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Welcome to the Muir Newsletter for May 2020!



May 7, 2020 District Roundtable via Zoom

The May 2020 Roundtable is scheduled for **Thursday May 7 at 7:30 PM**, via a **Zoom link**. This link will be released soon on our *Muir District – MDSC Facebook Group Page*

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Rowntree - District Chair, rowntreesheila@att.net



Our Muir District Professional

Reminder: Alan Young, is our Muir District Director.

If you have any District/Council or BSA inquiries, feel free to contact him.

Alan's contact email is alan.young@scouting.org. His office number is (925) 674-6102.



A Word from our Chair

Welcome everyone to the April/May edition of Muir News.

If you have not heard yet, we are sheltering in place otherwise known as SIP. Just as you, my family and I would like for this to end as soon as soon as possible. We have many in our organization that are essential workers. We hope that they stay safe and try to get rest soon. For those of you teaching for the first time, this is a memory that your child will carry with them for a life time. Make it the best experience possible.

And now for District and Council news.

- Sat. April 25. 7-8pm Join us for live Cub Scout Virtual Camp-In (see attached flyer).
- Wednesday, April 29 at 7pm MDSC Zoom meeting regarding Scoutbook.
 - <https://zoom.us/j/93913709002?pwd=MytDSmEvQTZwdFJ3SXYxc1ZCM1JPQT09>
 - Meeting ID: 939 1370 9002
 - Password: 192949
- Thursday, May 7 - Zoom Roundtable at 7:30 pm (Zoom link, meeting id, and password will be released on our *Muir District – MDSC* Facebook Group page).
 - Join us to get the latest news. There have been many changes to advancement for both Cubs and Scouts. Come and hear all about them. Come also to let us know what you want to take away from Roundtable. Learn how to enhance your Units using Virtual meetings.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Scouting,

Sheila Rowntree
Muir District Chair
Mt Diablo Silverado Council, BSA
rowntreesheila@att.net



Commissioner's Minute

Below is a list of Commissioner Positions that you can volunteer for in the District. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested or have any questions!

Round Table Commissioners: Roundtable commissioners are responsible for the monthly Roundtable in the district. Roundtables are monthly meetings where scout leaders from all units attend. When skillfully executed, the roundtable experience will inspire, motivate, and enable unit leaders to provide a stronger program for their youth. There are two main purposes of Roundtables. First, to provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas – the know-how that makes for a successful unit. And second; to provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm, inspiration, and vision that periodically renews the desire to serve youth. Major responsibilities include:

COMMISSIONER MANUALS: SECTION TITLE JUNE 2018 4

- Recruit and train a staff of Assistant Roundtable commissioners to put on quality roundtables for unit personnel.
- Plan and conduct monthly roundtable programs using the National roundtable guidelines.
- Make arrangements for roundtables, including meeting places, equipment and supplies.

- Conduct regular critiques to determine how roundtables can be improved.
- Use Commissioner Tools to enter roundtable attendance.

Unit Commissioner: Many unit commissioners serve more than one type of unit. One might serve a Cub Scout pack, a Scouts BSA troop, Venturing crew, Sea Scout ship or an Explorer post in the same chartered organization. Other unit commissioners may serve only packs, only troops, only crews, only ships or only posts or clubs. Check with your commissioner leader or coach to see how your district is organized. The unit commissioner is a Scouting generalist whose passionate overriding mission in Scouting is to help units better serve more youth through scouting. Specific responsibilities COMMISSIONER MANUALS: SECTION TITLE JUNE 2018 3 include just 5 things. Listed under each are suggested methods for accomplishing the responsibility.

