



MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL - JAN 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 website:

<https://unitedwaytv.com/>

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



Midnight Sun Council News 16 January, 2024

IMPORTANT DATES

See what's happening!

[\(click here for complete calendar\)](#)

January 2024

Jan 17 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting

Jan 22 - Scout Shop and Office Closed for Planning Conference

Jan 23 - Eagle Books due

Jan 30 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

February 2024

Feb 1 - TV District Roundtable @ 7 pm

Feb 10 - Annual Meeting @ 4 pm

Feb 17 - Annual Recognition Dinner @ 6 pm

Feb 19 - Scout Shop and Council Office CLOSED

Feb 20 - Eagle Books due

Feb 21 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting

Feb 23-25 - wOAdstOak

Feb 27 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH!

This month our volunteer article covers more than just one person. As there are many volunteers to choose from (many more than just the 12 that our monthly newsletter highlights), we would like to honor a group of people who like to be behind the scenes and let their work speak for themselves. Since February, a very small group of people have been meeting almost every Thursday to plan, promote, coordinate, and fundraise for the yearly Distinguished Citizens Award banquet. This year on December 6th at our 40th annual banquet, we honored Carol & Jack Wilbur. Each successful event is orchestrated and coordinated by a small group of people who believe in our mission and devote valuable time serving our council.

This month, for all their efforts through the past year, all the never-ending sponsor calls, auction item gathering, decision making and

March 2024

Mar 7 - TV District Roundtable @ 7 pm

Mar 19 - Eagle Books due

Mar 20 - Bush District Roundtable @ 6:15 pm followed by District Committee Meeting

Mar 22-24 - Klondike Derby

Mar 26 - Eagle Board (by appointment only)

Mar 29 - Scout Shop and Council Office CLOSED in observance of Good Friday



Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit, Veteran Award Nominations and Applications

Do you have a Scouter in mind that deserves to be recognized for their work above and beyond the responsibilities of their volunteer position? The Midnight Sun Council is seeking nominations for The Silver Beaver Award, the District Award of Merit, and Veteran Award (click on links below to view download nomination and application forms)

The Silver Beaver Award was introduced in 1931 and is a council level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council.

[Silver Beaver nomination Form](#)

The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by districts in the same manner that the Silver Beaver is a national award presented by councils and is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level.

[District Award of Merit nomination form](#)

The Veteran Award can be earned by registered members to recognize BSA individual members for tenure in Scouting.

[Veteran Award application form](#)

well... putting up with CJ, we would like to thank Steve Heckman, Scott Wilbur, Bob Groseclose, Bert Bell, Debbie Wilbur, and Cathie Tordoff. Because of their efforts and the wishes of Carol & Jack Wilbur, a Scouting Assistance Fund has been established.

Klondike Derby Date Change

The Klondike Derby will be March 22-24 at Lost Lake Camp.

Troop 1 has some fun challenges planned for the weekend including a heavy lift, shelter building, fire starting and more!

Registration information and the Leader Packet will be emailed to Scoutmasters soon.

Keep up with the Cub Scout program updates!

The BSA is at the very start of what will be a monthslong rollout of information about the latest Cub Scout program updates. To make sure you're getting only the most accurate information, click the link below to view the four resources for you to keep your eyes on.

[Bookmark these four resources to keep up with the Cub Scout program updates \(scoutingmagazine.org\)](#)

Preparedness Presentations



The American Red Cross is reaching out to see if our Boy Scout Troops would be interested in preparedness presentations. They have different presentations depending on the age. Prepare with Pedro is pre-k-2nd grade and The Pillowcase Project is 3rd-5th grade.


See some of the basic information linked below. The presentations take about 30 minutes. They go through what to do in case of a home fire, coping skills, and what to pack in an emergency kit. The children will be able to answer and ask questions throughout the presentations- it is interactive and there are times the kids get to get up and get the wiggles out when we explain how to, "get low and go!"

[download/view info Prepare with Pedro \(Pre-K-2nd Grade\)](#)

[download/view info Project Pillowcase](#)

2024 Midnight Sun Council Eagle Scout and Volunteer Recognition Annual Dinner

[click here or image below to view/download flyer and RSVP](#)



2024 MidnightSun Council Eagle Scout and Volunteer Recognition Annual Dinner

Saturday, February 17, 2024
Reception—6:00 p.m., Dinner—6:30 p.m.
Binkley Room, Pike's Waterfront Lodge
\$40.00/person (we lowered the price!)

