindles for the Salmon and Bigfoot CSPs, we eagerly await the unveiling of the next CSP in the Animals of our Council series.

Can you guess what it's going to be?

Digital Merit Badge Resources Expand Significantly

Scouts BSA has launched a major expansion of digital merit badge resources, updating materials for over 25 merit badges including Nuclear Science, Environmental Science, Robotics, Digital Technology, and various nature study badges. These enhanced resources feature new instructional videos, updated online materials, and streamlined access through the centralized Merit Badge Hub.

The hub, located at scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/, provides Scouts and leaders with current requirements, downloadable pamphlets, and supplementary materials in a single location. This initiative represents the first phase of BSA's broader digital transformation strategy for merit badge programming, with additional badge updates planned for future release.

at <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/scouts-bsa-launches-two-new-test-lab-badges/>

New Scouts BSA Advancement Education Series Addresses Common Challenges

Scouts BSA is launching "Scouts BSA Advancement Demystified: Separating Myth from Reality," a monthly webinar series designed to clarify advancement procedures for troop leaders, parents, and Scouts.

The series began October 1st at 8pm Eastern and will be held on the first Wednesday of each month. The inaugural session, "Advancement Myths – BUSTED!" focuses on correcting common misconceptions about advancement requirements. Later sessions will cover digital tools for merit badge counseling (November 5th) and effective boards of review (December 3rd).

Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance or during the live sessions. Registration is available at https://scouting.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YzYmxMMqQJK0HqvH6nsYBQ#/registration, and additional sessions are planned for 2026.



Board Fund the Adventure F O S **Race Update**



After taking in the spring and what seems like the first half of the summer the racers are still slogging their way through the now mostly covered tundra, and through the mosquito covered marshy spots that have long since thawed. That might be the issue, everyone is taking in their fair share of Vitamin D and the sunshine. Probably catching some lake trout and grayling.

Let's remind our racers of their task and get them moving again in the direction towards Nome. The serum is already overdue in Nome since June 1st and yet the village is still holding on, hoping and depending on ALL our teams to arrive sometime really soon.

Help us get our teams to focus on getting up the trail by sending a (or more) little pick me up to the team of your choice. Just follow this link or scan the QR and you can show support and get a limited patch.

Help our Board get to Nome!

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

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

Rest Area or current location for each team:

Fairbanks Start

Nenana \$2,500

Manley Hot Springs \$3,750

Tanana \$5,000

Outside of Ruby (\$6,101 🐕 Balto)

Kaltag \$7,500

Somewhere between Old Woman Cabin and Unalakleet (\$8,045 🐾 Granite)

Unalakleet \$10,000

Just past Ungalik (\$11,050 🐕 Fox)

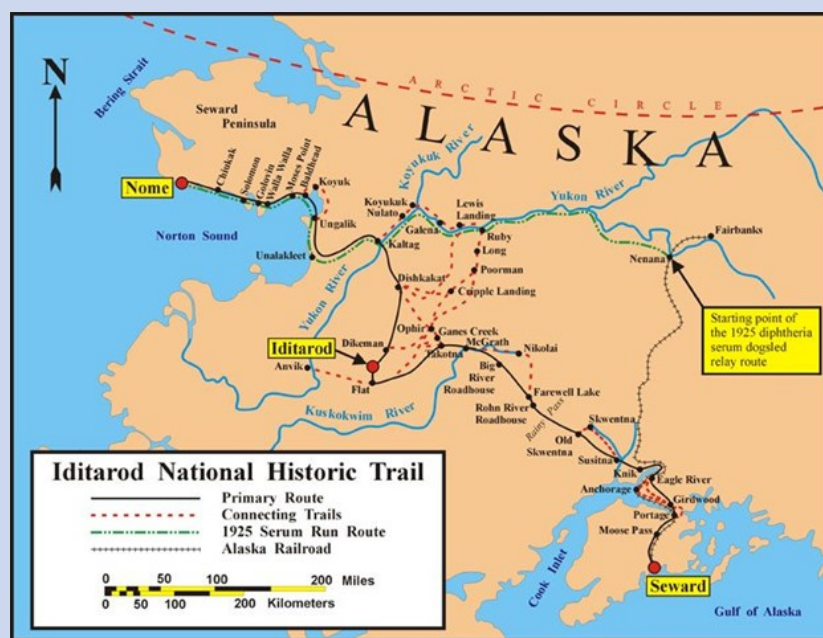
Seward Peninsula (\$12,540 🐾 Togo)

NOME \$15,000

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

62.89% of the goal has been attained.

