



Scout Shorts

Mid-Iowa Council, Boy Scouts of America

December 2011

Give the gift of Scouting

Now that we are in the holiday season, what better gift could a young person receive than the gift of Scouting? Scouting has positively impacted millions of lives over the last 100 years, but there are many more youth and families to reach with our outstanding program. So, please help give the gift of Scouting by reaching out to a family who is not in our program. You never know how that simple act will impact a youth and his family; you just might help register the future President of the United States - like President, Eagle Scout, Gerald Ford.

Check out www.beascout.org for more recruitment information and units in your area.



Peace Light from Bethlehem

Mid-Iowa Council Scouts, families, churches, and other organizations are going to have a great opportunity to help make this year's Christmas season a little more meaningful. Since 1989, Scouts from Austria have annually initiated the distribution of the Christmas "Peace Light" from the grotto in the small town of Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, as a symbol of the Christ Child bringing peace to the world many years ago as well as today.

The light is then distributed across Europe and North America. Scouts and Guides (Girl Scouts) take the light to houses of worship, hospitals, homeless shelters, rest homes, prisons, and places of public, cultural and political importance - to anybody who appreciates the significance of the "gift".

The Peace Light first came to America in 2001 when Canadian Scouts brought the light of peace to New York City and Ground Zero. In 2002, DHL delivered the Peace Light as a gift from Belgian Scouts and Guides to the Boy Scouts of America in New York. In 2004 the Austrian Scout Movement, Austrian Airlines, and Boy Scouts of America International Division arranged to bring the Peace Light to New York in two explosion-proof, British mining lamps, fueled by smokeless paraffin oil.

And so it continues today. The Peace Light came to Mid-Iowa Council in past years, and has arrived at the Clayman Scout Service Center this year. Kept throughout the Christmas season at the Service Center, the Peace Light is available to all Scouts, Scout Families, and Scout Units who desire to receive, and hopefully pass on this gift. What a meaningful gift to share with your church partner during this season of Peace. On Christmas Eve, when the

Christmas candles are lit, your church's light could be directly from the birthplace of Jesus, where it has burned uninterrupted for hundreds of years.



All you need is a lantern that can be lit from the Peace Light and transported safely in your vehicle. The Clayman Service Center is open Monday – Friday, 8:30 to 5:00. In addition, the light will also be available December 7 - December 21, 2011, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Iowa Religious Media Services, located at 3116 104th Street, Urbandale, Iowa. For possible additional locations, please call the Mid-Iowa Council Service Center at 515-266-2135.

What a great service project for your pack, troop, or crew. Spread the “Light of Peace” to churches, nursing homes, prisons and jails, hospitals, homeless shelters, and into private homes during this season of peace and joy, as we celebrate Jesus’ birth.

New Eagle Scout Rank Requirement, Application, and Project Service Workbook

Eagle Scout rank requirement 5 has been reworded. To support that change, a new Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook has been created in which requirement 5 calls for a project *proposal* to be approved by the council or district, rather than “the project plan”.

Through December 31, 2011, Scouts have a choice to use either the new workbook or the one it is replacing. Scouts whose Eagle Scout service project has already been approved by the council or district under the former wording of requirement 5 – and using the former workbook – should continue with the same workbook. If their project has not yet been approved by the council or district, they may elect to use the revised requirement 5 and the new workbook. Starting January 1, 2012, Eagle Scout candidates – unless they have already submitted a plan for approval by the council or district under the former requirement – will be expected to fulfill the revised service project requirement 5 using the new workbook.

The old Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, and the new Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, No. 512-927, as well as the 2011 printing of the Eagle Scout Rank Application, can be found under Forms on the council website, www.midiowacouncilbsa.org.

Internet Advancement Highlights

Reporting advancement is a requirement of the Boy Scouts of America. Internet Advancement makes this a simple process. All councils should strive for 100 percent of their units using this functionality.

Benefits of Internet Advancement

Internet Advancement is available to any council using Internet Rechartering. It is for reporting Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Sea Scout ranks; Venturing awards; and activity badges, belt loops, and merit badges. Simple and intuitive, it works best from a faster Internet connection using Internet Explorer 6 or higher. Units can enter advancement

at any time, print reports, obtain current rosters from the BSA system, and print order sheets for the Scout Shop.