The Midnight Sun Council has a proud tradition of bringing the best possible Scouting experience to the youth of our community. In 2023 we served 8,898 young people in the interior of Alaska with programs that build character, personal fitness, and citizenship.

Each year the Midnight Sun Council recognizes the unselfish, grass-roots service of its volunteers at an annual dinner in their honor. This year we plan on honoring:

- Eagle Scouts from the 2023 Eagle Scout Class
- James E. West Fellowship Award recipients
- Local volunteers for the Council Silver Beaver Award
- Local volunteers for the District Award of Merit
- Veteran Award recipient
- Unit Leader Award of Merit
- Incoming Board and District volunteers

Your participation in this dinner will pay special tribute to these deserving Scouts and Scouters and will underscore the importance of the Scouting program as our council continues a proud history of service to this community. We have a great program planned for the evening.

Midnight Sun Council, Boy Scouts of America 2024 Council Annual Recognition Dinner

Please reserve me # _____ of tickets for the Dinner @ \$40.00 ea.
(or) I am unable to attend. I would like to contribute \$ _____ so that an Eagle Scout may attend.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
District _____ Unit # _____

If possible, I wish to be seated with _____

Make checks payable to:
Midnight Sun Council, BSA
1400 Gilliam Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701

Office
Paid \$ _____
Res. # _____

Space is limited, reservations are required. Call 907-452-1976 or visit the Council Office to RSVP by February 7th, 2024
Please check in at the door

SCOUT SUNDAY

The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. However, each chartered organization can use either of two other options to celebrate this special day. An organization can adopt a specific Sunday to celebrate. In the instance of the United Methodist Church, Scout Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. It also is permissible for a local church to celebrate on the Sunday most acceptable to the pastor and congregation.



CLICK ON IMAGES OR LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

The 40th Annual Distinguished Citizens Banquet was a great success!



On December 6th many people from our community as well as others from as far away as Flagstaff Arizona came together to honor Carol and Jack Wilbur. The couple were chosen

by past DCB honorees for their contributions, generosity, and community service. Festivities kicked off at 6pm with a social hour and Sara Wilbur performing solo music with her violin. Dinner of prime rib while guest speakers gave Jack and Carol much deserved accolades.

Promptly after dinner Howard Theis closed the silent auction and kicked off the callout auction, where the generosity of Fairbanks shown. After a fantastic auction, we finally came to call Carol and Jack up to accept their award. Jack finished the evening off with words of wisdom and humbly accepted the award to a room who all stood and gave them both a much-deserved standing ovation.

Special thanks to the event committee, Sara Wilbur for her violin performance, Aaron Wilbur, Jim Dodson and Gretchen Gordan for their kind words as guest speakers, and of course Bert Bell and Bob Groseclose for Emceeding the event and keeping everyone smiling and enjoying themselves!

FROM THE REGISTRAR

There are some changes to our registration process starting March 1st

2024 Membership Fee & Application Update

There will be a 3-5 day minimum delay in the acceptance of Adult Leaders. They must pass a background check PRIOR to them serving as a leader or volunteering. This will have a major impact on rechartering units, camp leaders, and new units. Effective **March 1, 2024**, the BSA **will eliminate the \$25 one-time joining fee** for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting.

- **\$85/yr** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$65/yr** for all adult volunteers (\$5 increase)
- **\$30/yr** for Scoutreach (No change in fee)
- **\$25/yr** for Merit Badge Counselors (No change in fee. Only for Merit Badge Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- **\$50/yr** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (No change in fee)
- **\$100/yr** unit renewal/affiliation fee (No change in fee)
- **\$15/yr** for Scout Life magazine (No change in fee)



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

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

If you have Scouts participating in **Scout Sunday** and would like the patches, please contact Linda at linda.hill3@scouting.org so that she can special order them for you.



You can also call the office at (907) 452-1976.



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. The BSA will be requiring that the Criminal Background Check is completed before you can become an active adult leader. This will have a release date of March 1st, 2024.

