

# 2025 Midnight Sun Council

- ◆ The Tanana Valley District Drive-Thru Haunted Trail thrilled our local community.
- ◆ **9** Eagle Scouts completed over **1378 hours of service.**
- ◆ The Council **registered 5,153 boys and girls** within the Fairbanks North Star Borough and North Slope Borough, a **38.9% increase** over 2024.
- ◆ The Council co-sponsored Clean-up Day with other community groups that resulted in over **21 tons of litter to be picked up.**
- ◆ Scouts BSA camping was attended by **216 Scouts and Scouters in attendance**, including Scouts from out of Council.
- ◆ **187** Cub Scouts attended Day Camp and Council Rock.
- ◆ Local community organizations continue to utilize Lost Lake Camp.
- ◆ **16** Scouts and Scouters came to Alaska to participate in our Northern Lights High Adventure base.
- ◆ We increased our number of units by **10.5%**, and ranked **3rd in the nation** in percentage of unit growth.
- ◆ The Council's Market Share continues to meet or exceed National Standards. Through all of our programs, the Midnight Sun Council served **over 28%** of **all** youth from Pre-K through 20 years old in the Interior and North Slope areas of Alaska.
- ◆ Lost Lake Camp has seen many improvements, including road repairs, a new cargo net element and pole installation at C.O.P.E. with an estimated value exceeding **\$60,000**
- ◆ Female membership continues to grow, making up **25.6%** of our membership.
- ◆ The council continues to host various unit level meetings and community organizations in the Earl & Pat Cook Service Center.
- ◆ **6,892 hours of community service** for local community organizations were performed.
- ◆ We had an increase in member retention in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and overall membership due to our quality programs and trained leaders.



# Midnight Sun Council



## 2025 Year Reflections

It is our pleasure to present our 2025 Annual Report for the Midnight Sun Council, Scouting America. Thanks to the leadership of our volunteers, we had a very successful year.

Thanks to the dedication of all of our volunteers, the Midnight Sun Council is pleased to report that the Council has provided many program opportunities for our scouts. From unit level activities to our camporees, summer camp, day camp, Council Rock, and Haunted Trail, our scouts have had opportunities most kids only dream about. That being said, we need to continue our trend of recruiting more youth to our programs.

Membership growth was strong in 2025. While our “traditional” membership fell short by 31 youth, our Learning for Life participation **grew 1,475 kids—a 44% increase** over 2024. . The Midnight Sun Council served a total of **5,153 youth** throughout the Interior and North Slope of Alaska, a **38.9% increase** over 2024. We were **ranked third in the nation** for unit percentage growth at **10.5%**. Female participants accounted for **25.6%** of our Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Explorer membership. Lost Lake Camp was fully operational and served **over 165** scouts during the summer season.

We express a very sincere thank you to all of our donors and volunteers that make Scouting strong in Alaska. We **balanced our budget this year**, which shows that we have a strong program and generous support. The Council’s relationship with the United Way of the Tanana Valley remains close. We enter 2026 in a position to continue the successes from the previous years thanks to the determined leadership of our fine volunteers and staff, who remain committed to our mission and purpose in serving the needs of youth in our communities.



**Stephen Smith**  
Scout Executive



**Matt Cooper**  
Council Commissioner



**Bob Groseclose**  
Council President

## 2025 Golden Eagle Club

The Golden Eagle Club is a group of Scouting benefactors who contribute a minimum of \$1,000 annually to the general operating or properties funds of the Midnight Sun Council, Scouting America.



