

# Advancement News

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Prepared. For Life.®

Previous issues are available at [http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/advancement\\_news.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/advancement_news.aspx)

## Late Breaking Announcement

The 2015 version of the *Guide to Advancement* (No. 33088) was recently posted to the Advancement Resources web page ([www.scouting.org/advancement](http://www.scouting.org/advancement)). Significant changes are outlined in topic 1.0.3.0.

The 2015 revision of the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook* is also posted at the same site. Scouts who have already downloaded the previous workbook may continue to use it.



## Opportunities for Advancement Administrators

### Philmont Training Center—Advancement and Adventure Await!

Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators (CEAA): June 7-13, 2015

Looking for a reason to go to Philmont? Wanting the latest advancement updates? Interested in helping the National Advancement Committee review and finalize some developing advancement education tools? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, you will not want to miss the Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators (CEAA) at the Philmont Training Center, June 7-13.

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This hands-on conference will be your opportunity to do all of the above, plus be involved in several breakout groups that will consider such topics as:

- How does a council accept or reject merit badge counselor applications?
- How should district advancement committees handle units showing little or no advancement?
- How do councils assure that Youth Protection Training and social media guidelines are being followed if web-based instruction is being used?
- How can we promote the use of the advancement education presentations on the Advancement Resources web page?
- And more!



Sign-up now so you don't miss this remarkable opportunity to have a voice in what's developing in advancement. We want you to be there!

### **Advancement Issues and Solutions: August 2-8, 2015**

If you are an experienced volunteer advancement administrator, consider taking your game to the next level at this fast-paced, case study-based conference. Unit, district, and council advancement coordinators, chairs, committee members, and staff advisors will not only learn about the latest updates on advancement issues, but more importantly, will be invited to analyze, discuss, and solve case studies similar to those regularly dealt with by the National Advancement Committee. As a result of this experience, attendees will return home with a first-hand understanding of the effective use of the *Guide to Advancement* and the confidence to handle difficult issues in their home councils.

To learn how to register for these advancement opportunities or one of the other conferences being held at the PTC this summer, as well as how you can turn your week into an unforgettable family adventure, visit [www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/PTC8PGO.pdf](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/PTC8PGO.pdf). Better hurry, though; summer is almost here!

See the full brochure for a listing of all conferences available and family program information:

[www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/PTC8PGO.pdf](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/PTC8PGO.pdf).

## Capitol Area Council—Hooked on Advancement

The Capitol Area Council held its second annual Advancement Academy on March 7 in Austin, Texas. Over 85 Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing leaders and volunteers attended a day of learning and discussions to delve more deeply into advancement issues, policies, and procedures.



Based on the content of the *Guide to Advancement*, the Advancement Academy included sessions such as the mechanics of advancement, merit badge counselors, as well as the Eagle Scout process, application, workbook, and issues. Discussions concerning the definition of Scout Spirit, unit expectations, and positions of responsibility proved especially interesting.

Kathryn Ross, Council Advancement Chair, summed up the importance of the academy by stating, “Having a solid understanding of advancement procedures and rules is vital to a healthy program. Understanding changes to advancement is also critical. Having instructors relate their real-life experiences reinforces the information.” She stressed the value to both new and experienced advancement administrators. “Many experienced Scout leaders who participate say they learn something new each time—or identify changes that they need to make within their units.”

Special breakout sessions were held to discuss program changes to the Cub Scout and Venturing programs. A national volunteer who worked on the program update task force led the Cub Scout breakout, and a professional from the National office conducted the Venturing session.

Local Scouter Jeff Scruggs taught the sessions on boards of review, appeals, and special needs Scouts. “Many unique situations arise,” he said, “each with different circumstances. Reviewing the *Guide to Advancement* is especially important to determine how to proceed in these situations.”

Based on participants’ comments from the first two Advancement Academies, Capitol Area Council plans to conduct the academy annually. A common request was, “Please conduct the Academy every year so we can get all leaders trained properly.”

For information on how you can conduct an Advancement Academy in your council, contact:

[advancement.team@scouting.org](mailto:advancement.team@scouting.org).

