A Special Thanks to Our Volunteers

April 19-25 is “Volunteer Appreciation Week” in the US, and I wanted to use this occasion to once again thank you for the tremendous outpouring of time and treasure that our volunteers give so freely to make Scouting happen.

During this time of National distress, I have been inspired by all of you. Despite new daily challenges of working from home, childcare, home schooling, and for some, feelings of isolation, our Scouting volunteers have continued to demonstrate the 7th point of the Scout Law, Cheerful. Our Executive Board is still conducting business. Our District Committees and Commissioner teams are continuing to meet electronically to figure out how to support our many Scouting units with projects like the Home Base Camp, Virtual Roundtables, and virtual Boards of Review. Further, many of our Packs, Troops, Crews, and Posts have figured out how to meet electronically so that they can continue to deliver the Scouting program despite Social Distancing.

I am reminded of a great quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, a man who had many great quotes. He once wrote that: “Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve…. You don’t have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

I have witnessed this level of dedication in you our volunteers every day since I arrived, but no more than this past month. All of you are heroes. On behalf of the staff at the Northern Lights Council, I just wanted to take a moment and say “Thank You!”
Continue Scouting at Home

Just because our Scouts aren't going to meetings, doesn't mean Scouting doesn't continue. Visit our Home Base Camp to check out activities to do at home and still earn advancements.

Scouts will even earn a free patch by completing just three activities!

Are you Interested in offering virtual merit badge instruction?

Scouts and parents throughout the Northern Lights Council are hungry for Scouting activities to stay engaged. To assist, we are building a list of Merit Badge instructors who are specifically willing to help teach merit badges virtually. If you want to help, please fill out the form found in the link below.

Current Updates

The council will continue to be proactive and make decisions that will protect the communities and families we serve. As this situation continues to evolve, we will evaluate daily and share any updates as they become available on the Scouting Update page and through our social media channels.

Virtual Office Hours

As promised for our Virtual Roundtable we are having some deep dives on certain subjects. We will be having open office hours with a deep dive into a topic and then we will have a time for some open questions that you bring. Each one will run from 7:00 to 7:30 pm via the Go To Meeting link below.

April 23 – Main Topic: Conducting Online Meetings and creating online elections/polls

April 30 – Main Topic: Conducting Online Board of Review and Advancement

Join from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/603468677

Spring Candy Sale

Scouts in our council are still selling candy to help them earn money to attend camp.

An order for more product was placed on April 9 for units that requested it. Delivery is expected later this week. If any other units need additional product, they can still place an order.
The council has extended the deadline for units to pay for the product to June 30.

April Program Planning Roundtable

Thank you to the 240 volunteers that participated in the Council Roundtable on April 9. If you missed the meeting, you can still view the recording by visiting the Roundtable page.

Council leadership is planning on continuing these online Roundtables, so keep checking the Roundtable page for more details about subjects that will be covered at future Roundtables.

Camp Wilderness Merit Badge Weekend

Postponed from April to May 29-31

Earning merit badges and education is a big part of what we do in Scouts BSA! Join us and earn from a variety of merit badges!

Merit Badges Offered: Aviation, Citizenship in the Nation, Communications, Auto Maintenance, Reptile Study, Search and Rescue.

Additional Class: Wilderness First Aid.

Merit Badge Weekend Registration

Camp Wilderness Tiger Cub Weekend

Postponed to May 29-31

Tigers and their adult partners will be able to shoot BB guns, bows and arrows, sling shots, complete a craft project, take a nature hike and visit the bog walk, climb the fire tower, and play amazing camp games!

There will be a Saturday night campfire with a ceremonial cross over into the Wolf rank, and no graduation would be complete without a sugary treat after the ceremony!

Tiger Cub Weekend Registration

Register for Summer Camp Now


The council is committed to providing you and your Scouts with an exciting and safe summer camp experience in 2020. We are continuing to plan and make arrangements to that end. We continue to monitor and will follow all CDC and MN Department of Health guidelines in place at the time of camp. Key camp leadership is
discussing how to best implement social distancing guidelines in a camp setting.