Mike Abels	Jeff Cook	Jim Kelly State Farm	Rotary Club of Fairbanks
Carol and Steve Adamczak	Matt & Amy Cooper	Kal Kennedy	Kayla Smith
Steve Adams	CSG, Inc.	Kids in Motion	Stephen and Mary Ann Smith
Alaska Airlines	James Davis	K&N Tree Service	CJ & Megan Stewart
Alaska Outdoor Council	Denali State Bank	Ben Lomond	Summit Telephone
Alaska Railroad	Everts Air	Jim Lund	Danielle and Brad Tilden
Alaska Riverways	Fairbanks Cheechako Lions Club	Robert Minto	Tired Iron Sponsors
Bell Development	Fairbanks Daily News Miner	Jim & Carrie Moore	Tommy G’s
Andrew Bennett	Fairbanks Gold Mining	Mt. McKinley Bank	Toontuk Lodge
Bennett Engineering	Fairbanks Laundry	Nenana Ice Classic Assoc.	Cathie Tordoff
Larry Bennett	Fairbanks Youth Sports Trust	Optimist Club of Fairbanks	URESCO Construction
Bettisworth North	Flowline Alaska Inc.	J Price Energy	Weeks Charitable Foundation
John & Judy Binkley	GHEMM Company	Rasmuson Foundation	Dan White
Chena Hot Springs Resort	Robert Groseclose	RJG	Dennis Wise
Dennis Cook		Rod’s Alaskan Guide Service	
	iPlow		



# 2025 Statement of Operations

(unaudited)

## Support & Revenue

### Direct Support

Friends of Scouting	\$ 65,694
Project Sales	\$ 25,579
Special Events-Net	\$ 93,399
Foundation/Trusts	\$ 12,723
Other Direct Contributions	\$ 61

**Total Direct Support \$ 197,456**

United Way	\$ 6,681
Associated Organizations	\$ 0
Other Indirect Contributions	\$ 674

**Total Indirect Support \$ 7,355**

**Total Support \$ 204,811**

Sales of Supplies—Net	\$ 16,141
Product Sale—Net Cost/ Commission	\$ 6,833

Investment Income \$ 476,091

Unrealized Gains \$ 90,173

Camping Revenue \$ 108,517

Activity Revenue \$ 17,659

Other income \$ 12,382

**Total Revenue \$ 727,795**

**Total Support/Revenue \$ 932,606**

## Expenses

### Employee Compensation

Salaries	\$ 444,927
Employee Benefits	\$ 73,261
Payroll Taxes	\$ 39,207

**Total Employee Compensation \$ 557,394**

### Other Expenses

Professional Fees	\$ 50,031
Program Supplies	\$ 25,775
Telephone	\$ 8,107
Postage/Shipping	\$ 3,799
Occupancy	\$ 83,938
Rental/Maintenance of Equipment	\$ 9,547
Printing/Publications	\$ 8,146
Travel	\$ 21,422
Conferences/Meetings	\$ 6,210
Asst. to Individuals	\$ 325
Recognition Awards	\$ 7,149
Interest Expense	\$ 4,257
Insurance	\$ 49,665
Other Expenses	\$ 35,617
Charter/National Fees	\$ 26,846

**Total Other Expenses \$ 340,836**

**Total Expenses \$ 898,230**

**Increase in Unrestricted  
Net Assets \$ 34,376**

## 2025 Executive Committee (also on Board of Directors)

Bob Groseclose  
Matt Cooper  
Kal Kennedy  
Steve Adamczak  
Mike Abels

Bill Wright  
Cathie Tordoff  
Mike Garza  
Stephen Smith

Council President  
Council Commissioner  
Council Treasurer  
Vice President-Properties  
Vice President-Administration/  
Risk Management  
Vice President-Membership  
Vice President-Program  
Vice President of Fund Development  
Secretary

## 2025 Board of Directors

Rick Stillie  
Tyler Brooks  
Larry Bennett  
Pete Mondelli  
Daniel Beuchaw

Don Frazier  
Julia Phelan  
Lincoln Miller  
Ariel Cunningham  
Brandon Sampley

## 2025 Advisory Board

Skip Cook  
Michael Cook  
Peggy Pollen  
Lane Nicols  
Mark Wood  
Robert Hull  
Cynthia Erickson

Jeff Cook  
Michael Powers  
Jim Lund  
Lance Cook  
Tim Jones  
Bill Beistline  
CB Bettisworth

