Celebrating 400 Years!

Scouts in the UK have developed a program that celebrates the Pilgrims leaving England and landing here in present day Massachusetts.

The year 2020 is the 400th anniversary of that event. Scouts in the UK have contacted units in Plymouth, MA to partner with over the next year. There are currently 20 units that have signed up indicating that they would like to take part in the program.

This program is a number of activities based on many of the things that the Pilgrims did once they arrived in present day Plymouth. There are skills that are divided from easy to more difficult and available for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA or Venture Crews.

Troop 51 has spearheaded this program and is in touch with Scouts in the UK. Please see the flyer below for contact information.



The Peregrine Challenge was created by the Scouts in The United Kingdom to Commorate the 400th Anniverasry of the departure of the Mayflower from Plymouth, UK. They have invited the Scouts from Plymouth USA and beyond to join in this celebration with them.

Detailed information is provided on the FB Group Page. You may also request the PDF by emailing t51manomet@gmail.com

USA Units with be partnered with UK units to build closeknit relationships – think skype, carepackages, future hosting, and more!

The challenge has been set up so that it mimics the tasks and challenges the Pilgrims would have done on their voyage and as settlers. Each challenge has three levels of intensity, just chose what best fits your unit.

We ask that you keep a "ship's log" to keep track of where you are in the challenge. Leader participation is greatly encouraged in the FB Group. (It's a private group.)

Particiapting Scouts and Leaders will receive a patch and so much more in the way of new friendships.

The Peregrine Challenge

To Commemorate the Mayflower 400th

Join the FB Group: Peregrine Challenge - Scout District

All Scouts Welcome to participate!

A yearlong event leading up to 2020!

Three levels of difficulty to choose from to meet all ages levels.

USA – UK Scouts

Participate wherever you are!

T51manomet@gmail.com with questions

Official Kick off Date is November 1st.

November Training Newsletter

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL

Training News

November 2019

Upcoming Opportunities



° = pre-registration required * = online registration open
' = counts toward basic Trained requirements for adults

----------Scout Leader Skills----------

Nov 9	°*'	Scoutmaster Position-Specific *(Hudson)*
Nov 9	°*'	Troop Committee Position-Specific *(Hudson)*
Nov 9	°*	Den Chief Training *(Hudson)*
Nov 16	°*	Tread Lightly Trainer Training *(Hudson)*
Dec 7	°*'	Scoutmaster Position-Specific *(Foxboro)*
Dec 7	°*	Den Chief Training *(Foxboro)*
Jan 4	°*'	Scoutmaster Position-Spec. *(Sudbury)*
Mar TBD	°*	Scoutmaster Position-Spec. *(@ MBU event)*
Mar 27-29, Apr 25-26	°*	Wood Badge
Apr 4-5	°*'	IOLS for Scouts BSA/Venturing *(Plymouth)*
Apr 25-26	°*	BALOO for Cub Leaders *(Bolton)*
May 16-17	°	Leave No Trace Trainer Training *(Sudbury)*

----------First Aid----------

Nov 12	°*	CPR/AED *(Sudbury)*
Nov 19	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*
Nov 23	°*	CPR/AED *(Canton)*
Dec 7	°*	CPR/AED *(Foxboro)*
Jan 11	°*	CPR/AED *(Canton)*
Jan 14	°*	CPR/AED *(Sudbury)*
Jan 18-19	°*	Wilderness and Remote First Aid *(Sudbury)*
Jan 21	°*	Red Cross First Aid *(Sudbury)*

...and more courses in February and beyond.

Your Invitation to Wood Badge



Wood Badge is the pinnacle of adult leader training in the BSA—sometimes called the "Ph.D of Scouting." This course uses a fun pack and troop setting to teach leadership skills and challenge participants to put these skills into practice. All registered adult leaders are welcome and encouraged to take Wood Badge! The only pre-requisite is to have completed the basic online or in-person training for your Scouting position (that is, earn the "Trained" patch).