1. Supporting unit growth and retention through the Journey to Excellence.
 - a. Use the Unit Service Plan to help guide units to continuous improvement.
2. Making meaningful unit contacts that capture in commissioner tools their strengths, needs, and a unit service plan that enables continuing improvement.
 - a. Serve as the unit leader's friend and coach.
 - b. Offer encouragement and support.
 - c. Use a detailed collaborative assessment with the unit's leaders at least two times per year to review the unit's strengths and needs.
 - d. Create a Unit Service Plan based on the detailed collaborative assessment.
3. Linking unit needs to district operating committee and other resources.
 - a. Use members of the district operating committees to help meet the needs of your unit(s). As a unit commissioner you are not expected to know everything.
 - b. The district operating committee can provide access to subject matter experts who can address the unit's specific need.
 - c. Engage other resources (for example; from another unit) when needed.
4. Supporting timely unit, district, and council charter renewals.
 - a. Facilitate the on-time annual charter renewal of all assigned units using Internet Rechartering or the traditional paper rechartering method.
 - b. See that a completed charter renewal application is returned to the council service center.
 - c. Present the new charter at an appropriate meeting of the chartered organization.
5. Supporting unit leaders by delivering effective roundtables that provide program ideas relationship development, and timely communication.
 - a. Unit commissioner can promote roundtable attendance in their assign units.

Assistant District Commissioner: A district may have one or more assistant district commissioners. Each is responsible for an assigned share of the units in the district and the unit commissioners who serve those units. Assistant district commissioners are often assigned a geographic area of the district. They work closely with the district commissioner and district executive. Major responsibilities include:

- Become familiar with the vision the district commissioner has created and understand your role in fulfilling the vision.
- Recruit enough unit commissioners to serve their assigned units and area.
- Conduct personal coaching and orientation sessions for unit commissioners.
- Maintain regular contact with their unit commissioners to provide guidance in unit service needs.
- Meet with their team of unit commissioners at the monthly district commissioner meeting to plan specific actions to help units be more successful.
- Serve units with no assigned unit commissioner.
- Help unit commissioners evaluate and improve their unit service performance.
- Assist unit commissioners in using Commissioner Tools, including adding entries for commissioners who are unable to add their own.
- Track charter renewal status of all their units.
- Use Commissioner Tools to review the health of the units; review commissioner activity in recording contacts and creating unit service plans; and monitor roundtable attendance.
- Be sure to recognize the accomplishments of the commissioners in your charge.

Thank you, Yours in Scouting,
 Paul Steelhammer
 Muir District Commissioner
 Mt Diablo Silverado Council, BSA
 (925) 348-2985
PaulSteelhammer.MDC@gmail.com

Muir District Camporee CANCELLED

This was announced on 3/25/2020

- The safety of our members is always a top priority of our organization. In light of recent events, the Muir District Camporee that was scheduled for April 24 - 26, 2020 at the Sugarloaf Open Space **is cancelled this year**. Thank you for your understanding.

Muir District Dinner POSTPONED

This was announced on 3/11/2020

- The safety of our members is always a top priority of our organization. In light of recent events, the Muir District Recognition Dinner scheduled for March 21, 2020 at the Concord Senior Center **has been postponed to a later date**. A new date will be posted as soon as we deem it appropriate and safe to conduct the event. Thank you for your understanding.

Muir District Facebook Page

For updates on what's happening in the Muir District, please join our Facebook Group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/?ref=bookmarks>



Friends of Scouting 2020

FOS Update

As of today, the Muir District has over \$9,200 in pledges and payments. If you or friends or family members would like to support Scouting, you can do so by donating through text to give.

To make a one-time payment or pledge, text scoutsnow to 1-844-615 4269.

To make installment or recurring payments, text scouts4evr to 1-844 615-4269.

Your contribution or pledge will help support the Scouting program in our community.

