



Commissioner Newsletter

Your Single, Best Resource.

June 8, 2026 Edition

“Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence.” — Sheryl Sandberg

Virtual Religious Relationships Week, September 28 – October 1

Plans are underway for a Virtual Religious Relationships Week to be held via Zoom from September 28 through October 1, 2026. Each evening will feature two class sessions at 8:00 PM and 9:00 PM ET, with multiple course options available during each time block, offering a wide range of learning opportunities. As part of the week, Monday, September 28, will focus specifically on Religious Emblems and Faith Activities.

This invitation extends to Scouting America professionals, volunteers (including Scouting and faith-based partners), clergy and faith leaders, and family members. Please note that sessions will not be recorded, as youth under 18 may be present.

Registration is expected to open around July 1, 2026, with additional details to follow soon.

2026 National Annual Meeting Presentations Now Available Online

If you missed the 2026 Scouting America National Annual Meeting presentations last month, they are now available for viewing. This is a great opportunity to catch up on key updates, insights, and direction shared during the meeting, especially for leaders, volunteers, and anyone invested in the future of Scouting. You can watch the presentations [here](#).

A Sneak Peek at the ScoutConnect Platform

On the "Simplify. Digitize. Scale for Growth." path of the Scouting America Trail Map, one of the first priorities is implementing unified technology platforms. Beginning in August, a redesigned BeAScout website and streamlined registration process will make it easier for families to join Scouting America while providing a seamless entry point into the new ScoutConnect platform for hundreds of thousands of youth, parents, and volunteers.

Attendees at the National Annual Meeting received an exclusive preview of the unified ScoutConnect platform, showcasing how the new technology will create a more connected, efficient, and user-friendly experience across the Scouting movement. You can watch the demo video [here](#).

Scoutbook Plus Update

Attachments are now supported in messaging. The supported filetypes are Excel, Word, PowerPoint, pdf, heic, jpg, png, gif, mov, zip, csv, mp4 and txt. Click the Add Files button to select files to send. There is a limit of 5mb/file and 10mb/message.

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

Q. "I am the Cubmaster of a pack whose membership has been decreasing each year. What are some things we can do this summer to help attract new youth members before meetings resume in the fall?"

A. One of the best things a pack can do is remember that recruiting is not just a single fall event. Strong packs recruit year-round, and summer is actually one of the best opportunities to build excitement and visibility in the community.

As a unit commissioner, here are several things I would encourage your pack to focus on this summer:

Keep the pack active and visible - Families join active packs. Even if regular meetings are paused, continue offering fun summer activities such as

- Ice cream socials
- Fishing days
- Bike rides
- Hiking outings
- Raingutter regattas
- Outdoor movie nights
- Service projects
- Parade participation

Invite non-Scout families to every activity. Summer events are low-pressure opportunities for families to experience Cub Scouting before committing.

Encourage every Scout to bring a friend - The most effective recruiting tool is still a happy Scout inviting a friend. Challenge each Cub Scout to bring one friend to a summer event or fall kickoff activity. Parents are much more comfortable joining when their child already knows someone in the pack.

Strengthen your relationship with local schools - Before school starts back up:

- Connect with elementary school principals
- Ask about back-to-school events or open houses
- Request flyer distribution approval
- Offer to help at school events or community nights

Packs that are visible in schools tend to recruit more effectively in the fall.

Improve your online presence - Many parents will search online before attending an event so make sure:

- Your Facebook page is active and current
- Photos show fun, active programming
- Meeting dates and contact information are easy to find
- Leaders respond quickly to inquiries

Families want to see smiling kids, outdoor activities, and engaged leaders.

Plan an exciting fall kickoff now - Do not wait until August. Start planning your fall recruitment event during the summer. The best recruiting nights are activity-based, not information-heavy. Think:

- Rocket launches
- Water games
- Pinewood derby demos
- STEM activities
- Camping themes

Make it fun first. The paperwork comes second.

Focus on family experience and retention - Recruiting matters, but retention matters even more. Families stay when:

- Meetings are organized
- Communication is clear
- New parents feel welcomed
- Advancement is fun, not stressful
- Leaders create a positive environment

Sometimes the fastest way to grow is simply keeping the families you already have.

Ask your district membership team for help - Your district and council likely have:

- Yard signs
- Flyers
- Bacon
- Peer-to-peer recruiting resources

- Social media graphics
- School night support
- New member incentives

You do not have to do this alone.

Most importantly, remember that families today are looking for exactly what Cub Scouting provides: friendships, outdoor fun, leadership, confidence, and family connection. Packs that create a welcoming, energetic environment will grow.

You have questions? Commissioners have answers!

Reach out by email: commissionersserviceteam@scouting.org



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