



-TRAIL TALK-

The Monthly Newsletter of the Great Alaska Council

COVID-19 Updates

COVID-19 Update: May 4, 2020

Starting this week, the Scout Shop and Office have re-opened. The Shop and Office will be open Monday through Friday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

To ensure the safety of our employees and customers, the following safety measures have been put in place:

- 1.) Employees and customers must adhere to 6-foot physical distancing protocols
- 2.) Only 5 customers will be allowed in the store at one time, after that limit is reached, customers will be asked to wait outside
- 3.) Customers must wear face coverings when entering the store, otherwise a disposable mask will be provided
- 4.) We would like to continue to encourage the use of calling or emailing in your orders for pick-up or delivery. All Scout Shop orders can be emailed to Gretchen.Kuhuski@scouting.org or called in to (907) 337-9547
- 5.) Due to the limited capacity of operations, not all Council staff will be in the office during this time. For all specialized paperwork (i.e. Eagle workbooks or Recharter paperwork) we are asking that you please schedule an appointment via email or by calling the Scout Office. All appointment requests can be sent in to alaskabsa@gmail.com or called in to (907) 337-9547

Should you have any questions or concerns about a specific upcoming event or activity, please email alaskabsa@gmail.com or call (907) 337-9547. We will do everything we can to answer your question using the information available to us.

[Council Updates on COVID-19](#)

[BSA COVID-19 FAQ Sheet](#)



Summer Camp Update What You Should Know

On May 1st, the Council's Key 3 made the announcement of unfortunate, but necessary, steps that are being taken to ensure the well-being of our scouts, leaders, and camp staff. After many conversations with key stakeholders on the Risk Management Committee, Executive Committee, and Senior Camp Staff the Great Alaska Council has made the difficult decision to:

To Suspend:

- Eagle River Scout Camp; all programs
- Camp Gorsuch; Scouts BSA

For suspended programs, the Council is working to offer similar programs later in the year, if restrictions allow.

To Cancel:

- Denali High Adventure Scout Base; all programs

For cancelled programs, there are no plans to continue or adjust for 2020.

To Be Determined:

- A decision on Cub Scout Camp at Camp Gorsuch will be made and announced on May 15th.

For more details on the Great Alaska Council's
Summer Camp Registration- [CLICK HERE](#)

**Annual Membership
& Program Fees**

The new BSA Fee Schedule went into effect on January 1, 2020. The new fee structure will be reflected in Charter Renewal, Additional Enrollments, and PAS Renewal Rosters.



Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship, Lone Cubs and Lone Scouts:

Youth Registration Fee is \$60, plus the Program Fee of \$60, bringing the total Youth Fee to \$120 per year (\$10 per month).

The Adult Membership Fee is \$36 per year (\$3 per month).

Explorer Post Participant is \$36 per year.

Unit Recharter Fee is \$60.

Questions? Contact [Brenda Bidwell](#), Council Registrar

POPPIN' UPDATES



Popcorn Unit Sign-Up Register Today!

Register your unit for the 2020 popcorn sale today! Early registration can qualify your unit for banners and square readers ensuring up-to-date information from the

council.

[Click Here](#) for Unit Registration

IMPORTANT DATES

8/1	Anchorage Community Kick Off
8/3	Juneau Community Kick Off

8/6	Internet Popcorn Kick Off
8/7	Mat Su Valley Popcorn Kick Off
8/9	Show N Sell Order Due

Questions? Contact [Danyelle Schauer](#), Development Director

UPCOMING COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



All Council Events for May Have Been Canceled

Canceled Events:

Order of the Arrow Gorsuch Induction Weekend
Kayaking Merit Badge Certification Training #1 & #2

For more information, please visit the [Council Calendar](#)



Dinner Cruise 2020 Get Your Tickets Today!

Our annual Dinner Cruise welcomes the whole family on an evening of gorgeous sightseeing and wildlife views in the calm, protected waters

of Resurrection Bay.

Complete with a prime rib and salmon buffet, this cruise allows you to be a tourist in your own state while you experience the beauty of Alaska.

Date: Saturday, August 15, 2020

Location: Seward, AK

Cost: \$60 per Adult, \$45 per Youth (under 12)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Thank You to our event sponsor- Major Marine Tours!

Questions? Contact [Danyelle Schauer](#), Development Director

Annual Sporting Clays NEW DATE!

