

Recognize Excellence in Scouting

Are you ready to recognize the exceptional adult leaders in your Scouting community? We're excited to announce that nominations are now open for various prestigious Scouting America recognition awards. These awards honor individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievements, leadership, and commitment to the values of Scouting. Whether it's a dedicated Scouter who has gone above and beyond or a volunteer who has made a significant impact on their troop or community, there's an award to celebrate their accomplishments.

Time is running out! Nominations for the Scouting America awards close on **Sunday, January 12, 2025**. Submit your nomination now and ensure your favorite Scout or leader is considered for this special honor.



Silver Beaver Award

The role of adult leaders in Scouting America has been a cornerstone of the organization since its inception. From the early days of its founding to the present, adult volunteers have provided invaluable guidance, support, and mentorship to countless young people. Without the leadership of caring

adults, Scouting ceases to exist and therefore, it is important that we take time to recognize those in our community who have volunteered their time and mentorship to our youth.

One way we honor these leaders is through nominating a Scouter for the Silver Beaver Award, the highest adult recognition a council can bestow. We invite you to think about those in your unit or district who have left a lasting impact on the youth of your community and consider nominating them for the Silver Beaver Award.

Nomination Form



North Star

It is not just Scouters and adult volunteers who impact the youth of our community. In 2011 The North Star Award was established to acknowledge the invaluable support of non-Scouters who have contributed to the success of Scouting programs. This includes individuals who have donated time, money, or other resources to Scouting initiatives, as well as those who have provided guidance and leadership. We encourage you to nominate any non-scouters who have left a lasting impact on our Scouting community to be honored at this year's recognition dinner.

Nomination Form



Elbert K. Fretwell Award

The Elbert K. Fretwell Award is a prestigious honor in Scouting that recognizes teachers, educational support staff, and school administrators who have made significant contributions to the lives of young people by instilling Scouting values in their students. The award is named after Dr. Elbert K. Fretwell, a professor of education at Columbia University, an early thinker in the Scouting movement, and the second Chief Scout Executive of Scouting America.

Nomination Form



Alumnus Award

The Alumnus Award is a valuable opportunity for former Scouts to stay connected to the organization and continue making a positive impact on their communities. It is a recognition

designed to encourage participation and involvement in Scouting America's alumni relations programs, including NESAs activities. It is awarded to Scouting alumni who promote continued engagement with Scouting America.

Nomination Form



George Meany Award

The George Meany Award is a national recognition approved by the AFL-CIO Executive Council. It may be presented to any adult union member who has made a significant contribution to the youth of their community through Scouting. Each AFL-CIO city central labor council and each AFL-CIO state federation is permitted to give one award annually. The emphasis of this award is on the importance of being selective. There is no rule that the quota must be used every year. No honorary recognitions should be made. The purpose of this award is to recognize the recipient's outstanding service to youth through the programs of Scouting America.

Nomination Form



Council Duty to God Award

In Scouting America, the Council Duty to God Award is a prestigious recognition bestowed upon registered Scouters who have demonstrated exemplary leadership in supporting and promoting the spiritual foundation of Scouting at the local Council level. Overall, the Council Duty to God Award is a testament to the importance of spiritual growth and leadership within Scouting America. It highlights the organization's commitment to nurturing the character and values of its members through a strong spiritual foundation.

Nomination Form



Veteran Award

Honor the dedicated adults who have served the Boy Scouts of America for five or more years with the Veteran's Award. This

prestigious recognition celebrates those who have consistently contributed to the organization, embodying the values of Scouting and making a lasting impact on the lives of young people. If you or someone you know meets these criteria, we encourage you to nominate them for this well-deserved honor.

Nomination Form

“Around The Campfire” Podcast – Episode Seven

Monthly Podcast from the Scouting America Mayflower Council.

Around The Campfire Podcast from Scouting America Mayflower Council for leaders and volunteers.

March 2025 episode features:

- Meet our new team member **Dirk Correia**
 - Updates about Order of the Arrow Elections and the Eagle Scout Application with **Aaron Christian**
 - Spring Recruitment Information – Check out the video.
 - Programming Update for the Spring with Satina Craffey – Register for events at mayflowerbsa.org/events
 - Development Update with **Jim Corcoran; Development Director for Mayflower Council**
 - New Member Coordinator Training – *Email Rob DiFazio for details about the March 31st and April 9th Watch Parties*
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Mayflower Council Mar. 2025 Roundtable

Slides for our March Roundtable are posted at the links below. Also posted is information on Campfire Safety and our “mini-hot-topics”: Leadership Succession Planning and Annual Unit Planning. Links to Scouting References are on the slide in the presentation. Thanks to those who participated.

Our April Roundtable will be held on Wed. April 2, live at the Furnace Brook Middle School in Marshfield and hybrid on the Council’s Zoom platform (see the council calendar for the link to sign up for the hybrid broadcast). This session’s planned topics include presentations on International Scouting Awards, Religious Awards, Other Non-advancement-related Awards, and the Camp Squanto Summer Program. Good news for you – these presentations are led by people other than me!

