

# Scouting for Inspiration: Hannah Holmes

One year ago, this Scout became the first girl to earn all of Scouts BSA's 137 merit badges.

Each week at troop meetings around the country, scouts do amazing things. However, sometimes a Scout does something so unique, unprecedented, that ABC News calls.

One such accomplishment occurred last year, when a home-schooled lone scout from near Orlando, Florida, earned all 137 Scouts BSA merit badges. That's right, Hannah Holmes, an eventual Eagle Scout, became the first girl in the then 110-year history of The Boy Scouts of America to earn all of the possible merit badges available, a feat only 500 boys accomplished in the history of the Scouting movement in the United States.

When the news media caught wind of the accomplishment, they asked Hannah about filling her sash with stitching.

"My last badge was white water rafting," she told ABC news. "And it was kind of a bittersweet victory."

"After accomplishing my goal, I was happy," she explained. "But at the same time, I had so many good memories I didn't want it to end."

Meanwhile, Hannah encouraged others to pursue their goals, especially her fellow girls in Scouts BSA.

"When the going gets tough, it's important to persevere," said Hannah. "It's all going to be worth it in the end."

However, there's no end in sight for Hannah. With numerous speaking engagements under her BSA belt and a head start on

college, Holmes intends to earn a political science degree en route to a career in the U.S. Senate.

Finally, for more on girls in Scouts BSA, visit [about.scouting.org/girls-in-scouts-bsa/](https://about.scouting.org/girls-in-scouts-bsa/)

Then, check out Hannah's interview with ABC.

15 Year Old Florida Girl Makes History Earning All Boy Scout Merit Badges

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## Scouts Honor: Maxwell S Troop 47 Randolph

*Stecker's Eagle Scout service project revitalized birdhouses at Powers Farm Community Park*

This week Mayflower Council recognizes the efforts of **Maxwell S of Troop 47, Randolph, Massachusetts.**

As a Life Scout participating in Scouts BSA's inclusion program, Maxwell – a 21-year-old special needs student at May Center – completed his Eagle Scout service project in December.

Maxwell worked to renovate “living accommodations for some of the winged inhabitants of Powers Farm Community Park.”

On January 3, *The Journal & Sun* explained:

*As a previous Eagle Scout project... bird and bat houses were placed at Powers Farm, but over time the birdhouses had deteriorated. With the mentoring of Scoutmaster Henry Colageo, Maxwell improved upon the design to make them more durable by using cedarwood, which is more weatherproof, and brass*

hardware.

Work in the park remains a labor of love for Troop 47, and Maxwell's efforts were bolstered by his fellow Scouts and adult Scouters.

"With guidance from Maxwell and the troop's adult leaders, on Nov. 8 the Scouts fabricated the required parts and assembled them," added the *Journal & Sun*. "Finally, on Dec. 4, the Scouts removed the old birdhouses and installed new ones."

Maxwell is just one of the terrific Scouts in the Mayflower Council doing amazing things. Do you know a member of our community who deserves recognition in "Scouts Honor"?

Email us with your suggestions!

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## **Covid Modified Requirements Ending March 1**

**As of March 01, 2022, all temporary changes made to Scouts BSA advancement requirements to address the COVID-19 pandemic will expire, and there will be a return to the standard rules for Scouts BSA advancement. This includes deferment of some swimming requirements for First and Second class, virtual activities for Tenderfoot, Second and First Class, and requirement 9b of the Camping merit badge.**

As always, the BSA's top priority is the health and safety of all youth participating in BSA programs. In 2020, the BSA instituted several modifications to rank requirements and merit badge requirements ("advancement modifications") to accommodate activity restrictions necessitated by COVID-19.

Effective March 01, 2022, those modifications will be removed, and the standard rules for advancement and merit badges will again become effective. These requirements are published at [www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/](http://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/) and in the Requirements Guidebook.

Specifically, these modifications related to the swimming requirements for Second and First class ranks, virtual activities for Tenderfoot, Second and First Class, and requirement 9b of the Camping merit badge.

