Great Alaska Council Top Stories

Family Scouting: Here's What's Changing
**May Announcements and Reminders**

For more information, please go to [BSA Family Scouting](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1130602857914&format=html&print=true)

### 2018 Whittier Cruise: Welcome Aboard!

Join us for a cruise that shows the best of Alaska! The 4.25 hour Blackstone Bay Glacier Cruise departs daily from Whittier and ventures into the calm, protected waters of Prince William Sound, where seasickness is highly
unlikely. The best option for the glacier enthusiast, this cruise spends time in front of two active tidewater glaciers and one hanging glacier to maximize your chances of seeing spectacular glacier calving, where massive chunks of glacial ice crash into the water. Enjoy your time floating among the icebergs as the massive Blackstone and Beloit Glaciers tower 700 feet over the 77-foot vessel. *No sea sickness guarantee*

*Seating is limited - sign up today! Special discount through the Great Alaska Council of 50% off adult prices!*

Date: August 18, 2018
Boat Launch: Whittier Harbor, Major Marine
Cost (includes salmon and prime rib buffet)
   - Adult: $60
   - Youth: $45

[Click Here to Register](#)
Questions? Contact [Danyelle Schuaer](#)

**Support the Work of All Youth Serving Organizations**

While the Boy Scouts of America is now welcoming girls into the traditional programs, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts remain two separate and distinct entities. The Girl Scouts and other organizations across the country all have the same goal in mind—helping youth grow into better citizens. We should always be supportive of other youth-serving organizations and their efforts so that we can all be successful in growing youth into better citizens.

Thank you for all do you for Scouting and for helping maintain our core values stated in the Scout Law.

Be Prepared for the 2018
Popcorn Sale by Signing Up Today!

Now is the time to sign up for the most successful Scouting fundraiser ever, the annual popcorn sale! Popcorn is a great way to fund your Scouting program! Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, Explorer Posts and yes, even our brand new STEM Scout Labs can sign up for the 2018 popcorn sale.

Here is the link to register:
https://www.scoutingalaska.org/popcornsignup

Office Updates:

Summertime Insurance Requests for Campouts and Trips

Brenda our fantastic registrar will be handling insurance requests. She is part time and will need 2 weeks notice before your departure date to ensure your paperwork is completed and to your unit leader. Unit leaders coming requesting insurance the day of departure will be unable to obtain it.

Be Prepared.

Welcome Stephanie Miller!

Stephanie is our new Finance/Fundraising Secretary. Born and raised in Alaska, Stephanie loves the outdoors and taking on new adventures. She is excited to work with the Great Alaska Council. For all the football fans, Stephanie's favorite team is the Broncos!

Welcome Weston Jackson!

Weston will be the District Executive covering Maritime and Totem Districts of the Great Alaska Council. Weston is a proud father of 7 who loves to ride his motorcycle. He would like to thank his amazing wife who supports him. We congratulate Weston's son, Austin C. Jackson, who just recently was
awarded his Eagle! Weston has a passion for Scouting and is looking forward to serving Southeast Alaska.

Cub Scouts

The Cub Scout Angle: Lions Arrive

At the end of the current school year, Lions will become the newest Cub Scout rank beginning in the Fall of 2018. Cub Scout packs will welcome the new den of Lions to meetings at that time. While not participating in summer programs, these Lions will be ready to start participating in adventures to earn their badge of rank. Both all girl dens and all boy dens will be organized within a pack.

A taste of what you will soon see JUST for Lions?

- The youth handbook will get a new cover and is now called the Lion Cub Scout Handbook.
- A new rank patch will be available which can be placed on the T-shirt over their heart.
- Stickers are designed for the youth to place in their new handbooks as they complete adventures.
- Adventure Loops will be awarded and placed on the Cub Scout belt.
- A Lion advancement chart will also be available for recording and watching advancement grow

As the pack welcomes the new Lion den, more excitement is ahead as the Cub Scout family grows. For more information, visit the Lion website

Questions? Contact Kris Stoehner, Council Advancement Chair
Attention Unit Leaders: Be Sure to Update your BeAScout Pin to Reflect Status

With fall recruitment approaching, now is the time to log into your my.scouting.org account and update your unit pin to indicate if your unit will be boy-only (default), family pack, or girl only AND the date you will begin accepting female applications. This must be updated to take online registrations this fall.

