

Mountain Valley District Dec 2024 / Jan 2025 Newsletter

Roundtable

Meaningful Service Events, Thurs 12/5, 6:30 pm, [Zoom](#)

6:30	Welcome
6:35	Scout Moment
6:40	Safety Moment
6:45	Dates to Remember
6:50	Ice Breaker
7:00	Messengers of Peace
7:20	MVD's Service Ideas
7:45	Round Robin
7:55	Wrap up and Adjourn

District Calendar

12/4	Eat Wings, Raise Funds at Buffalo Wild Wings, 4 - 9 pm; must print or show this coupon
12/5	Roundtable, 6:30 pm, Zoom , Meaningful Service Events
12/7	NO Cub Scout Range Activities , moved to 1/11
12/10	Eagle Alumni Meeting, 7 pm, SUB Leigh Lounge
12/12	OA meeting, 6:30 pm, St James Episcopal Church
12/19	MVD holiday party for all adults, 6 pm, 435 Comfort Lane
1/9 - 11	Big Sky Ski Weekend
1/11	Cub Scout Target Activity Day
2/21 - 23	Winter Camporee, more details soon
2/26	ICL breakfast , 7 am

Safety Moment

Keeping warm is the most important part of cold weather activities. Use the COLD method!

C = Clean: Insulation is only effective when the insulating layers are kept clean and fluffy. Dirt, grime, and sweat can reduce the ability of a garment to keep

you warm.

O = Overheating: Avoid overheating by adjusting the layers of your clothing to keep from sweating during warmer temperatures. Stay hydrated.

L = Loose layers: A steady flow of warm blood is essential to keeping all parts of your body heated. Wear several loosely fitting layers of clothing and footwear that will allow maximum insulation without blocking your circulation. Always wear a hat.

D = Dry: Sweaty, damp clothing and skin can cause your body to cool very quickly, possibly leading to frostbite and/or hypothermia.

Commissioner News

Katie Daughenbaugh, District Commissioner

- It is time for Unit and Member Renewals (previously known as Recharter). Please see [here](#) for detailed info from Pat Dannenberg about the process.

District News & Thanks

- Eat Wings, Raise Funds on Dec 4! Go to Buffalo Wild Wings in Bozeman from 4 - 9 pm and print or show this [coupon](#), and 15% of your order will be donated to Montana Council. Applies to call-in take-out orders, but excludes orders placed through a food delivery app.
- The Scout Shop has altered hours during the holiday season. See [here](#) for details!

Health and Safety

Matthew Bates, Health and Safety Chair

No report

District Executive Report

Renee Stephens, DE

- MVD Scouts have sold **\$170,005 worth of popcorn** and counting, as online sales are totaled. Our

Mountain Valley District Dec 2024 / Jan 2025 Newsletter

goal was \$165,000. Nice work Scouts!

- **Annual Charter Organization Agreements:**

Renee will be meeting with each Chartered Organization to go over the verbiage in the agreements, answer any questions, and obtain signatures.

- **ICL breakfast is 2-26-25!** If you are willing to "host" a table, i.e., invite 8 of your friends/colleagues/co-workers/family who would like to enjoy a free breakfast, learn about the Mountain Valley District's incredible Scouting program, and would likely be willing to donate toward the District's annual fundraising goal of 100K, please reach out to Renee. The more "hosts" the better. We want to FILL the room to the seams with those who are interested in supporting the Scouting program!

- If your unit is "ringing the bell" for the Salvation Army this season, you may only wear Scout uniforms if the Salvation Army is your chartered organization.

- If your unit would like to participate in a fundraiser in addition to popcorn, you must complete this [form](#) and return to Renee beforehand.

Membership

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

- We are at 350 Scouts - so we have exceeded our goal! Go everyone!
- We have a special 2024 recruitment patch for any youth who recruited someone to Scouting, whether it is their unit or another, it doesn't matter. Please email renee.stephens@scouting.org and let her know the unit and the Scouts so we can get that patch to you.
- Although main recruitment is over, please remember that recruiting is year-round. It is a great idea to always have a "next thing" on your recruitment list, so that every couple of months you do something to build membership. Here are some ideas:
 - **Packs** - Designate a pack meeting as "join

Scouts" night, and make sure parents know about it. Ask them if they know of any new families in their community that they could invite. People move year-round and need options for their children!