Mayflower is part of a group of councils who have joined forces to be able to offer this 5-day training event at least once a year. Our next course will be **March 27-29 and April 25-26, 2020**. Spirit of Adventure Council is listed as the "host council," but this course belongs to all of us, and it will include staff and participants from Mayflower Council. Sign up soon! Spots are limited. Visit www.scoutspirit.org/signature-activities.

Our Campaign for 2020: Training for Cub Scout Leaders

Did you know that Cub Scout leaders can complete all their "position-specific" training requirements online? In other words, you can earn the "Trained" patch and be considered trained for your position on your own time from the comfort of your home.

Despite the convenience of online training, though, fewer than half our Cub Scout leaders have completed basic training. Without training, leaders are missing out on ideas and resources that can help them do their jobs more effectively. So how can we "close the gap" and give every leader the training they deserve?

This will be a focus during the next year as we push to:

- Raise awareness and promote the value of training.
- Get more people to take advantage of live training when we offer it.
- Add "on-demand" courses (see below).
- Boost recognition for the packs who excel at training.

We can't do this alone, so we'll be asking for help from packs, unit commissioners, and more. Please help us give every Cub Scout the gift of trained leaders!

Live Training / "Training on Demand"

Although many BSA training courses are available online, there's a lot of value to attending live training. Live training lets you interact with real humans, share ideas, ask questions, try hands-on skills, and have fun! When people attend our live courses, we get highly positive feedback that it was worth their time!

So consider taking the "live" version of your basic training instead of (or in addition to) taking it online. Many of our fall courses have already taken place, but more will be on the calendar for the spring. If no scheduled courses are available near you, we can also offer position-specific courses by request. Out of respect for our all-volunteer staff, we just ask that you provide several weeks' notice, a free place to meet, and at least five guaranteed participants from your pack or troop.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- *Council training "Quick Guides" and online registration:* www.mayflowerbsa.org/training
- *BSA online training:* https://my.scouting.org
- *Council training chair:* Chris Lamie: chris.lamie@gmail.com
- *Staff contact:* Rick Riopelle: rick@mayflowerbsa.org

EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

2019-2020 District Nomination Forms

Below you will find nomination forms for recognizing Scouters at the unit and district levels. As well as Nationally recognized nomination forms.

- Nomination form for District Awards – Due by February 15th
    - Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Venturing Crew Advisor , Committee Chair (for any Unit) and Charter Organization Representative of the Year Awards
    - Unsung Hero Award – someone who goes above and beyond in the District
    - "Sparkplug" – each Pack, Troop, or Crew can recognize one of their adult leaders for going above and beyond
- Nomination for the District Award of Merit – Due by February 15th

Two ways to submit this form:
• Drop it off at a Mayflower Council Service Center.
• Email it to awards@mayflowerbsa.org and copy your District Executive.

The District Key 3 typically will present the awards at the District Recognition dinner.

Other Nationally Recognized Awards that you can nominate someone for are below.

Commissioner Awards

Unit Leader Award of Merit

Veteran Award

Background Check Disclosures/Authorization FAQ

Please note this information cannot be distributed with the original message or in any message with the disclosure forms due to laws specific to the transmission of these documents.

1. **Is the BSA doing credit checks on volunteers?**
    - No. **The BSA will only use these signed authorization forms for approval to obtain a criminal background check.** State and federal laws regulating background checks and consumer credit checks require that both items be mentioned on the form since a full background check includes both parts. **Again, the BSA is only using this form for authorization to obtain a criminal background check.**
2. **Why is this being done now?**
    1. Starting in 2020, rechecks will be performed every five years, but it will take several years to recheck all leaders. Unfortunately, technical limitations and changes in the law over the last five years prevent us from using existing authorizations from older applications. As such, new disclosure had to be sent and new signed authorization forms obtained. Rechartering provides the best window to collect and verify they have been received before the council

processes the recharter application.

