

2024 Silver Beaver Award Nominations

In Scouting, we say “it’s about the youth” and none of our adults are involved for the recognition, but every now and then we need to say thanks especially to those volunteers whose leadership and example has left a lasting positive impact on the program and the broader community. One way we do that is through nominating a Scouter for the Silver Beaver Award, the highest adult recognition a council can bestow. Take a few moments to reflect on volunteers within your unit or district and consider nominating them for the Silver Beaver Award.

To simplify the process this year a new online nomination form was completed. This form will allow you to save your work and go back and add additional information at another time prior to the nomination deadline.

SILVER BEAVER NOMINATION FORM

All nominations must be received by Tuesday, January 2, 2023.

A detailed nomination form, to review before completing the online form, is available by clicking [here](#). Kindly do not submit paper versions of the form.

Questions regarding nominations should be emailed to: awards@mayflowerbsa.org. The awards will be presented at the Council’s Recognition Dinner to be held April 24, 2024.

Frequently asked questions about the Silver Beaver Award:

Overview

To recognize registered Scouters of exceptional character who have provided distinguished service within a council. The

award is presented by the National Court of Honor on behalf of councils.

Who Can Earn This Award?

Anyone may nominate any deserving registered Scouter to the council, which selects recipients for the following year. Each council may process their own annual allotment of Silver Beaver awards and shall send a list of Silver Beaver awards presented each calendar year to the National Court of Honor no later than January 31 of the following year.

George WP Magee Memorial Trust Donates \$40,000

The Mayflower Council recently received a generous capital gift of \$40,000 from the George W. P. Magee Memorial Trust to fund two major camp projects at Camps Squanto and Resolute.

The first project involves building a new program pavilion at the shotgun range at Camp Squanto (located in the LeBaron R. Barker Scout Reservation and the Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth), while the second project entails installing a new metal roof at the Handicraft Lodge at Adventure Day Camp at Resolute (situated in the E. Paul Robsham, Jr. Scout Reservation located on Little Pond in Bolton, Massachusetts).

The Mayflower Council, established in 2017, is a result of the consolidation of Scouting programming that has served Greater Metro West and the South Shore areas of Massachusetts for over a century.

Comprised of territory that was once part of the Algonquin, Norumbega, Knox Trail, Squanto, and Old Colony Councils and stretches from Stow to Plymouth, Mass., the Mayflower Council is rich with the traditions and history of generations of scouts and scouting families.

Mayflower Council Director of Development James Corcoran expressed gratitude towards the Magee Trust for their continuous support, stating that the council and its predecessors have received over \$2,234,375 in capital and camp scholarship projects since 1944. "The Council is very grateful to the Magee Trust for their continued generosity," added Corcoran. "We could not have done these projects without the annual support of the trust." The George W. P. Magee Trust is a private trust that exclusively distributes income to Boy Scout Councils headquartered in Massachusetts for capital projects and camp scholarships.

Since its inception, The Magee Trust has distributed over \$10,700,000.00 to Massachusetts Boy Scout Councils.

Mayflower Partners With Spartan Race

***Join us on November 11 or 12 at
Fenway Park...***

Have you heard the news?

Usually, Mayflower Scouts are *watching* the action at Fenway Park. However, this fall, our Scouts will *be in* the action at Fenway (just not in baseball).

Mayflower Council has partnered with Spartan Races and the Spartan Kids Foundation to provide complimentary racing tickets for any Scouts interested in participating in their Fenway Park Spartan Races on Nov 11th and 12th when they can join Spartan Races for the Epic Stadium Obstacle Course event.

Ages 5-13 may participate in the kid's event (two free spectator passes included), while ages 14+ will participate in the 5K stadium event (and spectator passes may be purchased).

Unit leaders should follow the QR code in the image below to request registration codes for their scouts.

So, be sure to share the flyer with your friends and family all around the United States.

Mayflower Scouts earn your Spartan Medal!

Free Event at Fenway Park
November 11, 2023

Scouts join us for an Epic Stadium Obstacle Course Event!

Kid's Event - ages 4-13 includes two free spectator passes for accompanying adults.