Date: August 21, 2020

Time: 11:00am - 4:00pm

L o c a t i o n : Birchwood
Recreation & Shooting Park



Shoot for Scouting with this year's 17th Annual Michael L. Foster & Associates Sporting Clays. Fun, friends, and fellowship for an afternoon of clay shooting. Wrap up the afternoon with delicious BBQ and brew.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Questions? Contact [Danyelle Schauer](#), Development Director

ORDER OF THE ARROW

NOAC Update

2020 National Order of the Arrow Conference COVID-19 Update

The 2020 National Order of the Arrow Conference has been cancelled out of concern for the safety of all attending Arrowmen, as well as the Michigan State University and East Lansing communities.

To read the full announcement and FAQ Sheet

[Click Here](#)



Temporary Camping Night Policy

In light of the extended period of camping restrictions attributable to COVID-19, the following temporary modification is being made to the camping requirements for OA eligibility:

Virtual camping (i.e., backyard or solo camping) may be counted toward the required nights of camping for OA election eligibility if all the following stipulations are met:

- To be counted, all virtual camping nights should be a direct result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and be part of a BSA unit-organized unit camping event (i.e., multiple members of the unit are involved and camping simultaneously at remote locations).
- Some form of unit-organized communications should occur either during or immediately following the event.

- All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines should be followed.

- No more than 3 nights of virtual camping are to be credited in any month in which government- or council-imposed COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

This change is in effect until September 1, 2020.

To read the full announcement,

[Click Here](#)

If you have any questions, please reach out to membership@oa-bsa.org.

SCOUTING AT HOME



Cub Scouting at Home

Here are some resources to help both parents and leaders support Scouting at home, with stay-at-home activities for Cub Scouts!

As public places, including many parks and campgrounds, are closing to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, you might be left scratching your head on what you and your kids can do. Here are some ideas for activities and projects from home!

[30 Day Challenge K-2nd Grade](#)

[30 Day Challenge 3rd-4th Grade](#)

[5 Cub Scout Activities for Your Weekend](#)

For more ideas and projects, [Click Here](#)

CUBCAST

The BSA Podcasts have tons of tips for making your Pack or Troop the best it can be! Take a listen to the latest CubCast Podcast to find out more information on topics you may have questions on!

May 2020 - Program Planning Starts Now!



For this episode - well, we admit it's not the most glamorous of topics, but it is important. In fact, it will make your Cub Scout leader experience a whole lot easier. These seasoned Scouters will share with us all the tips and tricks of program planning and how to have fun doing it.

[Listen Here](#)



Scouting at Home

Here are some resources to help both parents and leaders support Scouting at home, with stay-at-home activities for Scouts BSA and Venturers!

[Scouts BSA 31-Day Challenge](#)

[58 Merit Badges Scouts Can Complete at Home](#)

[Merit Badge Management with Scoutbook](#)

[Read a Whole Year of Boys' Life for Free](#)

For more ideas and projects, [Click Here](#)

SCOUTCAST

The BSA Podcasts have tons of tips for making your Troop the best it can be!
Take a listen to the latest ScoutCast Podcast to find out more information on
topics you may have questions on!

May 2020 - 2021 Jamboree

The next National Jamboree is only a year away, but many Scouts have yet to sign up. This month we'll share all the reasons you should be getting ready to pack your bags!



[Listen Here](#)

Council Field Staff Contacts

Council Field Staff Contacts

Unit Questions and Membership

Brad Lewis, Senior District Executive

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C: (717) 405-2336

Program and Camp

Sam Giacalone, Program Director

E: samuel.giacalone@scouting.org

C: (907) 223-5111

Fundraising and Grants

Danyelle Schauer, Development Director

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Scouting's Community Partners



[Major Marine Tours](#) generously donates our Seward Dinner Cruise.

[M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust](#) generously helped to support our camp operations this summer

[Rasmuson Foundation](#) generously helped to support our camp operations this summer!

[Richard L and Diane M Block Foundation](#) is a supporter of the ScoutReach program.

Thank you to the following companies for helping transport popcorn to Alaska and our local communities:

- [TOTE Maritime](#)
- [Lynden Transport](#)
- [Alaska Marine Lines](#)

Thank you for your support!



Support Scouting

100% of the funds raised in Alaska - stay in Alaska. Help Scouting build the future leaders and community members of Alaska with your donation.

[Donate Now](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

