

Mountain Valley District September 2026 Newsletter

District Calendar

9/9	OA Lodge Call , 7:30 pm, Zoom
9/13	Cub Scout Scavenger Hunt Hike , 1 pm, Hyalite Canyon
9/17	MVD Committee Meeting , 6:30 pm, Zoom
9/22	Scouting Alumni, 7 pm, MSU SUB
9/25-9/27	OA Induction and Fall Fellowship
10/2-10/4	MVD Fall Camporee with IOLS training, Ruby Valley
10/3	Scouts BSA Roundtable Luncheon , noon, Ruby Valley
10/4	Cub Scout Support Group , 7 pm, Bozeman Scout Shop
10/14	OA Lodge Call , 7:30 pm, Zoom
10/15	MVD Committee Mtg , 6:30 pm, Zoom

Safety Moment

Dutch oven treats are a Scouting tradition. Make sure you follow [these guidelines](#) for using charcoal safely:

- Chemical fuels of any kind are not allowed in Scouting.
- Instant lighting charcoal is the safest and most feasible option for a Scout.
- It's okay to use homemade fire starters placed under a chimney, like cardboard and corn chips - yes, Fritos will work as a firestarter. But remember, no chemical fuels (though one could argue a Frito is a chemical!)
- Make sure a knowledgeable adult provides supervision while lighting and using charcoal.
- Make sure your fire is dead out when done cooking.

Announcements & Thanks

-  **Scout Shop hours** (1902 W. Dickerson Ste 104):
 - **Monday/Wednesday:** 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm until 9/13, then closed until 10/24
 - **Tuesday/Thursday:** 9 am - 2 pm
 - **Friday:** closed

- 🎉 **Congratulations to Dick Kracht for earning the 60 year Veteran Award!** Thank you Dick for your dedication to this amazing program. For more info about the award, see [here](#).
- 🌟 **Scouting America now offers a registration fee waiver for military families.** See [here](#) for more information.
- 💰 If your unit plans to do any fundraising outside of popcorn, please submit [this form](#) to Renee at renee.stephens@scouting. This form needs to be updated annually.

Unit Spotlight

Troop 516, Livingston

Troop 516 has been busy! We went to Camp Easton with 551, but unanimously agreed that K-M and Melita are way better. We had 9 scouts go on a two night backpacking trip into the Crazies with Crazy Mountain Ventures team. We were in the color guard with our charter org, American Legion Post 23, of the Round up Rodeo Parade. We performed the raising of a new American flag at Park High, donated by the Livingston Community Choir, as well as the proper disposal of the old flag. We have five Life scouts working toward Eagle. Way to go, Troop 516!

Membership

Betsy Eubanks, Chair

We held Kick-Off events for both Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA in August. In case you missed it, see below for easy-to-read summaries of these meetings. Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Committee Chairs, Membership Chairs.....check it out!

- [Cub Scout Kick-Off Summary](#)
- [Scouts BSA Kick-Off Summary](#)

Order of the Arrow

Andrew Liebmann, Chapter Advisor

- [Fall Fellowship with a twist, 9/25 - 9/27](#). All Arrowmen are invited and encouraged to attend the Lodge Induction Experience in conjunction with the Fall Fellowship. The event simulates an Induction Weekend and

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trains OA members to be able to staff future Lodge Induction Experiences. This is an exciting opportunity to be part of the future of the Order. Please register!

District Committee

Katie Daughenbaugh, Chair

MVD is trying something new this year! We've found that parents don't often know what's going on at the District level, including important info about events! In order to take a load off unit leaders and to make sure we're better communicators, we plan to send direct emails to parents on occasion about MVD details and events.

- **Cubmasters**, please send [this link](#) to your parents to register to receive emails from MVD!
- **Scoutmasters**, please send [this link](#) to your parents to register to receive emails from MVD!

Cub Scout Activities

Team Update

-  **Join us for a Cub Scout Scavenger Hunt Hike up Hyalite Canyon on Sunday, 9/13, from 1 - 4 pm.** This is a great opportunity for Cubs to get outside with their families, and is a great time to bring a friend. See [here](#) to register.
-  Cub Scouts have many fun activities planned this year, including Range and Target Activities, and we need more Rangemasters! Reach out to Coby at coby.dawson.mtcouncilrata@gmail.com for information.

Older Scout Activities

Jason Daughenbaugh, Chair

-  **Fall Camporee is October 2 - 4**
Focus: Fishing and more
Location: Ruby River near Sheridan, Montana

We will provide the leader guide and registration information soon!

Camporee will be at a fabulous location with

access to a stocked fishing pond, miles of spring creeks and the Ruby River. Attendees will also have opportunities to learn new skills and work toward Fishing and/or Fly-Fishing Merit Badges. This location is about 90 miles from Bozeman.

We have many excited volunteers and guides ready to teach scouts skills ranging from fly-tying to casting, knots and more. Scouts who already know how to fly-fish will have the opportunity to work with professional guides to take advantage of incredible fishing opportunities on the Ruby River.

What to do now:

- ☐ Save the Date: Get your scouts excited about this fun event.
- ☐ Event Registration will allow scouts to sign up for guides and other activities.
- ☐ Require fishing licenses: Licenses are required on the Ruby River and spring creeks for everyone age 12 or older. Camporee registration will be discounted to offset part of this cost.
- ☐ Gear: Scouts and leaders are encouraged to bring their own gear if they have it, but we will have gear available to share.
- ☐ Also let us know if you have gear to share or would like to help out with this fun event!
- Other Camporee dates:
 - **Winter:** February 26-28, 2027
 - **Spring:** May 14-16, 2027
-  **Big Sky Ski Weekend is 1/7-1/9, 2027.** Registration coming soon!
- **NYLT is scheduled for June 13 - 18, 2027 at K-M.** Be on the lookout for registration.

Training Update

Greg Ellsworth, Chair

-  **iOLS training will be offered at Fall Camporee, 10/2 - 10/4.** All Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and other leaders with direct contact with Scouts need this

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training! (requires staying overnight!)

- 🪓 **Wood Badge 2027** is a weeklong event on Aug 16-20 at K-M! Alan Lohof is Course Director. Have you always wanted to do this but never made it happen? 2027 is your year! Many Scouters in MVD can speak to the benefit of Woodbadge training. If you need a testimonial, reach out!
- **Wilderness First Aid Training is April 9-11, 2027** - more information coming soon and registration opens Jan 1! Leaders need training every two years.
- Please contact Greg at greg.ellsworth.63@gmail.com or 406-600-3895 to let him know if you plan to attend either training.

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](#)