3. **What about volunteers that are not registered with units?**
    - All currently registered adults and employees who have not had a criminal background check in the last five years will be rechecked. Mayflower Council will individually track district and council registered employees and leaders, including merit badge counselors.
4. **What about those who did not get the forms by e-mail?**
    - Ample copies of the background check disclosure and agreement will be provided November Roundtable meetings and are available on our website at www.mayflowerbsa.org/recharter.
    - Your unit leader, or the leader responsible for completing your unit's annual charter renewal, will ensure that each registered adult volunteer leader receives both the disclosure form as well as the authorization form. The council will collect all of your unit's authorization forms (we will not need to collect the separate disclosure page) at the time that your unit submits their annual charter renewal packet. District and council volunteers, including merit badge counselors, should submit the authorization to your district executive, mail it to the Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.
5. **What about those with multiple registrations?**
    - Only one authorization form per person needs to be collected and retained by the council. An authorization should be submitted with their primary BSA registration.
6. **What happens if a unit leader does not provide an authorization?**
    - Leaders who do not provide new authorization will

not be able to renew their registration.

7. **Why can’t the volunteer just reply to the original e-mail and attach their signed authorization form?**
    - The best way for us to ensure compliance is to require that the council registrar verify that a signed authorization form is physically in hand before processing a unit’s recharter. This removes much of the potential error and associated penalties that could result from other methods. This will facilitate the process of ensuring that a current form is on file at the council service center before posting their registration.
8. **Are there different forms for different states?**
    - Federal and state laws prescribe what must be in the disclosures and how they are to be provided. A form compliant with federal and various state laws was sent to all volunteer leaders except those in California. Leaders with a California home address or whose council territory includes California received California-specific forms due to the specific requirements of California law.
9. **Can the council accept a faxed copy or scanned copy sent via email of the signed authorization?**
    - Yes, so long as it is legible and is sent by the individual who signed it.
    - Your unit leader, or the leader responsible for completing your unit’s annual charter renewal, will ensure that each registered adult volunteer leader receives both the disclosure form as well as the authorization form. The council will collect all of your unit’s authorization forms (we will not need to collect the separate disclosure page) at the time that your unit submits their annual charter renewal packet. District and council volunteers, including merit badge counselors, should submit the authorization to your district executive, mail it to the

Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.

10. **Can the council accept an electronic signature?**
    - Digital signatures from third-party providers are acceptable. E-mail confirmations, permissions or typed names on the form are not acceptable substitutes for wet signatures.
    - Your unit leader, or the leader responsible for completing your unit's annual charter renewal, will ensure that each registered adult volunteer leader receives both the disclosure form as well as the authorization form. The council will collect all of your unit's authorization forms (we will not need to collect the separate disclosure page) at the time that your unit submits their annual charter renewal packet. District and council volunteers, including merit badge counselors, should submit the authorization to your district executive, mail it to the Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.
11. **What about unit renewals that have already been processed or will not recharter until after January 1?**
    - For unit renewals that have already been posted because the unit renewal date was prior to the email notification or the unit renewal date is after January 1, authorization forms still need to be collected as soon as possible. All new authorization forms should be received by December 31, 2019.
12. **The authorization form states the BSA can share my background with other entities. Which entities are those?**
    - Background checks are conducted by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and shared

with local councils for the purpose of conducting Scouting business. Local councils are separate organizations from the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

13. **Can the council require the forms be collected at the unit level and not sent to the council service center?**
    - Yes. The council can require the forms be collected at the unit level or by a designated unit representative.
    - We want to clarify what is needed from you, and how this will be handled in our Mayflower Council:
        - **Every registered leader needs to review, sign, and turn in** the "Additional Disclosures & Background Check Authorization" form in order to renew their membership for next year.
        - **If your primary registration is with a unit**, please give the form with your original signature to your unit leader, or the leader responsible for completing your unit's annual charter renewal, who will submit it with the recharter paperwork.
        - **If your primary registration is NOT with a unit**, please give the form with your original signature to your district executive, mail it to the Marlborough Service Center, 2 Mount Royal Avenue – Suite 100, Marlborough, MA 01752 or you may email it to membership@mayflowerbsa.org.