1. Log in to your My.Scouting account select Menu at the top left
2. From the drop-down menu, select your unit
3. Select Organization Manager
4. Select the Settings tab
5. Scroll to Family Scouting
6. If remaining boy-only, do nothing (this is the default setting); otherwise, select girls only or boys and girls
7. For early-adopter councils, this pin will update within 24 hours. For non-early adopters, enter the date that the unit will be welcoming girls. The earliest that girls' applications will be processed for non-early adopter councils will be June 11 (but units need to check with their councils, as the actual start date is a council business decision)
8. Click Commit

Click Here to Download Instructions with Screen Shots

Contact your District Executive with questions.

Boy Scouts and Venturing

Revised Training for Den Chief Leadership Position

How long and how effectively a den chief will serve depends upon how seriously the position is valued and by whom, particularly the adults in the
Like most things in Scouting, this process begins with training. Den Chief Training is intended to build enthusiasm, develop higher morale among den chiefs, and provide the tools a new den chief will need to be successful. This training can be delivered in approximately two hours. The time should, however, match the needs of the young people to be trained as well as the availability of the trainers. An evening session, for example, might work better for a Cubmaster training a couple of den chiefs, or a weekend session might work better for a district training for den chiefs of multiple packs.

The training should be offered in a facility that provides suitable space and access, perhaps council camping or training facilities, or a local pack meeting location. A session held early in the program year is likely to prove more useful to beginning den chiefs and their "adult partners", those new den leaders, or den leaders who have not previously had a den chief. Thus, all adult leaders who recruit or work with den chiefs are encouraged to attend with the Scout being trained.

At the end of the course all participants should be awarded a certificate of completion.

The Scout troop should then recognize the newly trained Scout with a "Trained" badge for his sleeve next to his den chief position badge of office.

Although den chief training currently is only available through face-to-face sessions, online modules are being developed that will mirror the content of these in-person materials. When ready and approved for use, there will be announcements in Bryan's Blog, Scouting magazine and other sources of BSA information.

Meanwhile, everyone is encouraged to review the current course's Facilitators Guide at:

https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1130602857914&format=html&print=true
National Youth Leadership Training

National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others.

Date: August 6-11, 2018
Cost: $275
Click Here to Register

*Don't forget to submit your participant questionnaire!

Attended NYLT before? Interested in being on staff? Contact Tim Hilbert, Course Director today!

The Boy Scout Angle: Troop Involvement of Eagle Scouts

As the Romans used to say, "Quid nunc (what now)? (They spoke Latin, you know.) What do you do with a Scout who has passed his Eagle board of review? What can you do to keep this Scout, and all your Scouts, in Scouting?

Well, you can start by having a "pull-out-all-the-stops, invite-the whole-world, make-his-Mother-cry-tears-of-joy" Eagle Scout Court of Honor with the whole troop in attendance. Many a newly-joined Scout has looked on in awe as an older Scout had the Eagle badge.
pinned to his chest and has resolved then and there to become an Eagle Scout someday. That's the easy part.
How do you keep your new Eagle Scout around to help those boys keep their resolutions? First, make sure the new Eagle Scout gets credit at the COH for his earned merit badges in the form of Eagle Palms (GTA 9.0.3.0), and then challenge him to earn more. To keep him in Scouting, do what you always do to keep up every older Scout's interest: make sure they have something important to do.

For younger Eagle Scouts, keep them involved in troop positions of responsibility. Eagle Scouts are a natural resource as instructors for all Scouting skills, and a 13-year-old Eagle Scout senior patrol leader can be a shining example for all. Older boys who are at least 16 years old may be appointed junior assistant Scoutmasters. These young men under the guidance of the Scoutmaster can be an immense help in promoting advancement in the Troop. Finally, Eagle Scouts, young and old, also could be encouraged to participate actively in the Order of the Arrow, and possibly, to join the summer camp staff.

Once that Eagle Scout turns 18, invite him to remain active in the troop as an Assistant Scoutmaster, where his experience will be especially valuable in encouraging the advancement of Scouts through the ranks, and eventually, mentoring Life Scouts working on their own Eagle rank.

