



Commissioner Newsletter

Your Single, Best Resource.

August 10, 2026 Edition

“There is no teaching to compare with example.” – Lieutenant-General Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell of Gilwell

Reminder: Sign Up Now to Attend a Scoutconnect Webinar, August 13

Scouting America’s Technology Group is hosting webinars this summer to update Scouters on changes to the technology tools available today. Scoutconnect is the project name and will include changes to BeAScout, Online Registration, and in the future, My.Scouting and Scoutbook+. Join the next webinar a few minutes before 8 PM Eastern on August 13 using this [link](#). Preregistration is not available.

Share the New Site for Families to Get Connected to a Local Unit

Finding a Scouting home just got easier! The updated way for new families to discover and connect with a local Scouting unit is now live. Whether it's a Pack, Troop, Crew, or Ship, families can quickly find options in their community. Help spread the word and invite families to explore the adventure, friendships, and experiences Scouting has to offer. Visit beascout.scouting.org/

Retain More Cub Scouts

Keeping Cub Scouts engaged during their first year is one of the biggest challenges facing many packs, but it doesn’t have to be. Small changes in how we welcome, engage, and support families can make a big difference in retention. [Here](#) are three simple steps every pack can take to keep more Cub Scout families connected and excited about Scouting.

Use These Tools to Encourage Cub Scout Parents to be Helpers

If you missed the most recent #CubChatLive, watch [this recording](#) to discover easy planning tips, fun program ideas, and helpful. Download the [associated slides](#) and [Den Host sign-up sheets](#). The sign-up sheets make it easy to engage parents as volunteers from the very first meeting, helping ensure support throughout the year.

National Membership Engagement Committee

The National Membership Committee is now the National Membership Engagement Committee. Follow their [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram account](#) for great ideas, resources, and tips to help grow Scouting and engage more families.

Follow Us On Social Media

Access news as it breaks by following the Commissioners of Scout America's [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram account](#) and help spread the word about Scouting by liking and sharing posts.

Ask a Commissioner

Question: My council doesn't have enough staff to handle all the "back to school night" events at our local schools. Should we encourage volunteers to fill in?

Answer: Absolutely. Back to School Night events are an excellent opportunity for unit leaders and volunteers to represent Scouting in their own communities. Volunteers are often the best ambassadors because they can share authentic stories about their experiences, answer questions from parents, and personally invite families to join their unit.

A well-planned table can turn a quick conversation into a new Scout joining the adventure. Unit leaders can attract families by displaying photos of recent activities, showcasing camping gear or Pinewood Derby cars, offering hands-on activities like knot tying or STEM demonstrations, sharing a calendar of upcoming events, and having Scouts in uniform share what they enjoy most about Scouting.

The key is to make it easy for families to take the next step. Collect contact information from interested families and follow up quickly with a personal message, an invitation to a meeting, or details about an upcoming activity. A simple thank-you and a personal invitation can make families feel welcomed and valued.

Councils do not have to be at every event themselves. By empowering trained volunteers with resources, talking points, and materials, councils can expand their reach while strengthening the relationship between local units, schools, and families. One of the most effective ways to grow Scouting is through a personal invitation from someone who believes in the program.

You have questions? Commissioners have answers!

Reach out by email: commissionersserviceteam@scouting.org



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