Download this FAQ as a PDF

New Headwaters Eagle Scouts – October 2019

Please join the Headwaters District Advancement team in congratulating the following Scouts on their achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout with the completion of their Board of Review in October 2019:

- Mateo O. – Troop 1 Northborough
- Benjamin E. – Troop 232 Ashland
- Declan L. – Troop 29 Franklin
- Nicholas R. – Troop 126 Franklin
- Aditya K. – Troop 1 Hopkinton
- Ryan C. – Troop 1 Hopkinton
- Steven C. – Troop 41 Marlborough
- John M. – Troop 1 Northborough
- Noah L. – Troop 101 Northborough
- Joshua G. – Troop 101 Northborough
- Shiva P. – Troop 382 Westborough

It is an honor and privilege to congratulate these exceptional Scouts for their achievement. As less than 5% of Scouts become Eagles, these are truly the best of the best, the most dedicated, and the most determined to succeed!

Congratulations!



Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout!

2019 Scout For Food Reporting

Thank you to all of our units for participating in the 2019 Scouting For Food initiative. We ask you to please take a moment to fill out the google form below. This data is used for tracking purposes of community service and Scout service hours as well as the amount of food collected.

Reporting
To report service hours to JTE, follow the instructions below. Every person and hour counts. Please be sure to use our link to report food collected directly to the council as we do not have access to that data through JTE, only your hours reported roll up to the council score.

Instructions
A special Thank You to Channel 5 WCVB TV for serving as this year's media sponsor, Cumberland Farms, Consigli Foundation, Sysco, and Century Bank for their sponsorship, as well as

Mathworks for running a drive simultaneous to our annual event.

Membership Fee Frequently Asked Questions

National Council, Boy Scouts of America Fee Increase FAQ

Q: Why are the fees increasing now?
A: While costs increase every year, the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance we must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. As the organization's financial situation has shifted, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level we have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically.

Q: Does this apply to youth members and volunteers?
A: Yes, the new fees apply for youth and adult members. Effective January 1, 2020, the new fees are:
– $60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts,
– $36 for youth members in Exploring, and
– $36 for adult members (includes cost of background check and Scouting Magazine)
– $60 for unit charter fees

Q: Is Scouting still a good value?
A: Absolutely! While most extracurricular activities are seasonal, Scouting is a year-round program that remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men

and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. For most of our youth members, the new registration fee amounts to $5 a month, which is an enormous value when you consider that many seasonal extracurricular activities often start at $100 for programs that last a few weeks.

Q: Does the fee increase apply to council-paid memberships?
A: No. The cost for council-paid membership, sometimes known as Scouting in Every Neighborhood, will continue to be $24 for each youth member.

Q: What will the money be used for?
A: Every dollar of membership fees will go to cover the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for members participating in approved Scouting activities, background checks for adult leaders, program development and training resources, continuously updated youth protection and youth safety training, improved IT/digital experiences and services to our councils nationwide.

Q: Is this increase being implemented to cover the cost of the additional background checks?
A: No, the cost of background checks is not the prompting the fee increase.

Q: Why is this being announced now?
A: We recognize the timing of this fee increase creates challenges as units have already begun collecting fees for their 2020 registration renewal process, and we would not make this difficult decision if it were not absolutely necessary. Unfortunately, the cost of liability insurance we must carry to cover all Scouting activities has increased dramatically over the past several months, and the organization is no longer able to offset the cost of insurance. We are committed to supporting you through this process and are making necessary adjustments to the online rechartering system to ensure units can carry out the recharter process.