The Guide to Advancement, section 10.2.2.0, states that “Members must meet current advancement requirements as written for merit badges, all ranks, and Eagle Palms—no more and no less—and they are to do exactly what is stated.”

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## **New BSA Merit Badge: Citizenship In Society**

*New badge to be an Eagle requirement beginning July 2022*

The Boy Scouts of America recently introduced a new merit badge to the list of achievements offered to youth in Scouts BSA.

The “Citizenship in Society” merit badge seeks to encourage Scouts to delve into the meaning of “diversity, equity, inclusion, and ethical leadership.”

“The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law,” said Roger Mosby, president and chief executive officer

of The Boy Scouts of America to *ScoutingNewsroom.org*.

“This merit badge aligns with both the Scout Oath and Scout Law, which encourage Scouts to respect the beliefs of others, to be kind and courteous, and to help other people at all times,” added BSA’s president.

“Diversity, equity, and inclusion,” sometimes called DEI, remains an important topic in institutions across the United States and is now a worthy conversation piece in Troop Meetings. That’s especially so because the achievement will be required for Eagle Scouts beginning in July 2022.

“The Citizenship in Society merit badge is an important initiative to help Scouts learn about the diverse identities we each possess, understand different perspectives and experiences, and promote good citizenship in society,” explained Elizabeth Ramirez-Washka, chief diversity officer and vice president of diversity & inclusion, Boy Scouts of America.

**You can learn more about this new opportunity by visiting [www.scouting.org/dei](http://www.scouting.org/dei). Scouters may also take the “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Scouting” course via Scoutbook’s online training catalog.**

“[I] enjoyed getting to discuss diversity and inclusion topics with my friends in Scouting,” Maya, a 15-year-old Scout who participated in the pilot program told *Scouting Newsroom*. “It felt like a safe environment to be open and honest about these topics.”

Meanwhile, check out this video by YouTube’s “Scouter Stan,” which gives an overview of the new BSA initiative and the Citizenship in Society merit badge.

# Friends of Scouting Kick-Off

On behalf of the Development Committee of the Mayflower Council, Boy Scouts of America and Kevin Paicos, Chair of the 2022 Friends of Scouting Annual Campaign, you are cordially invited to celebrate Scouting! Please join us for a fellowship reception as we kickoff the 2022 Friends of Scouting Campaign.

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## What is a Unit Key 3?

### Unit Key 3

Behind every great Scouting unit is a committed Key 3. These are the three top adult individuals within each pack, troop, crew, or ship. Each member of the Key 3 needs to understand his or her role and feel empowered to serve.

**The Unit Key 3 is a critical component to the success of the unit. The unit Key 3 consists of:**

- **Committee Chair** – The top volunteer in the unit is the Committee Chair. They are responsible for ensuring enough qualified adult volunteers are in place to

provide the program. They lead the unit committee meetings.

- **Unit Leader** – The leader of the unit meeting is the unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, Skipper) and is responsible for developing and delivering the “program.”
- **Chartered Organization Representative (COR)** – This person appoints the unit committee chair and approves all adult leaders. They provide resources from the chartered organization.

The Key 3 addresses unit challenges, checks on Journey to Excellence status, and adjusts program and administrative elements to ensure unit progress toward Journey to Excellence.

## Role of the Unit Key 3

- **This group meets frequently** to discuss the unit, its challenges, coming events, and progress toward completing their action plan and Journey to Excellence goals.
- **Ensures that a monthly program and unit budget plan are in place and on track.** These items are critical for unit success. Encourage long-range planning for a positive experience for all.
- **Support systems that will ensure a well-organized unit are:** the monthly Unit Key 3 meeting, monthly committee and leader meetings, and regular parent meetings.
- **Encourages a unit-wide communication system.** Communication takes many forms: newsletter, phone tree, email, website, app. Whatever fits the unit.
- **Encourages training of all registered adults in the unit.** Encourages them to take This Is Scouting and Leader Specific Training for their position prior to their first meeting. Vigorously enforces Youth Protection Training. Makes sure the adult leaders are aware of training opportunities. Through the district

commissioner, enlists the help of the training team to bring adult leader training to the unit if necessary.