### About *Advancement News*

**Follow the National Advancement Team on Twitter! BSA Advancement Team, @AdvBSA**

*Advancement News* is the official e-letter of the Boy Scouts of America National Advancement Team and the National Advancement Committee. Its intent is to provide and clarify procedures found in the *Guide to Advancement*, announce various changes and updates in advancement, and to assist advancement committees in making decisions that can help increase the rate of advancement. Therefore, districts and councils may reprint articles from this publication. Our plan is to distribute six issues of *Advancement News* annually, but special editions may go out whenever there is important information to share. Feedback, suggestions, and letters to the editor are welcome at [advancement.team@scouting.org](mailto:advancement.team@scouting.org).

# On Increasing Advancement

## Scoutbook to Enhance Advancement Reporting

The Boy Scouts of America recently announced the acquisition of Scoutbook, a web-based application that helps manage the overall Scouting experience, including communication, activities—and advancement! Scouts, parents, and unit leaders are able to record, track, and manage individual advancement. Check out [www.scoutbook.com](http://www.scoutbook.com) for current features, available in both a mobile platform and via the Web.

The best is yet to come, however. Over the next several months, the National Council will be working with the developer to integrate Scoutbook with BSA's membership system. Information about this transition of Scoutbook to BSA will be communicated through [Scouting Wire](http://ScoutingWire), BSA's official news site. Watch [www.scoutingwire.org](http://www.scoutingwire.org) for updates and information on how Scoutbook will enhance the way you track your Scouts' advancement progress.

Frequently Asked Questions can be found at [www.scoutingwire.org/scouting-goes-mobile-with-scoutbook](http://www.scoutingwire.org/scouting-goes-mobile-with-scoutbook).

## The Boy Scout Advancement Trail—Looking Ahead to January 1

Unlike recent revisions to the Cub Scout and Venturing programs, the Boy Scout rank requirements, to be released at the National Annual Meeting later this month, will see only minor modifications. The revised requirements are based on the work of the



411 Task Force, a team of more than 75 volunteers from around the country who worked with a variety of BSA committees and professionals to ensure that the Boy Scout advancement program is “appealing, exciting, and culturally relevant.”

Previous announcements have revealed some enhancements to requirements, such as service at each rank; development of physical fitness as a life-long habit; safety awareness; and greater emphasis on outdoor ethics. In addition, some requirements will be rearranged to more effectively organize content and to provide a more logical progression. While advancing through the early ranks, boys will experience key Scouting methods such as the outdoors, the patrol method, and leadership development.

This emphasis in these areas will begin on day one of a boy's Scouting experience:

- “Scout” will be elevated from a joining badge to a rank, with new requirements focusing on troop and patrol operations and the skills needed for camping. The new Scout rank will not require a board of review.
- To ensure there is more outing in Scouting, by the time he is ready for his First Class board of review, a boy will have completed six troop or patrol campouts—twice the number now needed.
- A Scout's duty to God will be more prominent in the “Scout Spirit” requirement of each rank. In addition to the requirement to “demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law,” a Scout will be asked to “tell how you have done your duty to God.” It is important to note, however, that the added requirement does not involve a review, evaluation, or discussion—simply a statement by the youth of how he has fulfilled his duty to God, as defined by his family.

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- A new *Boy Scout Handbook* is scheduled to be published in January 2016. Although it will be revised to align with the new requirements, most of its content remains consistent with the current handbook.

For details about how these changes will affect current Scouts when the requirements go into effect on January 1, 2016, visit [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates) and click on “Notes on Transitioning to the New Requirements in 2016.” Upon release, new requirements will be posted on this same site.

## From the Guide to Advancement

### Supporting Outdoor Programs—“Advancement is Like a Suntan”

Topic 3.0.0.1 of the *Guide to Advancement* states that one of the responsibilities of a council advancement committee (CAC) is to “support outdoor programs where advancement may take place, such as day camps, Cub Scout resident camp, long-term camping experiences, and specialized activities featuring advancement.”