Q: Does this increase cover financial challenges the organization is facing?
A: The increase was prompted because the cost of liability insurance we must carry to cover all Scouting activities has increased dramatically over the past several months, and the organization is
no longer able to offset the cost of insurance. The national membership fee also enables us program development and training resources, continuously updated youth protection and youth safety training, improved IT/digital experiences and services to our councils nationwide.

Q: When will this increase take effect?
A: The new membership fees will take effect starting January 1, 2020 for the 2020-21 program year.

Q: Is financial assistance available?
A: We are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to the many existing council and unit membership assistance funds, we have established the donor-funded Growing Future Leaders Fund to provide financial support to those who need it.

Q: My council currently requires members to pay a council fee that offsets insurance costs. Does this change mean that fee is no longer necessary?
A: No, the liability insurance that we need to carry for all Scouting activities at the national level is different from local fees that are collected to address local needs, which can include expenses such as local property and accident insurance, as well as unique local programming costs.

Q: In addition to the national membership fee, my council has implemented a program fee. Is that allowed?
A: Councils currently charging a program fee must ensure that their fee is consistent with new rules for these fees within one year. Councils can choose to charge a local program fee,

up to but no more than the national membership fee – up to $60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts; up to $36 for youth members in Exploring and up to $36 for adult members. The local program fee can include local insurance costs (i.e., accident, property, etc.), as well as cost to administer unique local programming efforts.

Q: What happens if my council's program fee is more than the national membership fee?
A: Councils that are currently charging a program fee more than the national membership fee have one year to adjust their fees in order to be in compliance with the new rules.

Q: What measures has the national organization taken to offset the financial challenges?
A: In addition to ongoing efforts to streamline and simplify the organization, the national organization has taken a number of steps in addressing its financial challenges, including the recent elimination of more than 35 positions at the National Service Center and ongoing consolidation of departments for the most effective utilization of resources in support of Scouting.

Q: Will the national membership fee continue to increase?
A: Although no decision about future increases have been made, the cost of operating our organization and services increases every year. Should it be necessary to increase fees in the future, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has agreed to evaluate the needs and make such decisions, whenever possible, at the National Annual Meeting in May or early in the summer so that they can be announced with as much lead time as possible to allow for councils and units to be able to plan accordingly.

Mayflower Council Registration Fee Increase FAQ

Q: Is this fee increase applicable to units rechartering in

December?
A: Yes, all Mayflower Council units are subject to the National registration fees. Unit charters are valid from January 1 – December 31 annually.

Q: Is the council activity fee increasing?
A: The Mayflower Council Executive Board has decided there will be no increase in the program activity fee. It will remain at $30 per youth member. Lions, Venturers 18 – 21 and adults are exempt from the program activity fee.

Q: Can you provide total fees by program for youth & adults in Mayflower Council?
A: Total fees for Scouts and leaders in Mayflower Council will be as follows:
Lions & Venturers 18 – 21:
$60 National registration fee
$12 Boys' Life Magazine (optional)

Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts & Venturers
$60 National registration fee
$30 Council program activity fee
$12 Boys' Life Magazine (optional)

Adults & Exploring Participants
$36 National registration fee
$12 Boys' Life Magazine (optional)

Unit Charter Fee
(Unit Liability Insurance Fee)
$60 per unit

Q: Will the council waive the program activity fee in 2020?
A: Because local councils do not receive any funding from National, the registration fee increase will not directly benefit the Mayflower Council. Local costs for insurance and providing program to our participants have not gone down nor

are offset in any way by the increase in National registration fees. As a result, the Mayflower Council $30 activity fee will continue in 2020; unchanged from 2019.

Q: Is there a discounted membership fee for families with multiple children?
A: The registration fees are set by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The National Council has not informed the council of any plan to offer a membership fee discount for families with multiple children in the program.