At this time, the Council Camping & Outdoor Activities committee is monitoring government guidelines and building contingency plans for summer camp with the goal of conducting camp in a healthy and safe way.

- The deadline to register for merit badges has been extended to May 9
- Early bird deadline for summer camp and resident camp has been extended to June 1
- "Worry free" refund policy for COVID-19 cancellations
- Full refunds if camp needs to be canceled
- Sanford and Essentia have confirmed that they can still conduct physicals through virtual visits (you may need to check if you have a different provider)

Register for Summer Camp

Cub Adventure Camp

It’s time to saddle up and head to the wild wild west for a four day, three night Cub Adventure Camp!

Join in on the theme by dressing up as a wild west character, participate in old west games at the Raging Rodeo Roundup, and enjoy a Chuck Wagon dinner!

Your young cowboys and cowgirls will also test their skills with BB guns, archery, swimming, canoeing, crafts, games, and fishing!

This is one rodeo you and your Scout won’t want to miss!

Early bird deadline for adventure camp has been extended to June 1

Butler Wilderness Outpost

Heart Butte

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)
July 26-Aug 1 at Butler Wilderness Outpost

NYLT 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. The NYLT course centers around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what he must KNOW, and what he must DO. The key elements are then taught with a clear focus on HOW TO. The skills come alive during the week as the patrol goes on a Quest for the Meaning of Leadership.

NYLT is a seven-day course. Content is delivered in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ the leadership skills much faster.
Get Details and Register for NYLT

OA Conclave

The Eastern and Western Conclave and Lodge Leadership recently met to evaluate the upcoming Conclaves taking place at Wilderness (May 8-10) and Big 4 (May 15-17). We have decided to postpone these two events to a date TBD in August or September.

Important information on completing your Ordeal or Brotherhood:
- Fall Conclave will be hosted August 14-16 at Heart Butte Scout Reservation on Lake Tschida
- The two Spring Conclaves will also be rescheduled to a date after the Fall Conclave (August or September)
- The timeline for Ordeal Candidates to go through the Ordeal has been extended from 12 months to 24 months. So you would be able to attend a Spring Conclave in 2021 as well.
- The Brotherhood Ceremony will be offered at Camp Wilderness during summer camp.

If you have any questions please let us know.

Pa-Hin Lodge Key 3
Michael Gibson - Lodge Chief
Paul Anderson - Advisor
Tom Barry - Staff Advisor - tom.barry@scouting.org

Scouting For Food

We know that Scouting for Food was interrupted by our social distancing and some of you had already found ways to help our local food pantries. While the official Scouting For Food campaign was closed early, the need for food is still there. Some of you have already found a way. If you do any food collection this year please record it for us and we will get you a Scouting For Food Patch while supplies last. So far Scouts have recorded 515 hours of service to collect food from the 10 units that submitted their work.

Please make sure to submit your work online at: https://nlcbsa.org/scoutingforfood

What's Happening in your District?
Click the link to find out!

D3 Oxcart Trails - Fergus Falls, Wahpeton
D4 Lakes - Alexandria, Morris
D5 Northern Sky - Fargo, WF, Moorhead, Jamestown, Detroit Lakes
D8 Lake Agassiz - Grand Forks, EGF, Thief River Falls, Crookston
D10 Roughrider - Dickinson
D11 Tomahawk - Minot
D13 Frontier Trails - Bismarck-Mandan
D14 Great Plains - Williston, Plentywood
Upcoming Meetings & Events

**APRIL 2020**
- 16 Cub Scout Leader Training (GTW)
- 23 Council Camping meeting (GTM)
- 28 Council Day Camp meeting (GTM)
- 28 Council Commissioner meeting (GTM)

**MAY 2020**
- 6 FOS meeting (GTM)
- 19 Council Day Camp meeting (GTM)
- 21 Council Training meeting (GTM)
- 25 Offices Closed (Memorial Day)
- 26 Council Commissioner meeting (GTM)
- 28 Council Camping meeting (GTM)
- 29-31 Merit Badge Weekend at Camp Wilderness
- 29-31 Tiger Cub Camp at Camp Wilderness

STAY CONNECTED

Visit our website

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Sent by emilie.frenzel@scouting.org in collaboration with

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