Arnel Jaime | Associate Development Director

arnel.jaime@scouting.org

(925) 451-0330



Resources from BSA for Activities to do at Home

1. COVID-19 FAQ's

https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=swvolunteer04082020&utm_medium=email&utm_content=

2. Merit Badges for Social Distancing

https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/20/merit-badges-for-social-distancing/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=swvolunteer3252020&utm_medium=email&utm_content=

3. Scouting at Home

https://scoutingmagazine.org/2020/04/show-tell-scouting-at-home/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=swvolunteer04082020&utm_medium=email&utm_content=

4. Projects for kids that you can do at home



Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities

This was announced on 4/08/2020.

As Scouting moves to virtual and online platforms, we offer the following reminders to help keep kids safe. The below guidelines applies to all online Scouting activities and meetings.

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/digital-safety-and-online-scouting-activities/?fbclid=IwAR0NRPabsRGXTPz3BFJS7o5ZuisgV7WzfG3lJE2wf7xcc67qfRz47QkyTYY>

This was announced on 4/04/2020.



Scouters and Scouting Families,

I hope you and your family members are safe and healthy. We're following California's and Contra Costa Counties Shelter in Place directive, as well as following other important guidelines established for public safety. Our staff is safe, healthy and learning more about Zoom, every day!

With the most recent order to close all non-essential businesses, our Council Service Center and camps will remain closed through Sunday, May 3, 2020. If we reopen on Monday, May 4, 2020, we will follow all prescribed safety protocols of social distancing. When our Council Service Center reopens, we anticipate our National Scouts Shops will too and I will write you again when we know more.

During our closure, our employees are working at home and being paid, and their healthcare and other benefits have continued. We are also current with our vendors and have processed many refunds for programs already cancelled. We have been able to do this because of the generosity of many people and exceptional stewardship of council leaders.

Scouting is at its best when others are in need and it is inspiring to see so many innovative ways Scouters are delivering program through virtual meetings and other At Home Scouting methods. Popular links getting updated regularly are www.scouting.org/scoutingathome and www.mdscbsa.org. We have a great staff working hard to provide leaders as many resources as we can.

Even in these unique times, our Scout Oath stills resonates, "**to help other people at all times**". There are ways Scouting can help now and in the future. Food and blood banks are in great need, but don't forget your neighbor who may be living with pain and loneliness and need an uplifting word or a good deed. Also, please don't forget Mt. Diablo Silverado Council. I know many of our families have been hurt with loss of income, so if you can help us keep Scouting strong, please make a gift at <https://www.mdscbsa.org/donate2020/>

We need to care for our families and each other. It is going to take some new approaches to Scouting, but we are all going to learn new ways to provide Scouting to our youth. They deserve our innovation and tenacity to deliver the promise of Scouting.

Thank you for all you do for Scouting and our youth in the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council.

Yours in Scouting,

John C. Fenoglio
Scout Executive/CEO



Mt. Diablo
Silverado Council



Cub Scouting/Scouts BSA/Venturing/Sea Scouting Rank Advancement and the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Questions and Answers

This was announced on 4/04/2020.

The following questions regarding advancement have arisen as we deal with closures, cancellations, or other issues caused by the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Although there are difficulties and constraints, advancement can continue. Youth, parents, and leaders should work together to implement creative, common sense ways to facilitate advancement while adhering to the Guide to Safe Scouting and following the rules of Youth Protection training.

Please follow this link to the [Guide to Advancement \(GTA\)](#), which remains the primary source for information related to Scouts BSA advancement. It is referenced throughout the answers provided here.

Please send additional questions to advancement.team@scouting.org

Link below:

https://www.mdscbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/18MAR2020_QA-Regarding-COVID-19-Related-Advancement-Difficulties_FINAL.docx.pdf



Ordering Advancement items

This was announced on 4/04/2020.

Since our Scout Shop is closed for the time being, here is the temporary procedure for ordering advancement items from National Supply.