Do all these things and you will improve advancement in your troop and keep your Scouts in Scouting.

Now isn't that what we're all about?

Questions? Contact Kris Stoehner, Council Advancement Chair

Order of the Arrow News

Ordeal *MOVED TO CAMP GORSUCH*
Candidates: All candidates should arrive between 7:30pm-8pm. It is highly advised that you do not arrive any earlier than this. The weekend will end at 11am on Sunday Morning. During Breakfast you will be presented with your lodge insignia. We encourage your parents to come and join us for this recognition breakfast. You can register them when you register yourself. You should bring Medical Form (A&B) Full Uniform (Merit Badge Sash and Medals should stay home) you will NOT need your uniform until Saturday Afternoon, please come in clothes you do not mind getting dirty (Work Clothes and gloves). A sleeping bag, pad, tarp and tent, flashlight, water bottle, knife and personal toiletries.

Arrowmen: We ask that you arrive between 6pm-7pm, Those serving as Elangomats should arrive no later than 7pm. Please bring Medical Form (A&B) work clothes, gloves, full uniform, tent, tarp and personal toiletries. Cabins will NOT be available.

Date: May 18-20, 2018
Location: Camp Gorsuch
Click Here to Register

District Information

Bear Paw District

The Bear Paw District covers the communities of Palmer, Wasilla, Valdez, Big Lake, Willow, Talkeetna, and Glennallen.

Click Here to visit the Bear Paw District Page

Questions?
Gordon Ward, District Commissioner
Email: gord@mtaonline.net

Russ Ingram, District Chair
Email: ingramwr@gmail.com

John Lubbers, Assistant Scout Executive
Email: john.lubbers@scouting.org
Denali District

The Denali District covers the communities of Anchorage (South of Tudor, West of Gambell), Girdwood, Indian.

Click Here to visit the Denali District Page

Questions?
Paul Ritz, District Chair
Email: paul_ritz@yahoo.com

Vacant: District Commissioner

Brad Lewis, District Executive
Email: brad.lewis@scouting.org

Eklutna District

The Eklutna District covers the communities of Anchorage (North of Tudor, East of Gambell), Eagle River, Birchwood, Peter’s Creek, Chugiak, and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Click Here to visit the Eklutna District Page

Questions?
Scott Wesierski, District Chair

John Woyte, District Commissioner
Email: john.woyte@gmail.com

Mathieu Frohlich, District Executive
Email: mathieu.frohlich@scouting.org
Cell: 907-887-4245

Learning for Life District

The District of Learning for Life serves the following programs for the entire Council:

- Learning for Life Curriculum: Character Education and Substance Abuse Prevention
• **Exploring**: Hands-on, career exploration for middle school and high school students
• **STEM Scouts**: Co-ed Scouting program for Scouts 3rd-12th grade.

Questions?

**Keith Miller, District Chair**  
Email: j.keith.miller@gmail.com

**Vacant.............Service Team Chair**

**Danyelle Schauer, Sr. District Executive**  
Email: danyelle.schauer@lflmail.org  
Cell: 907-952-4647

**Maritime District**

The Maritime District covers the communities of Haines, Skagway, Sitka, Gustavus, and the greater Juneau area.

Click Here to visit the Maritime District Page

Questions?  
**Martin Suzuki, District Chair**  
Email: juneausuzuki@gmail.com

**Fred Thorsteinson, District Commissioner**  
Email: fredthorsteinson@gci.net

**Weston Jackson, District Executive**  
Email: weston.jackson@scouting.org

**Totem District**

The Totem District covers the communities of Ketchikan, Prince of Wales, Wrangell, and Petersburg.

Click Here to visit the Totem District Page

Questions?  
**Vacant: District Chair**
Dennis Olsen, District Commissioner
Email: doko@kpunet.net

Weston Jackson, District Executive
Email: weston.jackson@scouting.org

Tustumena District

The Tustumena District covers the Kenai Peninsula, in addition to the rural communities Alaska including Kodiak and Cordova.

Click Here to visit the Tustumena District Page

Questions?
Vacant: District Chair

Eric Willets, District Commissioner
Email: willets.eric@gmail.com

Brad Lewis, District Executive
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Cell: 717-405-2336