- **Troops & Crews** - Designate a "try Scouting" activity that your unit is already doing, and encourage your Scouts to reach out to someone new to come.
- **All Units** - service projects are a great way to open Scouting to everyone. Even if they are not interested in joining, they can participate in service to their community through Scouting. Find out if schools your Scouts attend have a service club and invite them to your service project.
- Whatever you are doing, you may need to make up a quick flyer or invitation card to make it easy for people to extend the invitation. If you ever need help with that, please let me know!
- We want to assess how people are learning about Scouting. A survey for every new Scout or family to complete to ask this question will be coming soon.

Nominations

Mike O'Donnell, Chair

- The Nominations Committee has been assembled and is made up of Mike O'Donnell, Chad Yoakam, John Yeager, and Paul Rodgers.
- If you know of anyone in the community who would be good for the District Committee, please contact Mike.

Advancement

Mike O'Donnell, Chair

- Applications open on 12/1 for [National Eagle Scout Association Scholarships](#) and the [Eagle Project of the Year](#) award. Please share this info with your unit.
- Traditionally there are a lot of Eagle Boards of

Mountain Valley District Dec 2024 / Jan 2025 Newsletter

Review in December. If you know of a Scout who needs help crossing the finish line, reach out to Mike O'Donnell or Chris Sehy for help!

Finance

Becky Rodgers, Chair

No report

Communications

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

Montana Council has a new URL - which is Scoutingmontana.org.

The old montanabsa.org has a redirect, so it should be seamless but note the change for navigation anyway!

Range Sports

Coby Dawson, Chair

- **A big thanks to Chad Yoakam!!!** He has been volunteering his time at the Greenway Range in Bozeman, building a relationship with them and scouting. We are now able to use it to complete the Rifle Merit Badge that we started in the spring. He also worked with Council to get the approval and use of rifles. Thank you, Chad! If you want to schedule your troop to attend, please reach out to him at chad@yptmt.org.
- Please keep in mind with the new standards at least one registered leader from the unit **MUST** take the **Range Activity SAFETY training** online and that person needs to attend the range with your unit. You can take it at my.scouting.org.

Cub Scout Activities

Jessica Bannasch/Crystal Sharp, Chair

- **Aquatics Night:** The swim center is now open so an Aquatics night will be planned for next spring. Info coming soon!

- **Cub Scout Target Activities Day** is 1/11, 9 am - 1 pm, cost is \$12 per scout. [Register here](#); release form required for participation and is coming soon.

District Chair Report

Tina O'Donnell, Chair

MVD leadership is working on a **2025 Strategic Plan**. The details of the plan will be shared at the February Roundtable.

Older Scout Activities

Jason Daughenbaugh, Chair

- **Big Sky Ski Weekend, 1/9 - 1/11.** Registration is closed. Pray for snow!
- Save the dates for **Winter Camporee 2025 (2/21 - 2/23)** and **Spring Camporee 2025 (5/16 - 5/18)**.

Training Update

Greg Ellsworth, Chair

- **Wilderness First Aid training** will now be a 3 day course over one weekend instead of over two weekends, and will include new location and programming. Registration will open 2/1/25.

Stay Connected

- Send activity photos or other information to share to MVD315@gmail.com.
- MVD Remind: Text @scoutmvd to 81010
- MVD Remind for Membership: Text @joinmvd to 81010
- MVD Remind for Camporee: Text @campmvd to 81010
- Website: <https://scoutingmontana.org/districts/mountain-valley/5/>
- Facebook: [Mountain Valley District-Montana Council](#)

Mountain Valley District Dec 2024 / Jan 2025 Newsletter

- Instagram: [MVDMTBSA](#)
- Monthly Electronic News - If you aren't receiving the monthly news:
 - It may be in SPAM. Search and add this address to your contacts:
MVD315=gmail.com@vrmailer3.com
 - You may not be signed up! Add your name to the newsletter on the [MVD website](#).