

Mountain Valley District September 2025 Newsletter

Roundtable

September Roundtable

Thurs, 9/4, 6:30 pm

First Security Bank Community Room, 2046 Cattail St.

Popcorn Kickoff and Welcome Back



District Calendar

9/3	Camporee Team meeting, 7 pm
9/4	Roundtable, 6:30 pm, Popcorn Kickoff and Welcome Back
9/5	Popcorn sales begin
9/11	OA meeting , 6:30 pm, St James Episcopal Church: ELECTIONS!
9/17	FROTH: Facilitated, Remote, Online Training from Home , 7 pm, Zoom
9/18	MVD Committee Meeting , 6:30 pm, Zoom
9/26-28	OA Fall Fellowship , K-M Scout Ranch
10/3 - 10/5	Fall Camporee: Zombie Apocalypse
10/10-10/12	OA National Leadership Seminar in Boise
10/21	Popcorn sale ends
10/21	Unit popcorn orders due to Pecatonica
11/4-11/6?	Popcorn pickup
11/25	Popcorn payment due to Council

Safety Moment

Hazard trees include dead trees, live trees with dead parts, and live trees that are unstable due to defects and are within striking distance of people or property.

When camping or recreating with Scouts, stay clear of Hazard Trees:

- Identify dead trees or limbs that could fall: Look for signs like missing bark or limbs.
- Assess Fall Zones: On flat ground, the danger zone for a falling tree is 1.5 times the tree's height. Camp tents and activity areas should be outside this zone.
- Monitor Conditions: Continuously check the environment and weather for changes, as storms can increase the likelihood of trees falling.

Announcements & Thanks

- If you see a Scouting America ad on tv, the internet, or anywhere else, please email Lido at lido.vizzutti@scouting.org and let him know. He wants data!
- If you have a Scout who needs financial assistance to cover registration fees, this is the process:
 - Complete the scholarship request [here](#)
 - MT Council will review the request
 - Upon approval, MT council will issue and send a COUPON code to the recipient for the scholarship amount granted by MT Council
 - Applicant can then register on-line using the corresponding COUPON code to pay
- **GREAT NEWS!** The Bozeman Store is back to normal business hours!! M/W 12:30-5:30 and T/TH 9-2.
- If you are submitting an **Advancement Report**, please email it to the Store Email address BSAbozemanstore@scouting.org This is the BEST WAY to make sure that both Brenda and Rebecca see your email. We want to make sure that we get your order processed promptly.
- Thank you to **Chris Sehy** for his generous donation of ALL the supplies for the Brickmania Neckerchief Slides! His sponsorship of this engaging activity is a tremendous contribution to our Fall 2025 Membership Drive and VERY much appreciated by our existing and prospective Scouts.
- Thank you to **Drew Burkenpas from Door Tech** for his steadfast support of the Scouting program! Door Tech's contributions totaling \$16,719.75 YTD brings MVD within \$12,154.67 of achieving our financial goal of \$92,000.00 in our Investment in Character and

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Leadership (ICL) fundraising campaign. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!

Membership

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

Make Your Recruiting Easier!

I know recruiting new members is time consuming, and in an ideal world, youth and parents would just show up. But since we get to recruit youth to keep your unit and Scouting healthy, it is GREAT NEWS that there are so many resources to help you. Here are ways to make recruiting easier and more successful:

1. CHECK OUT the [Scouting America resources HERE](#)
2. Always have a sign-in sheet which you send to Renee so she can start the automatic follow-up now available. Sign-in sheets are available in the office or electronically.
3. ASK for help, whether that is materials, an extra leader or two at your recruiting event, or an activity idea. If you haven't already looked at the Brickmania activities, do it soon! These are ready to go activities you can use in any meeting. [Here is a sheet with links](#) to all the resources on this new activity.
4. SCHEDULE more than one recruiting event. An initial event is important, but one or two other events such as "ask-a-friend" to a pack of troop meeting is a best practice for recruiting success. Schedule those events at the start of the recruiting season so you can tell someone who comes to one event and is thinking about Scouting that they have another event that will showcase your unit.
5. ASK if you don't know how to handle a situation, like getting one Lion and several Tigers. Yes, you can mix rank Dens and the latest modification to the Cub Scout program makes that even easier.

Our recruiting goal is 370 Scouts, and we are at 283, so let's work together to give youth the opportunities found in Scouting!