## 2025 Honorary Members

Mary Binkley  
Mary Wise  
Richard Wien  
Dennis Wise  
Jo Heckman

Betty Everts  
Mike Ferguson  
Anna Frank  
Bernie Karl  
Karen Perdue



# Programs of the Scouting America

## Cub Scouts

Cub Scouts is a family-oriented, neighborhood program of achievement and recognition for boys and girls highlighted by games, crafts, tours, camping overnights and day camp. Cub Scouts is comprised of kindergarteners (Lion Cubs), first graders (Tiger Cubs), second graders (Wolf Cubs), third graders (Bear Cubs), fourth graders (Webelos), and fifth graders (Arrow of Lights). A total of **151** scouts and their families experienced the excitement of Cub Scouting. During 2025, **87 Cub Scouts attended Day Camp** programs. A total of **137 youth advanced at least one rank**. A total of **22 AOLs earned Cub Scouting's highest rank, the Arrow of Light**.



## Scouts BSA

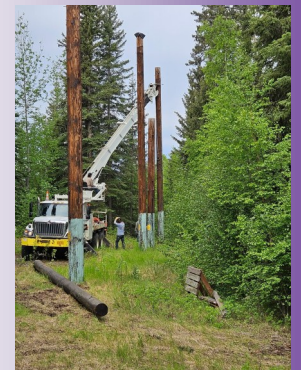
The traditional outdoor phase of the program serves 11 through 17 year old boys and girls. High adventure, hiking, camping, canoeing, merit badge achievement and leadership opportunities are as relevant today as they were 116 years ago. A total of **122 youth** experienced the Scouts BSA Program; of these **78 advanced at least one rank**.



# Lost Lake Scout Camp & Northern Lights High Adventure

Lost Lake Scout camp is located 60 miles south of Fairbanks on the Richardson highway. It provides an exciting outdoor experience for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers and Explorers. Other community groups use the facilities at Lost Lake to enhance their own adventures outdoors. The Camp offers scenic views and vistas, project C.O.P.E, the Binkley Climbing Center, The Schuhmann & Groseclose Ski Trail, fishing off the Hanson dock and our Shooting Sports Complex. In addition to the traditional camp programs like aquatics, nature, handicraft and Scoutcraft. Campers enjoy resting at the Pollen Camp Fire Ring and fresh vegetables from the Bert & Becky Bell Greenhouse. In 2025, we received a donation of Chevy Blazer plow truck. Camp was treated to Tommy G's prime rib for parents' night. Many projects were completed, including the replacement of C.O.P.E. poles, a new cargo net element, and road improvements.

Northern Lights High Adventure Base is a premier high adventure base that offers treks into Alaska's backcountry and on its rivers for local and out-of-state Scout groups.



# 2025 Eagle Scouts

The highest rank a young man or woman can earn as a Scouts BSA member is the rank of Eagle Scout. The Midnight Sun Council had **9 youth earn the highest rank of Eagle Scout during 2025.**

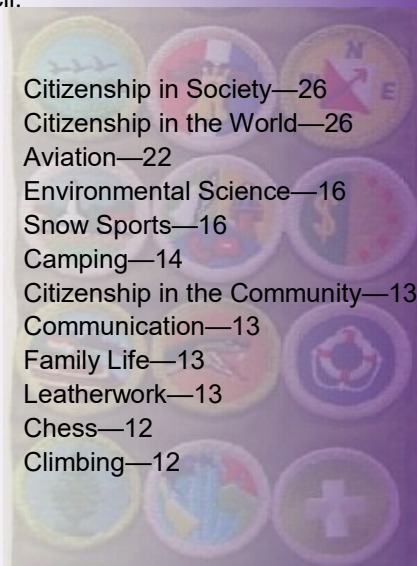
For a youth to earn the rank of Eagle Scout they must have earned a total of 21 merit badges, 11 of which are required. They are required to hold a leadership position for at least six months and complete the Eagle Scout Service Project. In completing the Eagle Scout Service Project, the Scout must develop the project plan, secure approval for the project, organize and execute the plan.



Top Merit Badges  
Earned in 2025

The 1937 issue of the Handbook for Scoutmasters states, *"The pursuing of the Merit Badge skills develops character through application, thoroughness, resourcefulness and unselfish service. It aids the boy in discovering his native aptitudes and in releasing his potential powers."*

That statement still holds true today. During 2025, **532 merit badges were completed.** The top 12 merit badges listed below account for over 36% of all merit badges earned in the Council.

