



# Mountain Valley District December 2023 / January 2024 Newsletter

Roundtable	
12/7 6:30 pm	Hybrid: In-person at the MVD Service Center, 1902 W Dickerson, or via ZOOM, <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9455158252">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9455158252</a> Meeting ID: 945 515 8252
Roundtable Agenda	
6:30 - 7:30	Drop in format: Ask questions, provide feedback, or simply chit-chat with District Leadership and others! Christmas cookies for all those who come to visit in person.
District Calendar	
12/1	Additional Parent Info due to your Unit Commissioner
12/2	Cub Scouts Shooting Sports Day, 9 am
12/7	Unit Recharterers Due - contact your Unit Commissioner for help if needed
12/14	MVD Committee Holiday Party, 6 pm
12/14	OA Chapter meeting, 6:30 pm St. James Episcopal Church
12/15	Annual Charter Agreements due to <a href="mailto:kdaughenbaugh@gmail.com">kdaughenbaugh@gmail.com</a>
12/18 - 20	Scout Shop closed for inventory
12/21	No District Committee Meeting this month! 
12/22 - 25	Merry Christmas! MVD offices closed
1/1	Happy New Year! MVD offices closed
1/4	No January Roundtable
1/5 - 7	Big Sky Ski weekend
1/20	District Pinewood Derby Kickoff, 1 pm
2/11	Cub Scout Snow Tubing and S'mores, 1 pm
2/23 - 25	Winter Camporee, more info soon!

Safety Moment
Campfires are an integral component of Scouting, but make sure safety is a priority! Stay outside of the campfire ring, don't run, jump, or play around the fire, and once it's in, it stays in! Never pull anything out of the fire.

District News, Celebrations, and Thanks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scouters, please join us for <b>MVD's annual Holiday Party on Dec 14, 6 - 8 pm</b> at the Eubank's, 435 Comfort Lane. Please bring a finger food to share. Expect goofy games and prizes! We hope to see you there!</li> <li>Congratulations to Troop 649 Scoutmaster Paul Rodgers, who received the Montana Spirit Award from KSKY Country. In addition to Scouting, Paul also volunteers as a coach for both wrestling and rugby. You work hard, Paul. Congrats!!</li> <li>Congratulations to MVD's newest Eagle Scout Carter Steinagel from Belgrade Troop 649.</li> <li>Thank you to Mike O'Donnell, Coby Dawson, and Theo Peterson for their hard work for the Cub Scout Shooting Sports Day on Dec 2.</li> <li>Thanks to Pack 3671 for helping at the Gallatin Valley Mall Service Project and recruiting event for Cub Scouts! We made lots of toys for Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter, and the Cubs practiced their knots!</li> <li>MVD Scouts sold \$179,904 worth of popcorn. Wow! Thank you all!</li> <li>Happy Holidays from your District Leadership! We look forward to working with you all in the new year. 🌲 Renee, Tina, Katie, and Betsy</li> </ul>

Membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have gained a few members since last month, and are now at 344! If you are doing something fun over the holidays, or working on a service project, you can make it a friend event too!</li> <li>Next Open House event for forming Cub Pack 3901 is a Holiday Snowball Extravaganza featuring indoor snowball throwing and holiday fun. Spread the word for this <b>Tuesday, December 12 event, 6:15 - 7:30 at Eagle Mount.</b></li> </ul>



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- If you need more information, just email me! Betsy ([eubanks.betsy@gmail.com](mailto:eubanks.betsy@gmail.com))

## Commissioner Corner

- **Unit recharterers are due December 7!** You may wonder why we have an earlier deadline than December 31, when they are officially due with BSA. The answer is **HOLIDAYS**. Your commissioner staff and DE don't want to chase people down when they could be enjoying time with their families over Christmas and New Year's. Don't delay, submit today!
- You should have been contacted by your Unit Commissioner for additional parent information (**was due Dec 1**) and the Annual Charter Agreement (**due Dec 15**). If you don't know what I'm talking about, please contact your UC. Otherwise please gather this info ASAP. Thank you!