In the words of Baden-Powell, “Advancement is like a suntan... It’s something that happens naturally whilst having fun in the out-of-doors.” From a practical standpoint, how does this advancement happen and what form might each take? Let’s review each of the activities cited:

- Advancement is not intended to be a primary focus at Cub Scout day camp. If advancement happens as a natural part of a fun and engaging program, however, great! Working in advance with the council camping committee could assure that activities leading to advancement make sense for the camp environment and are relatively easy to carry out.
- When advancement is included in Cub Scout camp program, it should focus on elective adventures. So as not to disrupt the den program, any use of the required adventures at day camp or resident camp should be directed to “partials” – individual requirements that may be difficult for dens to accomplish on their own. If feasible, CAC members might visit the camp to observe and quietly evaluate how activities could be modified to better integrate advancement requirements in the future.
- For Boy Scouts, long-term camping experiences, which include local treks as well as summer camps, advance collaboration between the CAC and the event planners can again go a long way toward maximizing the advancement opportunities for each participating Scout. If on-site observation is logistically difficult or impossible, a post-event questionnaire might well be a better evaluation approach, for both anonymity and quantification of responses.
- For specialized activities, such as skill days or merit badge fairs, early CAC involvement with planners is important to ensure that whatever advancement-related activities are planned—and more importantly, whatever requirements a Scout believes are fulfilled—are in accordance with BSA policy. For example, planners should be cautioned that merit badge requirements cannot be altered by any individual, unit, or district. Additionally, while some merit badge requirements can be used for advancement others may not—which should be properly reflected in literature about the event.

Collaboration, planning, and monitoring—all in a spirit of cooperation—will help the council advancement committee fulfill its mission and the Scouts to have more personally rewarding experiences.



# The Cub Scout Angle

## Cub Scout Adventure Program—2015-2016 Pack Meeting Plans Available Online Now!

When the new Cub Scout program launches on June 1, Cub Scout leaders will find new youth handbooks, den leader guidebooks, and updated versions of the BALOO syllabus and *Cub Scout Leader Book* ready to guide their efforts.

Here's the big news! Pack meeting plans for September 2015 through August 2017 have already been released and are available online at [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates). In early 2016 three more years of themed pack meeting plans will be released, totaling five years of plans that packs can use.

Experienced pack leaders will find the format familiar, as it uses the seven-step pack meeting plan. Meeting plan outlines will help every leader organize and lead a fun-filled program for Cub Scouts and their families. Each plan provides suggestions to inspire experienced leaders and provide support and guidance for those new in their roles.

Throughout the year, the pack meeting is designed to allow Cub Scouts to share what they have learned and to lead activities and games that are part of their advancement process. The pack meeting plans will help Cub Scout leaders prepare for these activities.

As in the past, each month will feature a theme to add color and pizzazz to the meeting. Cub Scouts appreciate the sense of fun in meetings that are organized around a theme. Planning for den involvement in pack meetings is most important, including chronology. For instance, if a den needs props for the activity or event, knowing when the den will appear in the agenda will give the members time to get ready. At the pack leaders' meeting, coordinate all skits and contributions so events are approved in advance and are not duplicated.

Each pack meeting plan will also highlight a point of the Scout Law. This will ensure that the ideals of Scouting will be present in the opening, the closing, and other ceremonies of every month's meeting.

The pack meeting is one of the best opportunities to interest and involve families. A well-attended pack meeting shows families that they belong to a successful organization and helps build active and enthusiastic family involvement, which is vital to the success of Cub Scouting. Reflecting on the ideals of Scouting embodied in the 12 points of the Scout Law will show Cub Scouts and their family members that Scouting is more than just a game, which is vital to the success of the Scouting movement.

### Program Updates – 2015 and Beyond

Stay on top of the latest changes to Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing by visiting [www.scouting.org/programupdates](http://www.scouting.org/programupdates).

Recently posted:

- Position-Specific In-Person Training Guides Available Now!
- Philmont Training Sessions Are Filling, but There Is Still Time to Register



# Eagle Issues

## **Eagle Scout Service Project Coach Application Soon Available Online**

A new Eagle Scout Service Project Coach Application will soon be available on the Advancement Resources web page, [www.scouting.org/advancement](http://www.scouting.org/advancement), to assist councils in recruiting and appointing individuals to serve as Eagle Scout service project coaches. Use of this form is optional; councils may choose to use it or may create their own form and process to better meet their needs.

