**January Newsletter**

* The Family Friends of Scouting Campaign is seeking volunteers to assist with putting on 10 minute presentations. If you are enthusiastic about Scouting, this is the perfect opportunity to share your passion with other Scouting families! Contact Ashley Metelski for details.
* Upcoming Virtual STEM University: Saturday, February 27th- SIUC. Registration opening soon!
* The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition a Boy Scout council can bestow on an adult volunteer leader. The award is presented to those volunteers who have provided noteworthy service that impacts the lives of youth and has made outstanding contributions to the Scouting program. Silver Beaver nominations are being accepted through January 31. Nomination forms can be found [here](https://stlbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2018-Nomination-Form.pdf). Completed nomination forms should be sent to kim.blumenberg@scouting.org
* Camp for free through February! Tent camping & day pass fees for all properties are complimentary now- end of February 2021. Some cabin rental and program fees have been reduced. Register [here!](https://stlbsa.org/properties/)
* Range Safety Officer, Rife Instructor and Shotgun Instructor trainings are all happening virtually. Range Safety training is January 23. Rifle Instructor training is February 6 & 7. Shotgun Instructor training is February 22 & 23. Candidates must complete Basic Instructor Training before taking these courses. Register [here](https://scoutingevent.com/312-41984).
* University of Scouting is going virtual! This event will be held January 25-31. Take all of the classes you desire from the comfort of your home. Register for classes [here](https://stlbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/). Registration closes on 1/20, so hurry and get signed up!
* Please submit your **unit renewal** and **Friends of Scouting presentation date** for 2021ASAP. These are due now. Ashley Metelski will be in contact with all unit leaders WEEKLY to get an updated status of this. If you need assistance with anything regarding unit renewals, please contact Ashley Metelski.
* Virtual Youth Protection Training will take place on January 23 from 9am-11am. Register [here](https://scoutingevent.com/312-YPTJanuary).
* The Southeast Missouri Eagle Court of Honor will take place on February 13, 2021 at Southeast Missouri State University. There is no luncheon this year due to the Coronavirus. Also, this event may change with short notice. Letters went out to 2020 Eagle Scouts last week. Walk-ins will not be allowed this year because a seating chart will be made to make sure everyone is socially distant at all times. We do need 4 Scouts in uniform to pass out programs. Scouts will need to be at the University by 1:30pm. If you have Scouts interested in helping, contact Ashley Metelski. To register for this event, please call 573-335-3346.
* The Spring 2021 course for Woodbadge will be held May 21-23 & June 5-6 at Beaumont. The informational dinner will be held March 29 (most likely virtually). Register [here](https://www.scoutingevent.com/312-2021woodbadgespring).
* Merit Badge Counselor renewal emails went out last week. If you are a Counselor, please check your email for how to complete the renewal process.
* An additional date for Camp Staff open interviews has been set for Wednesday, January 13 from noon-8pm. Go to <stlbsa.org/camps/work-at-our-camps>/ to complete the application and reserve the interview time. Interview times must be set by noon on Tuesday, January 12.
* ScoutFest 21 has been postponed due to the Coronavirus. No date for ScoutFest in the future is being set at this time.
* Mark your calendars to register for summer camp by May 5, 2021 to take advantage of our early bird camper savings discount! More information on our camps are located here: [www.stlbsa.org](http://www.stlbsa.org)