- **Helps unit leaders get additional training as needed.** Through the unit and district commissioners, requests progressive specialty training as needed. Topics might include recruiting youth members, information on Friends of Scouting, advancement, etc. While it is the responsibility of the district committee, it may be necessary to conduct sections of this training at the unit level.
- **Encourages participation in district activities.** Encourages attendance at roundtable, district activities, and camping opportunities. Keeps the district and council calendars in mind when helping the Unit Key 3 schedule unit meetings and events.

## **My.Scouting.org – Accomplish A Wide Variety of Things**

You can use My.Scouting.org for a wide variety of things. Parents can use it to transfer their Scout from one unit to another (how-to PDF), such as when a Webelos moves from a pack to a troop. Adult leaders can use it to take position-specific training. The Key 3 can use it to accept online applications and must use it to complete the annual rechartering of their unit.

In addition to these functions, this portal provides all adults access to their personal account data, a place to update contact information, and...yes, the ability to complete YPT. Make sure your My.Scouting.org profile contains your BSA member ID number; that way, your training record will automatically update when you finish an online course. BSA member ID numbers do not transfer from one council to another, but you can include both in your profile if you have IDs from multiple councils.



When setting up a My.Scouting.org account, be sure to link it to your Mayflower Council BSA member ID number. Forgot your ID number, your username or your password? Not sure if you have a member ID number or a My.Scouting.org account? Contact the Membership & Unit Service Team ([membership@mayflowerbsa.org](mailto:membership@mayflowerbsa.org)) before you create a new account– we can check to see if you have a member ID number, provide your username, and reset your password.

In the “BSA Web Links” section of My.Scouting.org (under “Menu”), you’ll also find links to Internet Advancement, the National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course, and Service Hours Reporting. Unit leaders have access to their unit roster and other information designed to help in managing the unit.

One last note: depending on the leadership position for which you are registered, you may not see every tool that someone else has available on their dashboard. So, it’s important that when your unit recharter at the end of each year, they accurately record your leadership position.

If you have trouble logging in to My.Scouting.org, contact Office Manager Lisa Olson for assistance.

## **Scoutbook**

Scoutbook is an advancement tracking tool. From the first knot tied to final hours of service performed, the Scouting experience is a journey like none other. And Scoutbook is your go-to tool to ensure not a moment is missed – tracking advancement, milestone achievements and all the fun along the way. It also has messaging, help forums, service, hiking, camping tracking and calendaring features.

### **Important Reminders for Scoutbook:**

- Adding or transferring a scout or adult to your unit’s Scoutbook account does not register them with your unit

and doesn't mean they have a valid membership. All Scouts and adult leaders must complete an application, either online or submit a paper (or PDF version) of the application. This is true whether a person is new to Scouting, changing from one pack, troop or crew to another, or even changing adult leader positions.

- Once an application is processed, the individual should appear in your unit's Scoutbook in approximately 24-48 hours. Wait for this sync to occur, instead of manually adding anyone.
- Scoutbook doesn't allow duplicate emails, so the same email address can't be used for two accounts.
- Your Scoutbook login is the same as your My.Scouting.org login. If you aren't sure if you have a login, you can't remember your login, need a password reset or you're getting an error, contact Office Manager Lisa Olson.
- Scoutbook Guide: [help.scoutbook.scouting.org](http://help.scoutbook.scouting.org)
- Scouting Forums: [discussions.scouting.org](http://discussions.scouting.org)

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## **New to Scouts BSA? Get the Quick Start Guide!**

If you're new to Scouts BSA, we've created a digital "10 Essentials Quick Start Guide" for you. These are 10 easy steps with videos, links, etc. to get you and your Scout started on your incredible journey with us! (Unit leaders: please add a link to the guide in your "Be a Scout" welcome message to new members. Feedback is always welcome too!)