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

Congratulations to all our 2023 Eagle Scouts

2023 Eagle Scouts will be recognized at the Annual Dinner on February 17th, 2024

All Eagle Scouts are requested to RSVP and provide information on their Eagle Scout Project including the total hours (even if they are unable to attend) **by Friday, February 2nd.**

Please email the information to: tasmine.bennett@scouting.org and please cc/ your Scoutmaster.



Isabel Brown

Lone Scout
Denali Park, AK

Tyler Hansen

Troop 1001
Rotary Club of Fairbanks

McKinley Rhoades

Troop 1042
Vol. Fire Department, North Pole

Daniel Beuchaw

Daniel Dicken

Henry Simoneau

Troop 1138
Midnight Sun Council, BSA

*Trail to Eagle
workbook*

*Midnight Sun Council Eagle
Scout Candidate Checklist*

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

Save the Date for NESA Scholarship Application Window

December 1st the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) starts accepting applications from eligible for the 2024 scholarship season. In 2023, NESA granted scholarships to 69 NESA members awarding over \$520,000 in funds. Help spread the word and secure scholarships for Eagle Scouts in your council!

Applicants can [join here](#) and visit nesa.org/scholarships/ to learn more about how to apply.

Application Requirements:

- Eagle Board of Review date must be before January 24, 2024
- Eagle Scout must be a member of the National Eagle Scout Association
- May apply for scholarships beginning in senior year of high school through junior year in an undergraduate program or by the halfway point of an associate degree program or skilled trade program

- Applications must be completed and submitted by 11:5p p.m. CST on January 31, 2024

Scouting magazine did an article about Larry Gumina, with a shout out to our Council. If you aren't aware, he also served on our High Adventure staff for a couple of years, in addition to his being a guest speaker at our recognition dinner.

[Former NESA World Explorer shares how the program shaped his life \(scoutingmagazine.org\)](https://scoutingmagazine.org/)

VFW Scout of the Year Program



Annually, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States recognizes individuals who are Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients, and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank.

Please review the attached materials to see if you know someone who may qualify and share the application with them. A Scout may enter the contest through one VFW Post only. Locally, we have VFW Post 3629 in Fairbanks, and VFW Post 10029 in North Pole.

Remember to choose just one to apply through.

Deadline to apply is March 1st.

[2023 VFW Scout of the Year](#)

THANK YOU! to our 2023 Golden Eagle Sponsors



Alaska Airlines	Jeff Cook	Lotto Alaska
Steve Adams	Cooper Family	Jim Lund
Carol and Steve Adamczak	CSG, Inc	Patrick Mechanical
Bell Development	Denali State Bank	Mt McKinley Bank
Bell Wealth Advisors	Design Alaska	The Optimist Club of Fairbanks
Ben Lomond Inc	Doyon Utilities LLC	Karen Perdue
Bennett Engineering	Shelley and Richard Ebenal	Sani-Can
Andrew Bennett	Joe Faulhaber	Mark Simon
Larry Bennett	Foundation Health Partners	Stephen Smith
C.B. Bettisworth	Fullford Electric	Brad and Danielle Tilden
Bettisworth North	GHEMM Company	Toontuk Lodge
Mary Binkley	Golden Heart Emergency Physicians	Cathie Tordoff
Wade Binkley	Fairbanks Gold Mine	TOTE Maritime Alaska
Chena Hot Springs Resort	Bob Groseclose	Usibelli Foundation
Cold Spot Feeds	Hale & Associates	Walsh Kelliher & Sharp

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



BOOK YOUR 2024 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 Phil at phil.burkett@scouting.org, or call the office at 907-452-1976 or find us on Facebook [@NorthernLightsHighAdventureBase](https://www.facebook.com/NorthernLightsHighAdventureBase)



Hello!

My name is Kelly and I work for ALPS Mountaineering, an outdoor brand of camping and hiking gear. We offer a free program to the scouting community, called Hiker Direct, that offers roughly 40% off MSRP to scouts, every day of the year! You do have to sign up for the program to access the special scout pricing, and we encourage all leaders, scouts, and parents to do so, to take advantage of these great deals. I've included a flyer below that can be shared with anyone in your scouting group and we'd be happy to mail you physical copies to share as well, if interested. This short video also highlights the program if you'd like to take a couple of minutes to watch. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to let us know and we hope to have you and your crew as part of the Hiker

Direct family, soon!