The information collected on the online form can be used to review a candidate's background, experience, and understanding of the Eagle Scout service project process before being designated to serve as a project coach. This form is not applicable for unit-designated Eagle “mentors” or “advisors.”

The application is in PDF-fillable format, but can also be printed and prepared by hand. The form outlines qualifications for an Eagle Scout service project coach, as well as the expectations of those appointed to serve as a coach. Applicants are requested to share information on their experience working with Scout-aged youth, plus any experience or education that is relevant to serving as a project coach. It should be noted that the text blocks are not expandable; candidates thusly are encouraged to provide concise answers for each of the questions.

All project coach candidates are expected to view “The Eagle Scout Service Project Coach” found on the Advancement Educational Presentations web page, accessed via [www.scouting.org/advancement](http://www.scouting.org/advancement). This Power-Point-based instructional session is designed to be instructor-led. However, councils may opt for candidates to review the presentation individually.

The application also includes space for an optional statement of recommendation by a representative of the council or the district advancement committee, which may be helpful if the applicant is not already known to those charged with reviewing candidates.

Finally, there is space at the bottom of the form for noting council or district approval to serve as a project coach. As determined by the council, coaches can be designated to serve council-wide, for a specific district, or for a single unit, so once the candidate is approved, the form also can be used in managing the list of approved Eagle Scout service project coaches.

See *Guide to Advancement* topic 9.0.2.9 for more information about Eagle Scout service project coaches.

## **Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook—2015 Version Now Online**

The 2015 version of the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook* is now online. There are no changes to the overall function or how the workbook is used. However, some wording has been revised to improve consistency and clarify expectations. In addition, modified data input fields allow additional text.

Any Scout who has not yet begun the service project process must use the new workbook, but a Scout currently using the 2014 workbook has a choice:

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- He may continue to use the 2014 version until the project is finished—even if the project proposal is not yet approved. He is not required to transfer information to the new version.
- Alternatively, he may choose to use parts of the 2015 version. For example, a Scout who has prepared his proposal using the 2014 workbook may elect to use the 2015 plan and report sections.

Changes and clarifications to the 2015 version include:

- **“Final plan” becomes “project plan.”** This change is consistent with the terms “project proposal” and “project report” and eliminates any inference that an interim plan may have been required.
- **“Completing” a plan, report, or form changes to “preparing” or similar wording.** The Scout needs only to prepare what he and the project beneficiary decide is necessary to execute the project. While the use of the workbook is required, not every line or even every form must be completed. See *Guide to Advancement*, topic 9.0.2.8, for additional information.
- **Fundraising Application, Page B.** This form is required not just for monetary donations, but also for donations of material, tools, supplies, and other needs. In addition, the fundraising application is not required as part of the project proposal, since the Scout may not develop his funding plans until after the proposal is approved.

## Hear It First on Twitter

If you want the news first, follow the National Advancement Team on Twitter. Topics cover the FAQs received at the national office, clarifications on policies and procedures, news on changes and new releases, and best practices in advancement.

If you already have a Twitter account, follow us at ‘@AdvBSA’ or ‘BSA Advancement Team.’ If you don’t have an account, it is time to take the plunge. It is a quick and easy process to set up an account at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com). To limit incoming emails (‘tweets’), you can select BSA National Advancement Team as the only account you want to follow.

## Did You Receive these Tweets?

**April 23** – The 2015 *Guide to Advancement* is now posted at [scouting.org/advancement](http://scouting.org/advancement). See topic 1.0.3.0 for significant changes.

**April 23** – The 2015 revision of the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook* is now posted at [scouting.org/advancement](http://scouting.org/advancement).

**April 23** – Scouts who have already downloaded the previous version of the *Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook* may continue to use it.



# The Venturing Perspective



## Goal Setting and Time Management—Skills for Project Success

A new training syllabus, [Goal Setting and Time Management](#), provides the Venturer with practical guidance about how to prioritize tasks and to use time well for significant projects. This course is a requirement for the Discovery Award; however, the Venturer can complete it at any time, whether working on the award or not. The small group approach used in this training can be adjusted to accommodate any number of participants, so it can be presented as a workshop for single or multiple crews or broken into shorter segments and presented at crew meetings or Venturing forums or roundtables.