1. Unit Leaders are to email an Advancement Report to:
NDCSupply.Orders@scouting.org
 2. Include a contact phone number which a Customer Service Team Member will use to make contact for payment information.
 3. Customer Service reps will contact Unit Leaders for credit card information along with shipping and billing address information, and to verify the Council and the actual Advancement needed.
 4. The Customer Service Team is responsible for sending, via FedEx, all original reports to the Council's Registrar.
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Potential Eagle Scout Service Project

Susie Smario of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District has a potential Eagle Scout Service project to make 14 cornhole games to help special education students with physical education throughout the school district. She may be contacted at smarios@mdusd.org or 925-250-6194 for more information.

- Excerpt of email from MDSC Scout Executive:

Scoutmasters,

We were contacted by Susie Smario (925-250-6194) with the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, asking if we could put out to our Scoutmasters or Advancement chairs a project. The students Susie works with are in Concord and Pleasant Hill area.

She is looking for 14ish cornhole games for her students, who are at home, until fall. This could be an Eagle project for a Scout.

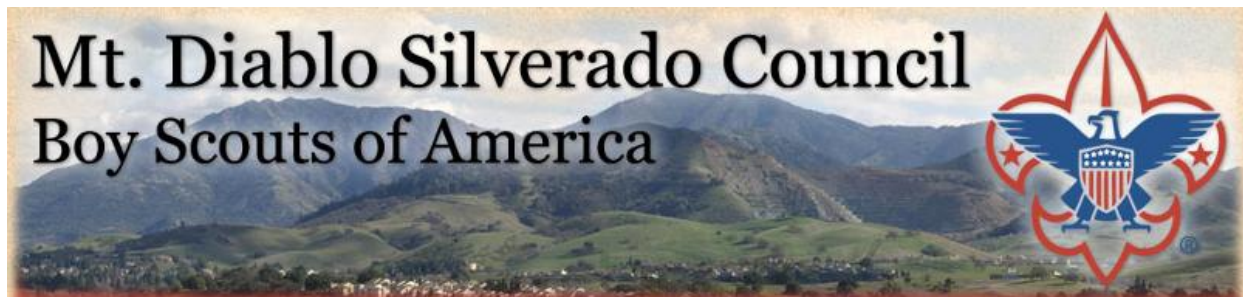
Thank you,

John C. Fenoglio

Scout Executive/CEO

Mt. Diablo Silverado Council

925-674-6150



Mt. Diablo Silverado Council Virtual Cub Scout Camp-In 2 Options: *Zoom or Facebook Live Stream*

You are invited to an MDSC Virtual Cub Scout Camp-In!
See flyer for Facebook Live Stream information but see below for Zoom Meeting ID & Password:

Time: Apr 25, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97422234054?pwd=MURjZGdER0lYQXdqSkxOVHppQ2Rmdz09>

Meeting ID: 974 2223 4054

Password: 836401

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,97422234054# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,97422234054# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 974 2223 4054

V/r,

Andrea Portillo-Knowles | Silverado District Executive | Learning for Life Exploring Advisor

Mt. Diablo Silverado Council Virtual Cub Scout Camp-In

Come join us for an evening of Camp Songs, Camp Stories and Fun!

¡Ven y únete a nosotros para una noche de canciones del campamento, historias de campamento y divertido!



- ♦ **Date/Fecha:** April 25, 2020
- ♦ **Time/Hora:** 7:00-8:00 PM
- ♦ **Join us Live on our Facebook Page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/bsamndsc>

Details/Detalles:

Join in LIVE with Den Leaders from across our Council who will lead our Cub Scouts in some of our favorite camp songs, tell a camp story and more! Whether you're camping out in your living room or back yard, grab your family and favorite camp snack, this is an event you don't want miss!

**¡Únete en VIVO con Líderes del Den de todo nuestro Consejo que guiarán a nuestros Cub Scouts en algunas de nuestras canciones favoritas del campamento, contarán una historia del campamento y más! Ya sea que esté acampando en la sala de estar o en el patio trasero, tome a su familia y su merienda favorita, ¡este es un evento que no querrá perderse!

