

# Mountain Valley District May 2025 Newsletter

## Roundtable

Volunteer Recognition, Thurs 5/1, 6:30 pm, First Security Bank 2046 Cattail St. Bozeman

6:30 pm	Welcome
6:35 pm	Safety Moment
6:40 pm	Important Dates
6:50 pm	Ice Breaker
7:00 pm	Volunteer Recognition
7:55 pm	Wrap up
8:00 pm	Adjourn

## District Calendar

5/1	<a href="#">Roundtable: Volunteer Recognition</a> , 6:30 pm, 2046 Cattail St. Bozeman
5/2 - 5/4	<a href="#">NYLT Staff Training weekend</a>
5/7	First <a href="#">Personal Management</a> Merit Badge meeting online
5/8	<a href="#">OA meeting</a> , 6:30 pm, St James Episcopal Church
5/14	Second <a href="#">Personal Management</a> Merit Badge meeting online
5/15	MVD Committee meeting cancelled
5/16 - 5/18	<a href="#">Secret Agent: Signal Hunters Spring Camporee</a>
5/23 - 5/26	<a href="#">Melita Island Work Weekend</a>
5/26	Memorial Day Parade
5/28	Third <a href="#">Personal Management</a> Merit Badge meeting online
5/30 - 6/1	<a href="#">K-M Work Weekend</a>
6/6 - 6/8	<a href="#">OA Ordeal - Melita Island</a>
6/14	<a href="#">Cub Scout Day Camp: Invention Convention</a>
6/15 - 6/21	<a href="#">NYLT</a> at K-M, a few spots remain
6/21	<a href="#">USA Archery Level 1 Instructor Practical</a>

## Safety Moment

### Fire Safety: Additives & Fire Extinguishing

- Fire additives are prohibited. Boo! And not surprising! This includes chemicals, accelerants, color-changers, and other flame enhancing products like "Magic Flames".
- Avoid cooking over a fire where additives or chemicals were previously used.
- Always extinguish fires properly and entirely. Feel the cooled ash!

## District News & Thanks

- **We are looking for folks to staff a Cub Scout Committee.** Do you know of an awesome parent or leader in your unit who would be willing to help plan four Cub Scout activities per year? Crystal Sharp is heading up the committee but we need helpers! Send them to Katie or Renee!
- Thank you to Mike O'Donnell and Matthew Bates and their team of fantastic volunteers for leading Wilderness First Aid training. We are lucky that the MVD offers this training locally and our leaders do not have to travel.

## Commissioners

Mike O'Donnell, District Commissioner

- Commissioner staff continue to work to make communication from district to units more fluid. We are also identifying Membership Chairs for each unit.

## Health and Safety

Matthew Bates, Health and Safety Chair

No report

# Mountain Valley District May 2025 Newsletter

## Membership

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

- **It's Lego Time!** The Montana Council recruiting theme for 2025 is Legos! We are still finding out more about the Lego car kits and other support materials that will be available, but to get ready for MVD membership, we are doing these things:
  - **Unit Commissioner Meeting** - Unit Commissioners will be contacting each unit during May to arrange a meeting about membership planning and support needs. They will be bringing things to help you with your membership, so look for that contact! If your Unit Membership person has changed, please let me and your Unit Commissioner know.
  - **More Lego Ideas** - we are working on other activities to support unit showcase meetings that involve Legos. If you have ideas or Lego bricks you would like to donate, please contact me!
  - Slightly different this year is we will be ramping up the membership efforts this Spring in preparation for the fall.

## Nominations

Mike O'Donnell, Chair

- The committee has completed its responsibilities for 2025 and all positions were elected at the Montana Council Convention on 4/26/25. The committee will begin recruiting for 2026 in November.

## Advancement

Mike O'Donnell, Chair

- Congratulations to Lilah Karro, Troop 619, for achieving the rank of Eagle!
- JP Pendleton will be assuming the role of Eagle Board coordinator. Thank you to Chris Sehy for his years of service in this role.

## Finance

Becky Rodgers, Chair

No report

## Communications

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

- **Help us out!** Do you get the monthly newsletter and the periodic Remind texts? PLEASE get connected to these important channels. You can sign up for the Newsletter on the [MVD website](#) and also see how to sign up for Remind. Share this info with your unit leaders!

## Range Sports

Coby Dawson, Chair

- Registration for USA Archery Level 1 Instructor practical is now open, and space is limited! See [here](#) for more info and to register. You MUST complete the [online portion](#) of this training before attending this Practical.

## Cub Scout Activities

Jessica Bannasch/Crystal Sharp, Chair

- **Invention Convention Cub Day Camp is June 14** at Ridgeview Elementary in Belgrade! Registration will open soon [here](#), but in the meantime, please sign up [here](#) to volunteer.

## District Chair Report

Katie Daughenbaugh, District Chair

- **Did you know we often write articles in Montana Parent?** The next time you see a copy in a waiting room, lobby, etc, pick it up and see if you can find an article about Scouting!
- **Montana Council Convention was held April 25 - 27 in Billings. Some key takeaways:** 1) Montana Council is doing well in terms of finances and membership compared to the rest of the country, but we still have a long way to go; 2) The #1 reason youth and/or parents leave the Scouting program is because of the lack of quality leadership (this has been true for 100 years!); 3) Training is paramount

# Mountain Valley District May 2025 Newsletter

to the safety and success of our program and Council takes this initiative seriously. Do your training!; 4) We work with quality folks here in Montana Council. **Consider going next year - contact Katie if you have any questions about it!**

## Older Scout Activities

Jason Daughenbaugh, Chair

- Online **Personal Management merit badge** is May 7, 14, and 28. Must attend all meetings. Limited to 20 Scouts. Register [here!](#)
- **Secret Agent: Signal Hunters Spring Camporee** is May 16-18! [Registration](#) is OPEN and the [leader guide](#) is available. Scouts will complete the hands-on requirements of the Radio Merit Badge. After camporee the club will help interested Scouts obtain HAM radio licenses, and any who do will be given a new HAM radio to keep! The club will also offer online meetings to finish up the merit badge. Location is private property up Bridger Canyon just past Cross Cut.
- **Fall camporee** is tentatively planned to be a ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE - a big event with lots of planning required. Let me know if you are interested in being on this one-time event committee!

## Training Update

Greg Ellsworth, Chair

- **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills will be offered at Spring Camporee.** If you need to complete the course and are attending Camporee, please join us to learn and have fun with other adult leaders on Saturday, May 17th.
- If your unit has Committee members that have not completed **Committee Member Training**, and there are 39 leaders that need to complete the training, let me know so we can schedule a time to bring the training to your next Committee meeting.
- **Hazardous Weather training is one of the few training courses that Scouting asks to be completed every two years.** We have 32

leaders that have passed the 2 year mark. Each of you has an email as a reminder if you are on the list.

- Questions please contact me: [greg.ellsworth.63@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ellsworth.63@gmail.com) or 406-600-3895

## Stay Connected

- Send activity photos or other information to share to [MVD315@gmail.com](mailto: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://montanabsa.org/districts/mountain-valley/5/>
- Facebook: [Mountain Valley District-Montana Council](#)
- 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](mailto:MVD315=gmail.com@vrmailer3.com)
  - You may not be signed up! Add your name to the newsletter on the [MVD website](#).