While it is highly suggested that this course be taught by the more experienced Venturer or by adult volunteers participating in the program, crew members are encouraged to deliver the training. As is the case with any learning opportunity, teaching a skill or leading a training session helps the presenter “learn twice.”

Although this training is designed to help the Venturer lead the crew’s adventure while a participant in the program, it also helps develop skills that will last a lifetime, specifically how to:

- Model ways to set priorities.
- Make use of planning tools.
- Organize tasks by category.
- Schedule time appropriately.
- Perform work in a timely manner.

The Venturer also learns ways to identify and be aware of external time wasters and is given time for self-reflection on an important personal question: “How do you spend your own time?”

The syllabus is available online at

[www.scouting.org/filestore/venturing/pdf/Goal\\_Setting\\_Time\\_Management.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/venturing/pdf/Goal_Setting_Time_Management.pdf).

### Managing Subscriptions to *Advancement News*

**Advancement News** is designed for council and district advancement committees, advancement staff advisors, and Eagle processors. However, any Scouting volunteer or professional may subscribe.

**Subscribing.** Send a message to [advancement.team@scouting.org](mailto:advancement.team@scouting.org), with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line. Indicate your name, email address, and council in the message text.

**Unsubscribing.** To decline future issues please reply and enter “REMOVE” in the subject line. We will remove the subscription within the next two weeks.

**Receiving Multiple Copies.** If you receive *Advancement News* at more than one email address, choose the one to be removed and reply with “REMOVE” in the subject line. Include a message requesting that we remove only that email address.

**Duplicate Copies.** If you receive more than one copy of *Advancement News* at the same email address, please reply to all but one of them with “DUPLICATE” in the subject line.

**Address Change.** If you want *Advancement News* sent to a different address, reply and enter “ADDRESS CHANGE” in the subject line. In your message, enter your council name and the email address you prefer.

## ***Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook***

The *Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook* (No. 512-938) is designed to help the candidate plan and evaluate the Summit Award project. The workbook, available at [www.scouting.org/venturing](http://www.scouting.org/venturing), contains instructions on how to use the workbook and helps the Venturer carry out the planning aspects of the project. Spaces are provided for properly documenting required approvals from the project beneficiary, designated Venturer representative, and the crew advisor.

The workbook specifies planning and execution aspects which will be evaluated, including:

- Service: A valuable action, deed, or effort carried out to meet a need.
- Scope and Complexity: The scale of the project; the level of effort and planning involved.
- Leadership: Leading others toward a shared vision.
- Life Goal Connection: Making the most of the experience, including what is important to you.

The candidate will be asked several questions relating to these areas to ensure that the focus of each is in line with that of the project goals. Funding may be an aspect of the project for the Venturer so information about proper fundraising also is included.

After leading other members to complete the project, it is time for reflection. The Venturer reflects upon the four areas as they relate to the candidate's project and personal focus.

Look for a copy of the *Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook* and more information at [www.scouting.org/venturing](http://www.scouting.org/venturing).



## **Special Necessities**

### **Disabilities Awareness—Lessons from Florida Sea Base CEAA**

The Disabilities Awareness breakout session at the Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators (CEAA) conducted at the Florida Sea Base in January 2015 sparked a number of questions that many council advancement committees face. The most often asked questions centered on registering an individual “beyond the age of eligibility”—specifically when and how this happens.

The answer to the question of “when” to register a youth beyond the age of eligibility is to do so early, or as soon as the Scout's qualification is obvious. Do not wait until the Scout is 17½. Once the disability designation is approved, the Scout does not have to use it, nor does he or the unit leader need to tell anyone else about it—until it might be needed.

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Concerning the question of “how,” the National Disabilities Awareness Committee has approved two new forms that will assist councils in addressing that key question:

- [Request for Registration Beyond the Age of Eligibility](#) (No. 512-935) outlines the details needed and the process that the council must follow.
- [Individual Scout Advancement Plan](#) (ISAP) (No. 512-936) describes specific details regarding the Scout’s capabilities and proposed alternative requirements.