Project Sales Goal: **\$33,000. 78.39%** 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, we 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.

□ New requirements for S/R units/members:

o Youth do not need new applications for the first 3 months after dropping (S/R period). After 3 months a new application is required.

□ *Example:* A youth expires March 31. Lapse period is April and May. Drops June 1 st . Can use existing app if renews June, July or August. Starting September 1 would

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

The Scout Shop is back to its original opening hours!
We are open Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm



There are two new merit badges that scouts can earn. They are Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence (AI). These merit badges are available in the Scout Shop

Now In Stock!! The new Salmon CSP and Bigfoot CSP!



Salmon CSP.
\$5.00 each and there will only be 200 total available.

Yes, we can ship them.

need a new application.

o Adults need new applications as soon as they drop. There is no "grace period" for adults.

□ *Example:* An adult expires March 31. Lapse period is April and May. Drops June 1. Will need a new application on or after June 1.

o The existing unit app is good for an S/R unit for the first 6 months. After that, a new "New Unit App" will be required.

□ *Example:* A unit expires March 31. Lapse period is April and May. Drops June 1. June through November existing app is acceptable. Renewal December 1 or later will need a new application.

Please visit or call the Council Office at 907-452-1976 after they have arrived, and we can take your order.



We also have the Sasquatch (Bigfoot) CSP for sale. The cost for it is \$10



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.

Lodge Leadership Development (LLD) November 14th-16th.



Scouting America Introduces Safeguarding Youth Parents' Guide Video



As Scouting America continues to invest in prevention efforts, we have recently introduced [this Parents' Guide video](#), which will also be sent directly to the parents of new members.

With this new asset, we aim to share key aspects of our Safeguarding approach with new parents while encouraging them to take the full [Safeguarding Youth Training](#) and join the journey with their child.

This video doesn't replace the written Parent Guides but instead acknowledges that people absorb information in different formats. Please watch it, share it with your parents and volunteers, and encourage them to share it with their own networks.

Watch the video here: [Scouting America Safeguarding Youth Training - Parents Video](#)

Reminder: *The Midnight Sun Council requires all registered adults to complete their safeguarding youth 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.

After the new Safeguarding Youth Training is taken, National requires a yearly refresher course.

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.

For the Midnight Sun Council, your existing Youth Protection Training remains valid until May 31, 2026, 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 for 2026!

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:

[High Adventure Staff application](#)

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! CLICK HERE
AND BOOK YOURS NOW!!**



BOOK YOUR 2026 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](#)

CONGRATULATIONS to all our 2025 Eagle Scouts



Liam Danek Smurda
Noah Kai Lucas
Wednesday Raven Van Dyke
Troop 1020 Co-ed
Goldstream Lions

Armor Anderson
Will Mingus
Peter Joseph Mondelli
Edgar Nichols
Troop 1138 B
Tanana Lodge #3

Mary Burke
Troop 1138 G
Tanana Lodge #3

[Trail to Eagle workbook](#)

[Midnight Sun Council Eagle Scout Candidate Checklist](#)

THANK YOU! to our 2025 Golden Eagle Sponsors



Mike Abels
Steven Adamd
Steve & Carol Adamczak
Alaska Outdoor Council
Alaska Riverways
Andrew Bennett
Larry Bennett
Fairbanks Cheechako Lions
Club
Chena Hot Springs Resort

James Davis
Fairbanks Daily News Miner
Fairbanks Gold Mining
Bob Groseclose
iPlow
Kal Kennedy
Kids in Motion
Robert Minto
Jim & Carrie Moore
Nenana Ice Classics Assoc

Rasmuson Foundation
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Stephen & Mary Ann Smith
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www.midnightsunbsa.org

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