5k Stadion Event - ages 14+
Specator passes can be purchased



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MAYFLOWER COUNCIL



SPARTANKIDS
FOUNDATION



Leaders to register your Scouts scan the QR Code and fill out the form that appears.



Registration is on a first come basis until all spots are filled. Last day to register is Oct. 27, 2023 We also have discounted registrations available for parents, siblings, friends, etc.

<https://race.spartan.com/en/race/detail/7942/overview> - just enter the code **MFBSAMA** at checkout and help us fundraise also!

Questions: Please contact Logan@mayflowerbsa.org

2023 Westborough Good Scout Award Dinner

Westborough Good Scout Dinner

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

5400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA

Reception 6:00 pm – Dinner & Program 7:00 pm

2023 Honorees



**Beverly and Bill
Linnane**

Beverly and Bill have resided in the Town of Westborough for over 54 years. Throughout the years they have both been extremely active in numerous town committees and activities.

Bill is a fourth-generation resident of Westborough. He attended Westborough High School, class of 1958 and graduated with degrees from Wentworth Institute of Technology and Northeastern University. He is a retired Construction Management professional. Since 1960 through today, Bill has been associated with various town government and community groups.

Bill's town work has included: Advisory Finance Committee, Charter Review, WPL trustee, founding member of Music Parents WHS, to highlight a few. He has been involved in many organizations: Charlotte Spinney Mentoring Program, Westborough Connects, past member of the Good Scout Committee, Westborough Legends, Civic Club, Rotary Club of Westborough,

Beverly grew up in Calais, Maine. After graduation, she received her RN from Peter Bent Brigham School of Nursing, now Brigham & Women's. She worked a long nursing career in both Boston and Worcester, specializing in surgical care. After retirement, she established a business called Rabbit Hollow, handknits for kids. This is supported by many members of the community for which she is very grateful.

Beverly has been a member of Westborough Garden Club for many years serving as community beautification chairman for 13 years and past president. She served on the downtown community beautification committee with many accomplishments. She loves Westborough and has great satisfaction in helping to beautify the town with gardens and flowers. To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

Beverly and Bill have been married for 58 years and have two wonderful and successful children, Jennifer, and Sean and a beautiful, talented granddaughter, Madigan. They are overwhelmed to be the 2023 Good Scout receptionists.

About The Good Scout Award

The Good Scout Award is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated integrity and genuine concern for others in both their professional and personal lives.

The recipients need not have been Scouts but must carry the "Spirit of Scouting" into their adult lives. They are people who have been unselfish in their service to others on an individual and community basis. They seek no return for their service other than the satisfaction of aiding their fellow citizens, their community, and their nation.

The Good Scouts are people who truly capture the respect and imagination of our youth.

**You may register and pay online or
fill out the mail-in registration
form.**

**Registration and program book ad's
must be received by October 27,
2023.**

If you have any questions, please email: Westborough Good
Scout Committee

Ad Specifications
Program Ad Specifications
Register Online Here

Sachem District September 2023 Roundtable

Thank you to all who participated in our September Roundtable with the new and improved format! Announcement Slides from the session are posted here. Our next Roundtable is October 4th at the Abington Senior Center. We hope to see you, and some new faces join us!

September 2023 RT Master

National BSA Member Fee Increase 2023

Dear Scouting family,

We received the following very important message from our national council and wanted to share it with you in its entirety.

BSA's emergence from bankruptcy represents a pivotal milestone in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA)'s financial restructuring case and solidifies a path forward for survivors and the Scouting movement.

To preserve its mission, the BSA has had to take some extraordinary steps over the past three years to reposition the organization for the future. The BSA has streamlined its professional staff and volunteer structure, reducing costs throughout the movement while maintaining essential services

to support the local councils who were critical partners during the bankruptcy.

To position Scouting for the future, the BSA will be required to increase the national annual membership fees for both youth and adults. This has been a difficult decision that involved the engagement of key stakeholders, but is essential to building a strong, safe, and vibrant Scouting program for our nation's youth.