## Cub Scout Activities

- Don't miss the **District Pinewood Derby Kick-off, January 20, 2024, 1 - 4 pm in Norm Asbjornson Hall at MSU**. Have you ever wondered why some Pinewood Derby cars are faster or slower than others or how to make your car go faster? You will get your answer at our District Pinewood Derby Kickoff! Engineers from Montana State University will help you and your friends understand the physics of your car and what you can do to improve your design. You and your friends will build a car using modern manufacturing techniques and see how fast it goes. Finally, take your ideas and build your car at home for a fun Pinewood Derby race with your pack.
- **Cub Scout Snow Tubing & S'mores, February 11, 1 - 3 pm, Yellowstone Alliance Adventures**. Over the river and through the woods... to join Cub Scouts across the district for an afternoon of snow tubing, cocoa & s'mores at Yellowstone Alliance Adventures... we go! Dress in layers and prepare for the outdoors including snow pants, snow boots, wool socks, and a water-repellent outer top layer. Bring an extra pair of socks and/or boots. Older siblings and friends who are interested in

learning more about scouting are welcome to join! Price is \$20 and includes unlimited tubing fun and equipment, cocoa & s'mores. We are holding this event in lieu of our traditional Winter Klondike. Register [here](#), and all participants must sign this [waiver](#) before the event.

## Older Scout Activities

- Could your unit use some bear spray? Stop by the MVD Service Center and get some from Renee!
- **Winter Camporee is in the works! Mark your unit's calendar for Feb 23-25, 2024**. The theme is Astronomy and Space Exploration at Headwaters State Park. Additional details coming soon.
- The OA's Tatanka Chapter offers camping scholarships each year to help a Scout offset the cost of summer camp. This can be used for any long term camp; a traditional summer camp, high adventure base, National Jamboree, World Jamboree, or Webelos camp for Cub Scouts. Click [here](#) to access the application.
- You can still sign up for the WAITLIST for the Big Sky Ski weekend Jan 4 - 6. Sign up [here](#).
- If you are interested in participating in a Glacier National Park service project in 2024, please see [here](#) for more information and required documentation. Slots fill up early so register now!
- National Eagle Scout Association scholarships are now accepting applications! See [here](#) for more information and to apply.

## Training Update

- Wilderness First Aid registration opens Nov 1. Sign up [here](#). Note that every outing that is greater than one hr away from medical services needs at least one WFA trained adult; recertification is required every two years.
- Cub Scout Rangemaster training is March 24, 8 - 12 pm in Helena. Please contact Coby if interested in attending, [dawsonmt@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonmt@gmail.com).



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## How you can help

- Cub Scout Pack 3901 is actively recruiting for special needs kids! Reach out to friends, neighbors, and colleagues whose children could benefit from this opportunity. Email [cubpack3901@gmail.com](mailto:cubpack3901@gmail.com) for more information.
- Do you have any great ideas for future Camporee themes or locations? Do you have any contacts in the community that may be able to help? Email Steve at [sliebmnn7177@earthlink.net](mailto:sliebmnn7177@earthlink.net) so we can use that for Winter Camporee planning.
- Purchase an OA collectors patch set in the Scout Shop to help offset the cost of the youth attending next year's National Order of the Arrow Conference in Boulder, CO. Scout Shop hours [here](#).

## Unit Resources

- At the November Roundtable we brainstormed ideas for field trips for your Cubs and Older Scouts. See [here](#) for a complete list!
- Need gift ideas for the Scout or Scouter in your life? See [here](#) for a curated list of gear from Troops 619 and 676.
- Consider making some scout-approved [Christmas cookies](#) this season!

## Stay Connected

- Send activity photos or other information to share to [MVD315@gmail.com](mailto:MVD315@gmail.com).
- MVD Remind: Text @scoutmvd to 81010
- MVD Remind for Membership: Text @joinmvd to 81010
- MVD Remind for Camporee: Text @campmvd to 81010
- Website: <https://montanabsa.org/districts/mountain-valley/5/>
- Facebook: [Mountain Valley District-Montana Council](#)
- Instagram: [MVDMTBSA](#)
- Monthly Electronic News - If you aren't receiving the monthly news:
  - It may be in SPAM. Search and add this address to your contacts: [MVD315-gmail.com@vrmailer3.com](mailto:MVD315-gmail.com@vrmailer3.com)
  - You may not be signed up! Add your name to the newsletter on the [MVD website](#).