Q: Will the Mayflower Council be able to assist families who cannot afford the council program activity fee because of the National registration fee increase?
A: The Mayflower Council is committed to ensure that no family is turned away due to financial constraints. The Mayflower Council has created the program fee waiver program to provide financial assistance to deserving Scouts who would otherwise not be able to afford participating in Scouting. The Mayflower Council, in administering funds provided by concerned individuals, foundations, and others, will act as good stewards by offering careful judgment in providing program fee waivers and will act in complete confidence. Visit bit.ly/programfeewaiver to begin the application process.

Q: Do adults need to pay the council program activity fee?
A: No, the council program activity fee only applies to youth members with the following exceptions, Lions and Venturers 18 – 21 years old.

Entering Wagon Sales

Remember, Scouts (parents) need to register at www.trails-end.com in order to receive their Amazon.com gift cards. It only takes a minute or two, attached are simple instructions.

Trail's End has gotten questions about how a leader can enter their Scouts Take Orders (Wagon sales) on the website. Attached are some instructions.

Entering Scouts Wagon Sales Orders

How to Register Online

If you are still having problems, please reach out to your district popcorn kernel or Trail's End support.

District Popcorn Kernels

support@Trails-end.com

New National Registration Fee Announced

Scouting Family,

For more than 100 years, Scouting has helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun and adventure in the outdoors. At Boy Scouts of America, we are dedicated to developing leaders of character by preparing young men and women for life by

instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The timeless ideals of the Scout Law, such as being trustworthy, helpful, kind and brave, make up the foundation young people need to address and overcome challenges in their lives and the issues facing their generation.

Here in Mayflower Council, Scouting serves more than 11,000 youth in 62 cities and towns. Now as we continue the Scouting mission, it is important that we keep pace with an ever-changing world. While costs to the organization have increased every year, the Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible by subsidizing core costs, including liability insurance we must carry to cover all official Scouting activities. Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to subsidize at the level we have in the past, especially as the cost of insurance has increased dramatically. We kept the cost low to make Scouting available to as many young people as possible but keeping the cost artificially low for many years now magnifies the impact of changes.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting despite increasing operating costs, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America has made the difficult but necessary decision to increase the annual membership fee effective January 1, 2020 to:

- $60 for youth members in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts,
- $36 for youth members in Exploring, and
- $36 for adult members
- $60 for unit charter fees

Every dollar of the national membership fee will go toward the cost of essential services, including liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, program resources, safety standards, youth protection and personal safety training, and services to councils nationwide to

sustain Scouting. The National organization will also continue to develop and improve resources that support our volunteers and youth members such as online registration, Member Care and Scoutbook, which now includes the Den Leader experience to ensure the safe and consistent delivery of Cub Scouting; as well as improvements aimed at simplifying the annual renewal process. In Mayflower Council, we will continue to bring Scouting to our communities and families through quality programs, delivered through our units, districts, and council volunteers and professional staff.

Across the country and in our own community, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make to support young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. From once-in-a-lifetime adventures to merit badges that spark interests and future careers; from campouts under the stars to service projects that leave a lasting impact on our communities; Scouting's year-round program expands horizons and provides young people with a safe and welcoming place to learn, grow, and thrive.

That is why we are committed to ensuring that all youth can experience the character-building benefits of Scouting regardless of their financial situation. In addition to our existing council and unit membership assistance, we have established a national Growing Future Leaders Fund, which is funded entirely through donations, to provide additional financial support to those who need it.

Thank you for your continued role in empowering a generation of future leaders of character through Scouting programs.

2019 Distinguished Citizens Award Dinner

Donate Here

You are invited to the Inaugural

Distinguished Citizen of The Year Award Dinner

Mayflower Council will be honoring:



Fredrick W. Clark, Jr. Esq

President, Bridgewater State University

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Boston Marriott Quincy

1000 Marriott Drive, Quincy