Get the Scouts BSA 10 Essentials Quick Start Guide

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# BSA Incident Reporting Requirements

Incident Reporting will be a highly monitored reporting area in the Scout post-bankrupt operating environment. We need to ensure that all Scout leaders understand what Incident Reporting is and why it is important that all incidents are accurately and timely reported. Scouting strongly encourages units to report any incident so risk management can ensure any unsafe conditions are addressed and safety measures are put in place. We may also recommend training that may need to be created or enhanced to ensure safety and for insurance purposes. The Incident Report landing page link below, will explain why reporting is so important and the links to the appropriate report.

[Incident Reporting Landing Page](#)

[Incident Reporting Requirements](#)

[Near Miss Reporting Tool](#)

[Incident Reporting Tool](#)

[Youth Protection/Membership Infraction Reporting Tool](#)

Please share this information with other unit leaders and assistants so they are aware of the reporting requirements.

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# Council Key 3 Update On National BSA Bankruptcy

Dear Scouting Family,

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has made substantial progress in its Chapter 11 case by reaching an agreement alongside the Ad Hoc Committee of Local Councils with the Coalition of Abused Scouts for Justice, which represents a large majority of claimants in our Chapter 11 case, the Official Tort Claimants Committee (TCC), and the Future Claimants Representative (FCR). This agreement ensures that the BSA has the overwhelming support of survivors for our proposed Plan of Reorganization, which is a key step in the BSA's path toward emerging from bankruptcy.

The national organization has agreed to contribute assets with up to \$250 million in value to the Trust for survivors. Working through the Ad Hoc Committee of Local Councils, local councils have committed to making a substantial contribution in the form of \$500 million of cash and properties. Local councils would also be credited with as much as \$100 million to be paid from a Special Trust created under the BSA's Plan of Reorganization that would be funded with excess payroll cash that would otherwise be contributed to the over-funded defined benefit pension plan, also known as the pension fund, so long as the pension fund is over-funded by at least \$100 million at the time of payment. The establishment and operation of the Special Trust does not impact defined benefit pension plan payments to current or future retirees or the BSA's current pension plan for current or former employees at the Mayflower Council or any other local council.

We are hopeful that this progress toward a global resolution benefits the entire Scouting community, as this agreement will

help local councils like ours make contributions to the Trust without additional draw on their assets, allowing us to move forward with the national organization toward emergence as one Scouting Family.

The Mayflower Council continues to communicate with national leadership via the Ad Hoc Committee of Local Councils and is collaborating with all parties to the BSA's Chapter 11 case to find a solution that will appropriately fund a Trust to compensate survivors while also ensuring the future of Scouting. The Mayflower Council has no plans to liquidate any of our three camping properties to fund our contribution to the Trust. We, also, understand from both the national organization and the Ad Hoc Committee that the proposed agreement will not impact any pension benefits provided to current or former employees of the Mayflower Council.

We remain as committed as ever to delivering Scouting's unparalleled experiences to young people throughout our communities. We are providing an exciting summer of adventures and character-building activities, including Adventure Day Camp at Camp Resolute, Scouts BSA Summer Day Experience at Camp Resolute, Scouts BSA Resident Camp at Camp Squanto, and both tent and cabin camping at Nobscot Scout Reservation.

Yours in Scouting,

Ian Johnson  
Council President

Josh Paulin  
Council Commissioner

Bryan Feather  
Scout Executive / CEO

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# Unit Program Planning

To deliver the promise of Scouting, your unit needs a great program. And to deliver a great program, your unit must Be Prepared with a plan. With many units returning to in-person meetings and activities, it is a good time to review upcoming program plans and to plan for the upcoming year.

## Your unit's annual program plan also helps with:

- **Developing the unit budget**
- **Setting goals** for popcorn sales
- **Recruiting youth** – Families like to see what fun activities they can expect
- **Recruiting help** – When you know what events are coming up on your unit calendar, you have more opportunity to ask parents to help out with specific tasks

## Program Planning Resources

Cub Scout Pack Meeting Plans

Pack Committee Resources

Scouts BSA Unit Program Planning Tools

Venturing Annual Program Planning

Sea Scouts Program Toolbox

Exploring Program Planning Meeting Guide

Exploring Activity Library