There will be no breakout sessions in April, the main session will run from 7-8 PM, and the hybrid broadcast will terminate at that point. Cranberry Harbors District will be presenting its final set of District Awards from 8-8:40 PM. Headwaters, Metacomet, Post Road and Sachem District Scouters should check with your District Leaders for your awards presentation schedule.

I hope you’ll join us in April.

Mar_RT-Slides_Final3

CampfireSafety

ScoutingAmericaSafetyMoment_CampfireSafety

RTHT-Leader-Succession-Planning

RT-HT-Annual-Plan.docx

Celebrate Scouting Council Recognition Dinner!

Mark your calendars for the **2025 Annual Council Recognition Dinner** at the stunningly renovated **Belvedere at Lake Pearl!** This is your chance to celebrate the remarkable achievements of Scouters and community members who have made a significant impact.

Own a Piece of Camp Squanto History!

Camp Squanto's 100th Anniversary

Celebrate a century of Scouting tradition with a piece of history!

Limited Edition Patch Sets



100th Anniversary CSP & Flap Set: Own a symbol of this milestone.

Price: \$50

Details: This set includes a special 100th Anniversary CSP (Council Shoulder Patch) and OA (Order of the Arrow) Flap.

Patch Set Includes:

- Camp Squanto 100 CSP
- OA Lodge Shoulder Flap

Order Your Set Today!



Camp Squanto Landmarks CSP Set: A collector's set featuring iconic landmarks of Camp Squanto.

Price: \$150

Details: This set comprises four unique CSPs, each showcasing a different landmark within the camp.

Patch Set Includes:

- Camp Squanto 100 CSP
- OA Lodge Shoulder Flap
- #1 Squanto Totem Pole
- #2 Dining Hall
- #3 Casoni Museum
- #4 Waterfront

Order Your Set Today!



Very Limited, Numbered Patch Sets: A special set of six commemorative patches; each patch in the set features a gold metallic border and honors the history of Camp Squanto.

Price: \$250

Details: These very special patch sets will be numbered, from number 6 up to number 100, and will be distributed in a first

come, first served basis.

Each patch set will include the following six (6) patches with a gold metallic border:

- Camp Squanto 100 CSP
- OA Lodge Shoulder Flap
- #1 Squanto Totem Pole
- #2 Dining Hall
- #3 Casoni Museum
- #4 Waterfront

Pre-orders are being taken until Friday, May 30th, 2025. Complete sets are available for \$250 through pre-order only. Patches will not be sold separately. Patch numbers will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Order Your Set Today!

Every purchase supports vital projects at Camp Squanto. Help us ensure another 100 years of unforgettable memories!

Here's how to order:

- **Online:** Visit CampSquanto100.givesmart.com to place your order.
- **Mail:** Complete the order form and mail it with your payment to:

Scouting America Mayflower Council
83 Cedar Street
Milford, MA 01757

Transition To Council-Centric Model On May 1

The Mayflower Council is transitioning to a council-centric support model to better serve Scouting units on May 1, 2025. This change involves moving from district committees to council-level committees. District-level volunteers are encouraged to stay involved by shifting to the new council-wide committees, and units will now work directly with these committees. This restructuring aims to streamline operations, reduce administrative overhead, and enhance support for local Scouting activities.

Key Points of the Transition

- **Consolidation:** On May 1, 2025, the existing five districts (Cranberry Harbors, Headwaters, Metacomet, Post Road, and Sachem) will be consolidated into a single council-wide district named the Mayflower District.
- **Volunteer Roles:** While specific district-level positions like district chair and vice-chair will be eliminated, volunteers are encouraged to continue their service at the council level.
- **Support Structure:** Unit Commissioners will continue to support units, and Roundtable meetings will still be held at the council level, likely in a hybrid format.
- **Event Management:** Council-level volunteer committees will now oversee events like Freeze Out and Webelos Woods, with efforts made to include previous district-level volunteers.
- **Communication:** A new social media group, "Mayflower

Leaders Growing Leaders,” will be launched in early March to enhance communication and collaboration across the council. Existing district email addresses will be transitioned into new council-wide addresses.

Impact on Local Unit Leaders

- Unit leaders (den leaders, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, etc.) will continue to deliver the Scouting Program.
- Points of contact will shift from district-level volunteers or professionals to council-wide personnel.
- The goal is to improve program delivery and support consistency across the council.

How to Get Involved

- Volunteers are needed at all levels.
- Express your interest by emailing the transition team.

For more detailed information or specific concerns, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) or contact the transition team at transformation@mayflowerbsa.org.