The *Request for Registration Beyond the Age of Eligibility* form is really two forms in one. The front page is the outline for a transmittal letter to be used by the parents and unit leader to initiate the request and provide the six pieces of information required by the *Guide to Advancement*, topic 10.1.0.2. The back page becomes the council’s response, recording the decision and verifying that the decision was communicated to the family and unit. Additionally, *GTA* Topic 10.1.0.2 is included to ensure that the process is clearly in front of the council decision makers.

A key point discussed at the breakout session is that the decision to register a Scout beyond the age of eligibility is the responsibility of the council executive board, but the approving authority can be delegated to an operating council committee such as the council advancement committee. However, the decision must be deliberated by a body and cannot be the decision of any one person, either volunteer or professional. Consequently, it is very important to involve a representative of the council disabilities awareness committee in the deliberation process to provide situational awareness to whichever body makes the decision.

The ISAP (No. 512-936) is a “follow on” form to be used after the Scout has been approved, either to register beyond the age of eligibility or to qualify as a Scout who has a significant long-term disability. The ISAP provides the Scout, his parents, and unit leader with a format for identifying requirements that need to be modified (Tenderfoot through First Class) or Eagle Scout rank merit badges for which alternatives are needed. Most importantly, the ISAP formalizes a process for describing alternatives and justifying their applicability.

Needless to say, many further discussions will result from the use of these two forms. Everyone involved in a particular case should be cautioned to look at that particular case as unique, and then apply the guidance from *Guide To Advancement* topic 10.1.0.2—and, indeed, the spirit of the entire *Guide to Advancement*—based upon that Scout’s unique situation.



# Merit Badges: Enhancing Our Youth's Competitive Edge

## Animation Merit Badge Scheduled to Arrive in May

This exciting merit badge provides an introduction to the art of animation. Five general areas will be explored:

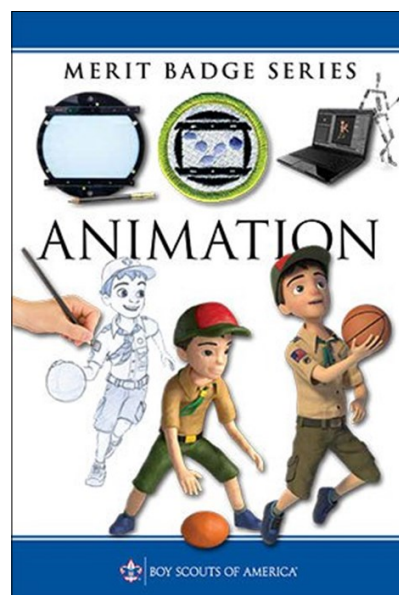
1. General knowledge
2. Principles of animation
3. Projects
4. Animation in our world
5. Careers

A very important part of this merit badge will be found within the new interactive digital merit badge pamphlet. This format for merit badges will provide interactive ways for boys to explore in detail and see illustrations of the topics being covered and add excitement to their merit badge experience.

To get a sample of this, visit [www.boyslife.org/merit-badges/animation-merit-badge/](http://www.boyslife.org/merit-badges/animation-merit-badge/). A few illustrated samples are available to review.

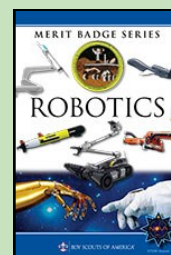
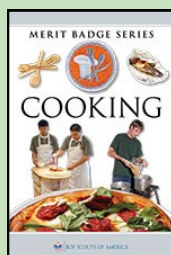
Will there be more interactive merit badges you ask? Well, YES! A few select Eagle merit badges will be available by the end of May, with many more to follow. They will be available online for even more convenience. There's more good news— they will be searchable. When you want to find a specific content, you'll be able to quickly find that topic in the book. Plus, boys will be able to access that merit badge on any of their devices—PC, tablet, or phone.

Boys will enjoy the interaction, and all merit badge counselors will be able to use the digital merit badge content to demonstrate a particular topic in a totally consistent way. Watch for this new merit badge delivery method now and in the future.