When Internet Advancement is used to comply with reporting responsibilities, it alleviates issues in documenting progress as Scouts submit Eagle applications or transfer from one unit to another. Consistent and constant reporting also assures accurate records for use by Commissioners, other district and council volunteers, and the National Council. These are critical in evaluating unit health, adjusting service delivery, and researching changes in programs and requirements.

New features in Internet Advancement now allow unit personnel to view past advancement reports submitted from the Internet Advancement system and to see the dates their leaders have taken Youth Protection training.

How Internet Advancement Works

Units select an advancement processor who is granted access with a council-provided unit ID. It is recommended that units report advancement at least monthly. They must submit a final annual report each December. Ranks must be entered in sequence based on unit type and program. Because of documentation requirements, the Eagle Scout rank may not be entered through this system; neither may nominated recognitions such as meritorious action awards.

Internet Advancement is accessed through the local council's website, <http://www.midiowacouncilbsa.org/BoyScouts/Leaders/Advancement/RecordingAdvancements.aspx>. When first-time unit processors enter, they are greeted by a welcome page with instructions and invited to log in and accept a confidentiality agreement. Once they have provided some registration information, they move to an overview page with additional instructions. Returning users skip these steps and go directly to selecting members for advancement. Once this is done and verified, an advancement report is printed, signed, and forwarded to the local council as awards are purchased.

Because unit advancement processors access data directly from ScoutNet, deciphering handwriting is not an issue. The system also validates entries against advancement rules and generates error messages as appropriate. Errors must be corrected before the process can proceed.

If you have any questions, you can call either Candice Fabry or Sheryl Martin at the Council Service Center. Both can be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30a.m – 5:00p.m, at 515-266-2135.

Silver Beaver Recipients Selected

The Silver Beaver Award is the highest award for distinguished service to youth that can be awarded by a Boy Scout Council. Since 1931, the Silver Beaver has been presented to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work,

self sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. It is given to those who do not actively seek it.

Confidential nominations are accepted annually with selection being made by a select group of volunteers representing every district. Awards will be presented at each district's annual dinner or volunteer celebration.

The 2011 Class of Silver Beavers Award Recipients are:

Keith Bidne
Jerry Bubenyak
Dale Herzberg
Brenda Lindholm
Hugh O'Hagan
Mike Richmond
Richard Romeo
Randi Woods

Please congratulate these extraordinary volunteers for their dedicated service to youth.



Popcorn Top Sellers Recognition Event

2011 Mid-Iowa Council Project Popcorn Sale results – It's a record breaking year!

- Record sale, with 9% increase over 2010, resulting in \$1.57 million in sales and \$1.1 million for local Scouting programs
- Record 232 Scouts earned \$1,000 or more for Scouting programs which is up from 180 last year
- Record 37 Scouts earned college scholarships compared, to 24 in 2010

Raccoon River Valley Pack 38 from Windsor Heights sold \$41,067, qualifying as the first Mid-Iowa Council unit to rank in the USA top 50 units coming in at number 36! This is a new council all-time record high for a single unit sale!!” The top two scholarship earners were within \$150 of each other for top salesman. The previous council record for individual popcorn sales was \$5,500. The runner up is Dalton Ballard, from Raccoon River Valley Cub Scout Pack 38, with \$7,401 in sales.

The unit with the largest year over year sales gain going from \$1,400 to \$18,000, a 1,100% increase, is Hawk Eye Boy Scout Troop 73. Leading this tremendous gain in unit sales is 2011 Mid-Iowa Council Top Salesman, Jaden Schuster, setting a new all time council record with \$8,004 in sales.



3rd Annual Governor's Luncheon

The 3rd Annual Governor's Luncheon for Scouting will take place January 18, 2012 at Prairie Meadows Event Center, 11:30 AM. Thanks to Wendy Waugaman for leading this important kickoff event for the 2012 Friends of Scouting Campaign. If you would like to be a table host, willing to invite 9 others to join you at your table, please contact [Darla Hunzelman](#). For more information about the event, please visit the [event website](#).



