

Mountain Valley District February 2026 Newsletter

Roundtable

Roundtable
Thursday, Feb 5, 6:30 pm
[ZOOM](#)

District Calendar

2/4	Winter Camporee Meeting, 7 pm, anyone invited, Google Meet
2/5	Roundtable, 6:30 pm, ZOOM
2/7	Scouting for Food
2/8	Scout Sunday
2/19	District Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, ZOOM
2/20 - 2/22	MVD Outfox Winter Camporee
2/21	SWMBIA Pinewood Derby , optional and not sponsored by MVD
2/25	ICL Breakfast, 7 am, Hilton Garden Inn
2/27 - 2/29	Merit Badge University , Missoula
2/28	Merit Badge University , Billings
3/21	Eagle Scout Report to the State , Helena
3/28	MVD Pinewood Derby, 8 am
4/10 - 4/12	Wilderness First Aid
4/17 - 4/19	OA ACT Conference
4/24 - 4/26	MT Council Convention , Helena
5/1 - 5/3	Wood Badge weekend 1
5/15 - 5/17	Wood Badge weekend 2
5/15 - 5/17	MVD Spring Camporee

Safety Moment

Medication use in Scouting: With an increasing number of youth taking prescribed medications, leaders need some basic tools and guidance for helping youth use their prescriptions safely. Here are the 8 basic elements of helping Scouts medicate safely:

- Make sure ALL medications a Scout takes are listed on their Annual Health and Medical Record
- Make sure a medication plan is developed so an adult can help the youth take their medication properly.
- Make sure you communicate clearly with the parent(s) and Scout who is the responsible

adult who will help the Scout take their medication.

- All medications must be accurately labeled.
- Make a plan to store high-risk and refrigeration-required medications properly.
- Make sure youth with asthma or allergies have an EpiPen and/or inhaler and know how to use both.
- Ensure clear guidance is in place for all non-prescription medications.

Announcements & Thanks

- **Investment in Character and Leadership, ICL, MVD's largest fundraiser of the year is 2/25 at 7 am at the Hilton Garden Inn!** If you would like to attend or make an ICL donation, please email renee.scouting@scouting.org. The Scouting program relies on the generosity of many. Thank you so much for considering!
- **Many thanks to Stephan Warnat and Rebecca Langlois-Warnat** for planning and hosting the Science of Pinewood Derby event for the Cub Scouts. More than 30 Cubs and parents participated and with the skills they learned - watch out! - they will be competitive at their Unit and MVD Pinewood Derby!
- Partnerships make a community go-round! Please see [here](#) for information on an open house on 2/10 for the [Bozeman Field School](#), a private high school in Bozeman. Perhaps this would be a good fit for a Scout in your unit.
- Thank you to Mike O'Donnell for serving as District Commissioner for 2025. Mike is always willing to lend a hand and we appreciate it!
- Please welcome new members of our Commissioner Staff: Chad Yoakam as District Commissioner; John Yeager as Commissioner of 516, 3552, and 551; Jeremie Waller as Commissioner of 3649 and 649; and Mike O'Donnell as Commissioner of the new Big Sky pack!
- Anyone, young and old, is invited to participate in the [SWMBIA Pinewood Derby](#) on 2/21! Please note this event is not sponsored

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by MVD and is independent of the MVD Pinewood Derby on 3/28.

- Need help with Scoutbook Plus? See here for information on how to use it for [Cub Scout Packs](#) and [Scouts BSA Troops](#). The website says the info is for pilot programs only but that's not true - the info applies to all Troops.

District Committee

Katie Daughenbaugh, Chair

- **The District Committee has opted to move all Roundtable Meetings in 2026 to Zoom.** MVD covers a large geographical area, and we want to see if moving to Zoom will make it so more Scouters are able to attend.

Commissioners

Chad Yoakam, District Commissioner

- **MVD has a goal of at least 80% leaders trained for 2026.** Trained leaders make for higher quality programs and therefore greater impact on youth. [Your Unit Commissioner](#) will help your unit achieve this goal and will be reaching out to you soon.
- All Unit Commissioners will be engaging with their units at least quarterly. Unit leaders, please remember to keep your UC informed of Committee Meetings, Courts of Honor, Blue and Gold Banquets, or anything else!

Membership

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

- Recruiting is a year-round activity, although we do have ebbs and flows. Are you ready at a Unit meeting to give someone materials about your unit? You never know who may walk in the door, or when a parent may say they know a new family who is interested in Scouting. We will be supporting and encouraging Units to participate in Spring Recruitment, so please let me know if the Unit Membership Contact for your unit has changed.
eubanks.betsy@gmail.com

Range and Target Activities

Coby Dawson, Chair

- As of January 1st 2026 there is a new updated Range and Target Activities manual. If you plan on having a unit or district event which involves a range activity please check it if you have any questions please reach out to coby.dawson.mtcouncilrata@gmail.com. If you are interested in Archery or BB Gun Rangemaster please also reach out to Coby so we can set up a class.

Order of the Arrow

Andrew Liebmann, Chapter Advisor

- OA unit elections need to be finished by April 30. Ideally youth leaders or the unit OA reps should contact the chapter leadership to arrange an election.
- OA would like to know who, youth or adult, in your unit has been inducted in the OA at any point during their scouting career regardless as to whether they are active or not. Unit leaders and committee chairs, please contact Andrew at bloodcorba@earthlink.net for our current roster.
- OA will be helping out with the MVD Pinewood Derby on 3/28 and will be looking for volunteers to help with that event.

Cub Scout Activities

Team Update

- **Do you have any Cubs in your Pack who have a disability, allergy, or neurodivergence that you need help navigating?** See [here](#) for info on serving Scouts with disabilities from Scouting America. [Able Scouts](#) also has a lot of helpful training modules on everything from ADHD to autism. If you have anything specific that your unit needs help with, please contact Katie and she will get you in touch with our Council resource.
- **MVD District Pinewood Derby is 3/28!** We encourage as many Cubs to participate as possible. Please contact Ethan at

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stjohnethan@yahoo.com for questions or if you'd like to help!

- MVD wants to host an archery event for Packs on 5/2, but we currently do not have anyone willing to plan that event. Without a volunteer we will have to cancel. Is there a parent in your unit who would be willing to help?

Older Scout Activities

Jason Daughenbaugh, Chair

- **Outfox Winter Camporee**
Feb 20-22, 2026
Snowbank Campground, Mill Creek - Near Emigrant
Join us to conquer the cold with hands-on winter survival skills, fire-starting showdowns, epic snowball challenges, and plenty of frosty fun! Registration is open and the leader guide is available [here](#).
- Do you have an idea for a location for Spring Camporee? If so email Jason at daughenbaugh@gmail.com.
- Registration for Montana Outdoor High Adventure Base (MOHAB) is now open! See [here](#).

Training Update

Greg Ellsworth, Chair

- **Registration for [Wood Badge](#) is now open!**
Wood Badge will make you a better Scout leader and provide a dynamic management training experience that will make you more effective and productive in all areas of your life.
Dates: May 1-3, 2026 and May 15-17, 2026
Location: K-M Scout Ranch; Hilger, Montana
Cost: \$300 Early Bird (if \$150 deposit is paid by 12/31/25)
- **Wilderness First Aid is April 10 - 12, 2026 and [registration](#) is open!**
- 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
- Website: <https://montanabsa.org/districts/mountain-valley/5/>
- Facebook: [Mountain Valley District-Montana Council](#)
- Instagram: [MVDMTBSA](#)