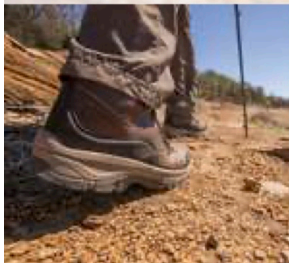


MDSC's Go Take a Hike Challenge

The Mount Diablo Silverado Council Challenges you to...

TAKE A HIKE!

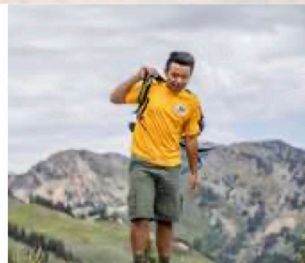
Let's work together to promote physical wellness during these challenging times by safely and responsibly experiencing the outdoors. The Mt. Diablo Silverado Council invites you to Take A Hike with your family and share your experience with us. Be sure to adhere to your local social distancing and shelter in place guidelines in order to do our part to keep ourselves and those around us safe!



WHO: All MDSC Scouts and their families!

WHEN: Sunday, May 3rd

WHERE: Take a hike at the closest trailhead to home, or around town in your community



Wear your favorite Scout shirt and share pictures and details of your hike with us on your social media pages and on the MDSC Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/bsamdsc/>

Use hashtag #MDSCtakeahike



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MOUNT DIABLO SILVERADO COUNCIL

ALL BSA TRAINING IS ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters. To be registered as TRAINED in your role you need to complete the following courses

- Scoutmaster/ Assistant Scoutmaster Position Training
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- YPT Youth Protections

HAZARDOUS WEATHER TRAINING

Please take or update your training before your first outdoor or camping activity.

Since April 2018 BSA has required adult volunteer direct-contact leaders in all outdoor programs to take the NEW (April 2018) *Hazardous Weather Training* (SCO_800). This training is [available online](https://www.mdscbsa.org/hazardous-weather-training/).
<https://www.mdscbsa.org/hazardous-weather-training/>

This change affects [basic position-specific leader training](#) for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
- Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
- Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
- Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
- Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)

Save the Date: Muir-Briones Day Camp 2020 – July 6-10 (This event is TBD)

Muir-Briones Day Camp is looking for key staff volunteers for 2020.

- Day Camp Director (Sept 2019 – July 2020)
- Communications Coordinator (Sept 2019 – July 2020)
- Volunteer Coordinator (April 2020-July 2020)
- Food Service Manager (June 2020-July 2020)

Descriptions:

Day Camp Director – Reports to the District Executive (staff member of the council), Must attend Camp School (Training which is good for 5 years), Is part of the Council Day Camp committee that meets once a month on the 3rd Monday of the month, has overall responsibility for Day Camp, Supervise the volunteer personnel and operating details of the camp.

Pre-Camp Duties: Prepares camp budget, Locate and Secure Camp Location (location Agreement), hold meetings with key staff, pack reps and troop reps, opens up camp registration on Jan 1, conducts Volunteer training, updates standards binder, Orders supplies, puts together daily prize program and orders prizes. Assigns scouts to dens based on rank, tries to keep scouts from the same pack same rank in a den together.

During Camp: Accreditation including show the accreditation team around camp, answers questions, goes over Day Camp binder. Supervises set and take down of camp, leads the opening and closing ceremonies along with Program Director, Daily prize program and takes care of problems arising at camp.

Communications Coordinator - Promotes day camp attendance and volunteer recruiting at: Roundtables, Pack meetings, Troop Meetings, Schools, Newspapers/Social Media/On-Line News. Communication with Parents about camp including hours, sign-in, pick-up, what to bring, what is expected.

Unexpired current Youth Protection Certificate

Fill out an Adult Application if not registered with you Pack, Troop or Crew.

Volunteer Coordinator – Assigns adult and Jr. Helpers to tasks at camp. Collects volunteer paper work including, medical forms, shooting forms, Youth Protection, leaders guide signature, Adult Applications and Youth Applications for Jr. Helpers (if not already registered).