Mayflower Council Feb. 2025 Roundtable

Slides from our February Mayflower Council Roundtable are posted below, along with supplemental data from the session, including the Winter Safety Moment, “Normal Friends Activities” sheets (including Winter NFA’s, Talking to Friends

about Scouting, Five Steps for an open house, and Parent engagement to boost membership), Supplemental Training Information, and Building the Unit Leader Team. During the breakout session, there was discussion on using parent talent surveys to help build better Unit Leader Teams. Parent survey forms (from BSA National) for Packs, Troops and Crews are also posted – I could not find one for Ships. Please feel free to modify these forms as you see fit for your unit’s use. Our next roundtable will be at the Furnace Brook Middle School in Marshfield (and broadcast on the Council’s zoom platform) on Wed. Mar. 12. I hope to see you there.

Feb_RT-Slides_FinalPost

Winter Sports Safety

Winter-Sports-NFAs

Talking-to-Friends-About-Scouting

Five-Steps-for-an-Open-House

Parent-Engagment-Helps-Boost-Membership-Retention

Supplemental-Training

Building-the-unit-leader-team

CubPackFamilyTalentSurvey

TroopParentResourceSurvey

VentureCrew_AdultSurvey

“Around The Campfire” Podcast – Episode Six

Monthly Podcast from the Scouting America Mayflower Council.

Around The Campfire Podcast from Scouting America Mayflower Council for leaders and volunteers.

February 2025 episode features:

- Anniversaries and Name Change information with Juan Osorio, Scout Executive
 - Meet our new team members, Satina Craffey and Colleen Kinney
 - Arrow Of Light to Scouts BSA Transitions with Aaron Christian
 - Sneak Peek of the Council Recognition Dinner
 - Council Membership Plan Update
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Jan. 2025 Mayflower Council Roundtable

Slides from the January 2025 Mayflower Council hybrid roundtable are posted below. Also posted is a slide with links for the Troop/Crew/Ship ILST breakout, and the discussion .pdf for that topic. Thanks to all who participated. Apologies for our technical difficulties during the session, in particular with breakout room set up and sign in. We will work to correct these issues. Our next roundtable is Wed. Feb. 5, live at the Furnace Brook Middle School in Marshfield. Sign up link for the hybrid session is on the council calendar.

Jan_RT-Slides_Final

BSA_Breakout_TitleSlide

JanRT_TroopBreakout_ILST_Discussion

Meet the Team: Rick Riopelle

*For our latest #meettheteammonday on Mayflower Council's social media, we sat down with **Rick Riopelle, Deputy Scout Executive!***

Rick, what is your favorite aspect of Scouting?

"My favorite part of Scouting is undoubtedly the summer camp experience. The immersive environment, removed from everyday life, creates a space for true growth, camaraderie, unforgettable moments, and adventure."



What brought you to the Mayflower Council?

"It was Asst. Scout Executive Bob Mersereau's invitation during my senior year of college that first sparked my interest in working for Scouting America, leading to a whirlwind start (from Friday classes to Monday job). I've been fortunate to be part of the Mayflower Council family since its inception in 2017."

What is your Scouting background?

"This year marks my 44th year in Scouting, a journey that has shaped me in countless ways. From my early days as a Cub Scout to serving as camp director at Camp Resolute for fourteen summers, and through achieving Eagle Scout and receiving the NESAs Outstanding Eagle Scout Award, I've cherished every experience. I also had the pleasure to serve as an OA lodge chief and troop committee chairperson."

Council duties?

“As Deputy Scout Executive, I work directly with the membership team to grow and retain our Scouting families, provide strategic support to our camping and program operations to deliver exceptional experiences, and manage a diverse portfolio of other responsibilities vital to the council’s overall operation.”



Favorites...

- **Food:** Chicken and Waffles
- **Color:** Gray
- **Drink:** Cold Brew Coffee
- **Treat:** Anything S’mores, Gingerbread, or Pumpkin Spice
- **Hobby:** Running
- **Animal:** Meerkat
- **Place:** Any Disney Theme Park Worldwide
- **Music:** Pop

Feel free to contact Rick if they can help enhance your Scouting experience.



Meet the Team: Satina Craffey

For our latest #meettheteam Monday on Mayflower Council's social media, we sat down with **Satina Craffey, ScoutReach Program Specialist!**



Satina, what is your favorite aspect of Scouting?

“My favorite aspect of Scouting is the unique opportunities each Scout gets to experience through the program!”

What brought you to the Mayflower Council?

“A desire to help bring the Scouting program to all youth regardless of their special needs or inability to pay...”

What is your Scouting background?

“I was a Girl Scout and earned my silver award.”

Council Duties

“My primary responsibility is to bring the Cub Scouting program to low-income areas within the council.”



Satina's Personal Favorites

- ***Food Mexican food***
- ***Color Blue***

- *Drink Water*
- *Treat Dried Fruit*
- *Hobby Hiking*
- *Animal Giraffe*
- *Place "Exploring with my children..."*
- *Music Country*

Feel free to contact Satina if she can help enhance your Scouting experience.