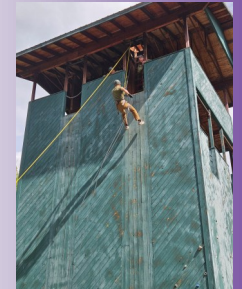


- Citizenship in Society—26
- Citizenship in the World—26
- Aviation—22
- Environmental Science—16
- Snow Sports—16
- Camping—14
- Citizenship in the Community—13
- Communication—13
- Family Life—13
- Leatherwork—13
- Chess—12
- Climbing—12

# Programs of the Scouting America

## Venturing

Venturing is a co-ed program for young adults 14 - 20 years of age with a specific interest. Programs could include challenging outdoor activities as well as a complete program for senior high youth groups. It features opportunities for growth, leadership, and advancement. **10 Venturers** earned the Venturing Award.



## Sea Scouts

Sea Scout units— called ships- are established all across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long lasting friendships. Sea Scouts is a co-ed program for young adults 14 - 20



## Learning for Life & Career Exploring

Learning for Life is a nationally recognized co-ed, inter-curricular, in-school program that serves grades PreK-12. It teaches positive personal values, ethical decision making, and employability and healthy living skills, while building confidence, motivation and self-esteem. The Exploring program is career oriented. In the Council, there were **4,828 participants** in the Learning for Life and Exploring programs in 2025.



## 2025 Eagles

**Gabriel Tate**  
Troop 1001B  
Rotary Club of Fairbanks

**Noah Lucas**  
Troop 1020F  
Goldstream Lions Club

**Liam Smurda**  
Troop 1020F  
Goldstream Lions Club

**Wednesday Van Dyke**  
Troop 1020F  
Goldstream Lions Club

**Armor Anderson**  
Troop 1138B  
Masonic Lodge  
Tanana #3

**William Mingus**  
Troop 1138B  
Masonic Lodge  
Tanana #3

**Peter Mondelli**  
Troop 1138B  
Masonic Lodge  
Tanana #3

**Edgar Nichols**  
Troop 1138B  
Masonic Lodge  
Tanana #3

**Mary Burke**  
Troop 1138G  
Masonic Lodge  
Tanana #3

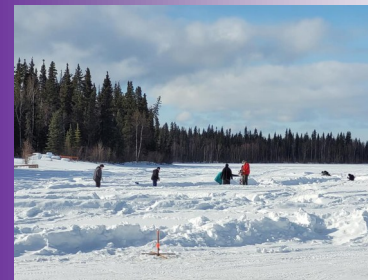
B: Boy Troop    F: Family Troop  
G: Girl Troop



# Charter & Participating Partners

Schools, community groups, and religious organizations, with the help of the Midnight Sun Council, organize Cub Scout Packs, Scout BSA Troops, Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, Explorer Posts, and Learning for Life Groups for their youth. They manage these units and control the program of activities to support the goal and objectives of the chartered organizations. We salute the following organizations who have chartered a Scouting unit. Also listed is the tenure that each unit has served the youth of their communities.

Delta Lions Club		Kiwanis Club of Fairbanks	
Troop 56	70 years	Pack 92	38 years
Troop 65G	3 years		
Pack 76	3 years	FNSB School District	
American Legion #11		Group 108	14 years
Pack 6	55 years	Group 109	15 years
Troop 47	79 years	Group 110	24 years
		Crew 1019	1 year
Chena Kiwanis Club		Midnight Sun Council	
Troop 78	46 years	Pack 42	54 years
		Crew 1000	2 years
North Star Volunteer Fire Dept.		Ship 907	2 years
Troop 42	46 years		
Goldstream Lions Club		Tanana Lodge #3	
Pack 20	40 years	Pack 49	2 years
Troop 20Family	9 years	Troop 38B	9 years
		Troop 38G	7 years
Rotary Club of Fairbanks			
Troop 1B	40 years		
Troop 1G	3 years		
Pack 25	38 years		



## Happenings in the Midnight Sun Council