## Interactive Digital Merit Badges Coming Soon:

- ♦ Animation
- ♦ Cooking
- ♦ First Aid
- ♦ Robotics



# From the Archives

**March 2014**

## **From the *Guide to Advancement* The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety**

The Boy Scouts of America places great importance on creating a secure environment for youth members. Nowhere is this dedication to safe Scouting better stated than in the introduction to *The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety*, No. 512-025, found at [www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety](http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety): “Few youth organizations encompass the breadth, volume, and diversity of physical activity common to Scouting, and none enjoy a better safety record. The key to maintaining and improving this exemplary record is the conscientious and trained adult leader who is attentive to safety concerns.”

All adult leaders should familiarize themselves with the entire contents of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, but like the “hurry cases” in first aid, special attention should be paid to the “Sweet Sixteen” when planning activities that require potentially strenuous or dangerous activity.

With that in mind, *Guide to Advancement*, topic 7.0.1.1, was written to remind merit badge counselors—and everyone else involved in Scouting—about the importance of the *Sweet Sixteen*, and to call attention to special qualifications for supervisors of many of the activities involved in a number of merit badges. It is especially important to note that qualifications for supervisors of Canoeing, Climbing, Rowing, Scuba Diving, Archery, and Kayaking merit badge activities were updated in *Guide to Advancement* 2013. [ed. Note: Consult *Guide to Advancement* 2015 for current requirements.]

So that we may continue our dedication to safe Scouting, all leaders should be familiar with the following resources:

*Guide to Advancement* (especially topic 7.0.1.1): <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

*Guide to Safe Scouting*: [www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS).

*The Sweet Sixteen of BSA Safety*: [www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety](http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety).

Safe Swim Defense: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss02.aspx>.

Safety Afloat: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss02.aspx>.

*National Shooting Sports Manual*: [www.scouting.org/filestore/Outdoor%20Program](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/Outdoor%20Program).

*Climb on Safely*: [www.scouting.org/scoutsource/boyscouts/resources](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/boyscouts/resources).

## **A Peek Ahead**

Here is a glimpse of what we are working on for the next issue of *Advancement News*. As always, actual content may vary somewhat based on a number of considerations, especially to accommodate “late-breaking news” of immediate importance to our subscribers.

### **Topics Planned for July-August**

**Opportunities for Advancement Administrators:** Philmont Training Center Opportunities

**From the *Guide to Advancement*:** Highlights of Significant Changes (topic 1.0.3.0)

**The Cub Scout Angle:** The Cub Scout Adventure Program is Here



## Helpful Links

Here are some links to the most current materials of interest for Scouters who are involved in the administration of advancement. These and many more resources are available via the Advancement Resources page at [www.scouting.org/Advancement](http://www.scouting.org/Advancement).

### **New Resource:**

[\*Guide to Advancement 2015\*](#)

[\*Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, 2015 printing\*](#)



### Advancement Educational Presentations:

- Cub Scout Advancement: Delivering Adventure—**NEW!**
- Getting the Most From Internet Advancement
- The Essentials of Merit Badge Counseling (English and Spanish)
- The Eagle Scout Service Project Coach (English and Spanish)
- Effective Troop Advancement (English and Spanish)
- Including Scouts With Disabilities
- Videocasts on *Guide to Advancement*, selected topics
  - ◇ Introduction to the Guide to Advancement
  - ◇ Judgment Calls
  - ◇ Boards of Review
  - ◇ Boards of Review Under Disputed Circumstances
  - ◇ Boards of Review Appeals
  - ◇ The Eagle Scout Application Process
  - ◇ Eagle Scout Boards of Review
- Videos
  - ◇ On Increasing Advancement
  - ◇ Why Advancement?
  - ◇ Guardian of the Gate



### Eagle Scout Rank Application

### Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook

### Navigating the Eagle Scout Service Project; Information for Project Beneficiaries

### Lone Scout Friend and Counselor Guidebook

### Merit Badge Counselor Information

### Reporting Merit Badge Concerns

### Venturing Summit Award Service Project Workbook

### Venturing Board of Review Guide

### Individual Scout Achievement Plan