Camp Mitigwa

From the Desk at Camp Mitigwa

Just wanted to remind everybody about the 2012 Camp Leaders Meeting to be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 9:00 am. The meeting will be held at the Mitchellville Community Center in Mitchellville, Iowa. For more information and/or directions, please call Ted Olson at 515-250-1825. **SEE YOU THERE!!** (Oh yes, Peggy will have the cinnamon rolls ready.)

Camp Staff

We are really getting geared up to hire people for staff positions at the Mitigwa Scout Reservation for the 2012 camping season. This year's season begins the first of June with staff training, and continues through the first of August. We are looking for young men and women, ages 16 and up, with leadership skills, to fill a host of positions.

Programs and Activities

Many new and exciting program opportunities are planned for the summer of 2012 at the Mitigwa Scout Reservation.

At Camp Akela

Look for some new and challenging activities for Webelos at Fort Madison. All of the camp sites have been refurbished, enlarged, and seeded. We are holding to our rotation of program so that returning Cub Scouts and Webelos are afforded the opportunity to test their skills and receive advancement from almost every activity planned.

At Camp Mitigwa

A largely enhanced older Scout program is going to be provided in 2012 as well as a restructured 'New Beginnings' first year camper program.

For further in-depth information, watch for the 2012 Camp Leader's Guide for both Camps Akela and Mitigwa, which is available at www.midiowacouncilbsa.org under Forms.

2012 Winter Survival Training

Winter Survival will take place Saturday, January 28, 2012, 8:00am to 4:00pm at Iowa State University Armory which is located at Pammel Drive and Russell Road in Ames, Iowa

This annual Mid-Iowa Council event brings to Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and adult leaders an opportunity to receive knowledge in how to survive under winter conditions.

The training event will host as many as 300 participants and is being conducted by the Army, R.O.T.C. staff and cadets at Iowa State University. This will be the 25th year they have provided this training.

Instructors will cover such subjects as: how to find your way, building fires and finding food, making shelters, signaling, games and a lot more.

Come dressed for the weather outside! This training includes both morning and afternoon sessions of classroom instruction and outdoor workshops. Scouts not properly dressed may be asked to stay inside.

The fee for this event is **\$20.00 per Youth Member or Adult Leader** attending. The fee includes a continental breakfast, lunch, coffee for adults, and patch. An "Army Survival Handbook" will be available for \$15.00 each. [Pre-order your "Army Survival Handbook" here.](#) Book orders placed after January 4 will be shipped via U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail.

Click here to [register online](#). Books may be purchased during registration online, also.

ADULT PARTICIPANTS – Adults will be permitted to attend the event and will be asked to attend both the indoor and outdoor sessions, and help provide assistance in keeping Scouts orderly and attentive. By doing this, leaders will be able to get the same tips the Scouts get, and help with the quality of the training.

WEBELOS SCOUTS are asked not to participate in this training. It is age and rank appropriate for Boy Scouts; Webelos will have the opportunity to participate after they become Boy Scouts.

SPACE IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 300 PAID PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED! MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY – NO LATER THAN JANUARY 20, 2012.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse

All persons involved in Scouting shall report to local authorities any good faith suspicion or belief that any child is or has been physically or sexually abused, physically or emotionally neglected, exposed to any form of violence or threat, exposed to any form of sexual exploitation including the possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography, online solicitation, enticement, or showing of obscene material. No person may abdicate this reporting responsibility to any other person.





The Highest Tribute

Memorials in Honor of:

Francis Giehl

Robert and Mary Scheetz

Ronald Holmes

Victor and Marilyn Sedlcek

Mark Toney

Alan Wilson

Lois Watson

Mike and Anita Canney



Need Help?

515-266-2135

800-999-SCOUT

Fax 515-265-4143

www.midiowacouncilbsa.org

The Clayman Service Center will be closed the following dates:

<i>Christmas</i>	Friday, December 23, 2011
	Monday, December 26, 2011
<i>New Year's Eve</i>	Friday, December 30, 2011