Effective **August 1, 2023**, the BSA will implement the following national membership fees which were approved by the National Executive Committee:

- **\$80** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- **\$60** for all adult volunteers (\$15 increase to provide general liability insurance and enhanced background checks)
- **\$25** one-time joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting (Not prorated and no change in fee)
- **\$30** for Scoutreach (Not prorated)
- **\$25** for Merit Badge Counselors (New Fee applies only for Merit Badge Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- **\$50** for Exploring participants Youth & Adult (\$5 increase)
- **\$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee (no change in fee)
- **\$15** for *Scout Life* magazine

New Annual Membership Fee Process Announced – BSA Will No Longer Prorate Fees for New Members beginning August 1, 2023

Beginning August 1, 2023, all new youth and adult members who join Scouting will be enrolled in a 12-month membership cycle and BSA will cease prorating fees. Both youth and adults will

pay the full annual membership fee and will renew their membership on the anniversary date of joining Scouting. All proration of membership fees will be eliminated. Each registered member of the BSA will receive an email notice with a registration renewal link beginning 60 days before the anniversary date they joined Scouting. Unit leaders will receive a copy of the email and should stay engaged in the membership renewal process just like rechartering.

It is important to note, existing members will renew their membership during their normal registration/recharter cycle through March 2024. Moving forward all members will renew on their anniversary date.

- Existing members' Anniversary date will be their unit recharter month.
- New members' Anniversary date will be the month they joined.

This new process will help streamline the rechartering and membership renewal process for units and councils. *Additional information on this membership renewal process will be forthcoming in the very near future.*

Rules and Regulations – Local Council Annual Registration or Program Fees

Under the Rules and Regulations of the BSA, a local council may charge an annual registration or program fee to youth members, adult program participants and Scouters whose primary registration is with the council in an amount not to exceed the amount of the applicable individual registration fee for their position established by the Executive Committee. In the new Annual Membership fee structure, a local council may charge a maximum of **\$80 per youth** and **\$60 per adult**.

What does the National Membership Fee cover?

The national membership fee helps cover the cost of essential

services to the local council and units. Services include expanded liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, enhanced criminal background checks, a variety of program resources, youth protection and leader-specific training, and the development of intellectual property for national, council, and unit programs. As BSA moves forward, the organization will continue to look at the membership fee structure and how we deliver the Scouting program for future generations.

Across the country and in each of our communities, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make in youth today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow. Our dedicated volunteers, staff, and Scouting families make this possible. Thank you for continuing to support one of the most valuable opportunities available to young people today.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is driving the youth and adult membership fee increase?

- General Liability Insurance costs to protect volunteer leaders, staff, charter organizations, units, and youth.
- BSA restructuring costs.
- Enhanced Criminal Background check processes and investments in Youth protection and safety programs.

What steps has the National Service Center taken to manage costs?

- Completed a new staff structure and streamlined both the professional workforce and the volunteer structure, while maintaining essential services.
- Reduced the National staff workforce to support

essential services.

- Reduced expenses throughout the National organization.

What is the new membership fee for youth and adults? Will the fees go up again?

- The new adult membership fee is \$60, and the youth membership fee is \$80 annually.
- The BSA will continue to evaluate the membership fees and keep our councils and unit leaders informed of any further changes to the fee structure.

What benefits and services are provided to the local council with the new fee?

- Expanded GLIP protections for Chartered Organizations and volunteers.
- Enhanced Criminal Background checks.
- Investments in BSA safety resources and training.
- The employment of a new Youth Protection Executive and support staff.
- The National Council provides the following essential services to councils:
 - The use of BSA Intellectual Property – Youth Safety, Cub Scouts, Scouts, BSA, Venturing, Camp Standards, Training and Program development etc.
 - Legal
 - Human Resources
 - Information Technology – Rechartering, Scout Book
 - Accounting Resources
 - Council Services Support
 - Membership & Marketing Support
 - Crisis Communications and support
 - Safety & Membership Standards Support
 - A variety of training support for youth and adult

- leaders
- Health Insurance & Benefits

What benefits and services are provided to the unit with the registration fee?