[Click here to view/download hikerdirect flyer](#)

Hello, my name is Jamie Reminger, I am the Event Coordinator for Tanana Valley State Fair Association. We are hosting a crafting event for families of the community, and we are asking for local organizations to join us in providing fun crafts for all ages.

The event will be held on February 10th, 2023, at the TVSFA Fairgrounds - 1800 College Rd. Fairbanks, AK 99709 from 12noon-4pm. Set up will begin as early as 10am. Each group involved must bring at least one craft but are welcome to bring more if they so choose. Each station may provide information and advertising for your own business and upcoming events but may not sell products and/or merchandise. Crafts must be free for attendees to make and decided ahead of time. We would like to avoid having multiples of similar crafts, so we are asking organizations to apply by sending me back an email with your information and the craft you are bringing, and we will contact you about your craft choice and spot. Craft types and spots are first come, first serve and are completely free. TVSFA will provide 10x6 spaces, and tables and chairs needed, trashcans will be nearby.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via phone or email at the information



below.

IMPORTANT: If your intended craft includes anything that will stain or is difficult to clean up (including but not limited to glitter, paint, confetti, etc.) please plan to bring a covering for the floor large enough for your station so that clean-up is easy.

Unfortunately, the current chosen location is not wheelchair accessible in the winter. Please plan accordingly.

Jamie Reminger, TVSFA Events Coordinator - Email: j.reminger@tvsfa.org events@tvsfa.org
907-415-9740

The Lynden Training Center will conduct:

80-hr Wilderness First Responder Course (WFR) / Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)

Monday-Thursday, February 12 – 15 **AND** Wednesday-Friday, February 21 – 23, 2024 (\$750pp)

16-hr REFRESHER Wilderness First Responder (WFR) / Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)

Thursday-Friday, March 21 – 22, 2024 (\$280pp)

Lynden Training Center – 4325 Cinch St., Fairbanks, AK 99701

View our current course schedule

at www.lynden.com/training, or call (907) 456-2223 to register.

[click here to view/download LTC map](#)



Wilderness First Responder (WFR) / Wilderness EMT (WEMT)

This 80-hour course combines online course material with classroom and field instruction. It gives students the ability to make critical decisions when medical care is delayed and to administer emergency care to life threatening injuries and illnesses. The course includes instruction for providing care to non-life threatening situations when evacuation is impractical. This course offers several hands-on scenarios. Medically trained personnel with EMT 1 or higher will receive a WEMT certification. State of Alaska Emergency Trauma Technician IS INCLUDED with this course.

Feb. 12-15 AND Feb. 21-23, 2024
(7 days)
Fairbanks, Alaska

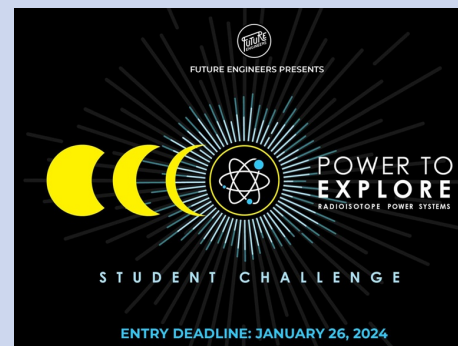
Lynden Training Center | (907) 456-2223
Register Online: lynden.com/training (MED07)

16hr WFR Refresher available March 21 - 22, 2024

NASA Power to Explore Challenge:

NASA is calling on K-12 students in the United States to research Radioisotope Power Systems (RPS), a type of nuclear “battery” used in space exploration, and dream up a new RPS-powered space mission to a destination with limited or obstructed access to light. Grand prize winners from each grade category (3 total) will receive a trip for two to NASA’s Glenn Research Center to learn about the people and technologies that enable NASA missions. Every student who submits an entry will receive a digital certificate and an invitation to a virtual event with NASA experts where they’ll learn about what powers the NASA workforce to dream big and explore.

<https://www.futureengineers.org/power-to-explore>



If this is something the scouts would be interested in contact Taylor Hart at

taylor.hart@futureengineers.org

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CONTACT US

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

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