Order of the Arrow

Andrew Liebmann, Advisor

- **OA Camperships have a new timeline!**
Applications will open in September and are due at the end of November; more info will be coming soon. The OA campership is for youth attending a long term camp, and is open to all Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA and Venture Scouts attending Cub Scout camp, Webelos camp, Scout summer camp, a high adventure camp, National Jamboree, or NYLT. The application will be found on the MVD page once a current version has been uploaded. Leaders, please start talking to your youth about it now.

Communications

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

- **There is a new process for MVD communications.** We are discontinuing Vertical Response and are moving to direct emails from the District Chair in hopes that more folks receive the info they need. If you have questions, contact kdaughenbaugh@gmail.com.

Range and Target Activities

Coby Dawson, Chair

- Archery and BB gun Rangemaster training will be coming soon - watch for updates!
- All Range and Target Activities, whether it is a Unit (Scouts only, Cubs cannot), District, or Council event, must go through the Council RATA Committee for approval. The online form should be up on September 1st on the Council website. If an activity is not in the [RATA Manual](#), then it is not allowed, like using Nerf guns.
- If you have a Scout that would like to work on the target components of the Rifle Merit badge, please reach out to Chad at chad@yptmt.org.

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Cub Scout Activities

Crystal Sharp, Chair

- The newly redefined Cub Scout Activities Team is in effect! Each Pack is asked to bring forward one adult to serve on the Team who can help with one activity per year. Cub Scout activity offerings for 2025-2026 are as follows:
 - Aquatics Night: Nov 14 (tentative)
 - Pinewood Derby Science Day: Jan 10
 - District Pinewood Derby: March 28
 - Range and Target Activities: May 2
 - Note there is no Day Camp in 2026

Older Scout Activities

Jason Daughenbaugh, Chair

- **Sign up for [National Scout Jamboree](#)! Only 8 WEEKS REMAINING TO REGISTER!!**
There are limited spots available to register for the Montana Contingent attending National Jamboree 2026! Registration will close on September 30, 2025 — no exceptions!!
We have 7 slots remaining in the boys Troop — any registrants after that will be put onto a waitlist. (There are additional spots for the girls Troop, but they will be combining with another Council....)
Travel plans are being locked in, so get your spot now!!

Cost is \$4750, which includes all travel, meals, swag, Troop gear, and all the fun that National Jamboree holds!!

- **Big Sky Ski Weekend is Jan 8-10, 2026; registration opens Sept 1!** Register early as it is capped at 75 Scouts. Register [here](#).
- **Fall Camporee is October 3-5** (later than usual to avoid MSU concessions conflicts). Scouts will take part in an exciting, hands-on weekend focused on Search and Rescue skills. Through realistic scenarios, patrol challenges, and a playful “zombie” theme, Scouts will learn how to stay safe, work as a team, and respond in an emergency. This camporee is a great opportunity to practice Scout skills,

complete the Search and Rescue merit badge, and have a memorable outdoor adventure with units from across the district.

Special thanks to leaders who have already volunteered to help with the fun - but I would appreciate more help with this event. We will also be looking for some Zombies... If you know of any. daughenbaugh@gmail.com

- **More Camporee dates**

Winter camporee: February 20-22, 2026

Spring camporee: May 15-17, 2026

Training Update

Greg Ellsworth, Chair

- **New Adult Leaders or Leaders that still need to complete IOLS? Come to the Fall Camporee Oct 3-5.** We will be running training on Saturday, October 4th from 9am-4pm. All scouts deserve a trained leader.
- **FROTH: Facilitated Remote Online Training from Home is a pilot concept to help adults complete their training.** Adults will be given information on the training they are missing, then can login to a FROTH event via Zoom to gather as a group then complete their required training on their own device. When something can be done at anytime, it's done at no time, and FROTH hopes to be the antidote. Contact eubanks.betsy@gmail.com for more info.
- **Youth Protection Training has been replaced with Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT).** See [here](#) for a brief overview.
- **Wilderness First Aid is April 10 - 12, 2026.** More info forthcoming!
- Questions please contact greg.ellsworth.63@gmail.com or 406-600-3895

Stay Connected

- Send activity photos or other information to share to bozemanscoutshop@scouting.org.
- MVD Remind: Text @scoutmvd to 81010

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- Website: <https://montanabsa.org/districts/mountain-valley/5/>
- Facebook: [Mountain Valley District-Montana Council](#)
- Instagram: [MVDMTBSA](#)