- Expanded General Liability Insurance protections for the chartered organization and unit leaders in the event of an incident.
- Program research and development including, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Exploring.
- Access to Youth Protection Training, Incident Reporting and Scouts First Helpline: 1- 844-Scouts1.
- Access to leadership specific training for adult leaders.
- Investments in program literature and resource development.
- Ability to purchase Uniforms, Insignia and Recognition for youth and Adults.
- Provides access to Membership, Marketing, and Brand Center resources.
- Provides important technology support including Scout Book, on-line registration, on-line advancement, and rechartering, My. Scouting, BeAScout, and BSA Brand Center for digital assets.
- Access to the four BSA High Adventure Properties including Philmont Scout Ranch, Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier High Adventure Base, and the Summit Bechtel Reserve.

Mayflower Council understands that you may have more questions, and we will welcome them at our Summer Membership Roundtable Series taking place in the coming months. You can register by clicking the date for July 11 and August 16.

Gone Camping! Mayflower Council Summer Hours

This weekend marks the unofficial start of summer 2023. As such, the Mayflower Council Service Center will soon switch to a “Camping Season” schedule.

Our Service Center in Milford, Massachusetts, will be closed Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

After that, and through Labor Day, the Service Center will be by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Tuesday and Thursday. Many of our unit and membership service personnel will be visiting communities and camps throughout the summer, so chances are you can catch up with us much closer to home.

Find a listing and email any of our council primary contacts via this page.

VOA Officer Applications

Applications to become a 2023-2024 officer are being accepted until Monday, June 5th!

The mission of the Mayflower Council Venturing Officers' Association (VOA) is to promote and support the Venturing program, utilizing a standard organizational structure that enables Crews to grow their membership and advance leadership

opportunities through communication, program, and administration. This mission is met through a team of officers supported by an Advisor that keeps the VOA organized. This forum provides a voice for youth to help strengthen the Venturing program. The VOA holds several meetings during the year and hosts a few events that help to bring the crews, districts, and the council together. Each event may have a different goal: training, adventure, recognition, fun—or all of the above.

Becoming a VOA officer will give you the chance to meet other Venturers, serve others, and build friendships and networks. Positions open include: President, Vice President of Program, Vice President of Administration, and Vice President of Communication. If you have any questions on specific responsibilities or more, do not hesitate to reach out to us via email.

[Access the VOA Officer Application](#)

Council Venturing Leadership Award Nominations

Do You Know an Exceptional Venturer? Nominate them for the Venturing Leadership Award!

To recognize Venturers and Advisors who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law, the Mayflower Council may present individuals with the Council Venturing Leadership Award.

Qualifications

- Be registered and involved as a Venturer for at least one year.
- Hold a leadership position or an office at the unit, district, council.
- Show exceptional dedication and give outstanding leadership and service to Venturing and to Venturers.

Guidelines

- The nomination form linked below must be used for Council Venturing Leadership Award consideration.
- The nomination form must be submitted by June 5, 2023.
- Youth nominations may be submitted for up to one year past the youth's 21st birthday.
- For Questions or Letters of Recommendation Submissions: contact Aaron Christian.

Nomination Form

The Doctor Is In (The Spotlight)!

Dr. Sara Grady is the complete package, from land-loving Cub Scouts to shore-loving horseshoe crabs, this amazing volunteer has every living creature's best interest in mind.

Tiger Den Leader for Pack 47 Plymouth, Sara is a watershed ecologist and – when she is not with her unit – can most often be found in the water, in the woods, on a trail; any place in nature, really.

Of course, those who take a “hike” with Dr. Sara know she will traverse 100 yards in 10 minutes and share more knowledge about plants and animals than they ever thought possible. All of which makes her a perfect person to lead a Den.

Moreover, as a SuperNOVA mentor, Dr. Grady has been an invaluable Mayflower Council resource the past few years, helping to run stations at Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (meanwhile earning BALOO, mind you), volunteering at the Klondike Derby, Webelos Woods, and the Wilderness Survival Camporee.

Currently, Sara works on her Wood Badge ticket by improving the “nature trail” at Camp Squanto.

However, everyone also knows Sara’s hidden talent: a beautiful singing voice often used acapella.

One wonders if both Tigers and and tiger sharks alike would respond equally well to her dulcet tones!

Thank you, Sara, for all your hard work on behalf of your council, district, and unit. Like so many den leaders, you truly shine bright for all of our Scouts.