Food Service Manager - This person needs a food handler's card and will be responsible for camp kitchen. Duties include picking up donated fruit and Veggie's on Saturday before camp, Pick up (buying) popcorn and snow cone supplies as need from Cash and Carry, picking up (buying) hot dog lunch supplies at Sam Club on Thursday night of camp, Picking up (buying with donated gift cards) volunteer breakfast items from Safeway. You will be supervising kitchen volunteers with coffee and hot water making, preparing veggies and fruit, popping popcorn, making snow cones, washing and sanitizing dishes and machines.

Leave No Trace Trainer Courses (The May 30-31, 2020 Training event is TBD)

Check out this flyer for the LNT Trainer courses that MDSC Outdoor Ethics Committee is offering this year! The Spring Course will be May 30-31, 2020 at the Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa, and the Fall Course will be October 17-18, 2020 at Camp Herms.



Outdoor Ethics - Leave No Trace Trainer Class May 30-31, 2020 Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa October 17-18, 2020 at Camp Herms

Participants in this 16 hour (plus an overnight) **LNT Trainer Course** learn about **Leave No Trace, TREAD Lightly! and Wildland Ethics** including teaching techniques necessary for disseminating these critical **Outdoor Ethics** skills to their Scouting units.

At the completion of the course, all participants will be recognized by the **Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics** as Leave No Trace Trainers and qualified to train Scouts and the community-at-large to be conservation minded.

This course is open to adults and youth (Scouts BSA or Venturers) who are at least age 14 by the first day of class if they are currently registered with the BSA. Completion of this course is highly recommended for Scouts who wish to hold the **Outdoor Ethics Guide** position of responsibility and for unit leaders who want to implement Outdoor Ethics effectively within their unit.

The LNT Trainer course will run from 8:00 a.m. Saturday through 1 pm Sunday. The "early bird" price is \$35 through Friday, 8 days before the course and \$45.00 thereafter with a maximum of 20 participants. Refunds for elective cancellation are 70 to 80% per Council policy; no elective refunds are available the last week before a course. Register on line at <https://scoutingevent.com/023-LNTT2020> and select the course (May or October) you want to register for. Registrants will receive further details by email.

This course will be entirely outdoors, in a quasi backpacking format involving an overnight campout and a day hike. Participants will plan, bring and cook their own meals and each participant will be required to give a ten minute presentation using the skills they have learned and materials they prepared before the course. Learn more about Leave No Trace at www.lnt.org.

Questions can be directed to Lillian Remer, course director, at remer@astound.net.



Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts:

District Advancement Chair: Bill Spalding: 925-586-9136, spaldingwilliam62@gmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, cbodin@usa.net

District Eagle Board of Review: Karen Hansen: 925-825-9132, eaglechairkarenhansen@gmail.com

District Communications Contact

If you would like to contribute items to the Muir Newsletter or the Muir Facebook Page or Instagram, please contact **Patrick Jaime**, patrickj0208@yahoo.com by the *21st of every month* so that it can be added to the outgoing newsletters.

District Committee Leadership

- **Alan Young** - District Director, alan.young@scouting.org
- **Sheila Rowntree** - District Chair, rowntreesheila@att.net
- **Paul Steelhammer** - District Commissioner, PaulSteelhammer.MDC@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails? You are receiving this newsletter because you have a Scout, you are a registered leader, or you are interested in Scouting events in the Concord, Clayton, Martinez, or Pacheco areas. **Please do not unsubscribe! This is your source for valuable information on Scouting in the Muir District as well as for the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council.** If you have any questions or concerns regarding the newsletter, please contact **Patrick Jaime**, patrickj0208@yahoo.com. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please reply to this email and Patrick will take you off the District email list. If you unsubscribe yourself, you will not receive any communications from Council, and we don't want that to happen.



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