



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
MIAMI VALLEY COUNCIL

Service Center &
Scout Shop
CLOSED

Through May 31st



MIAMI VALLEY COUNCIL



A Scout is Helpful - A Virtual Good Turn

Everyday I continue to be inspired by the stick-to-itiveness of our Scouts. Difficult decisions have been made in many organizations, schools and churches in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and Scouting is no different. As a parent or as a leader, you've had to deliver less-than-favorable news to your Scout about summer plans. You've had to rearrange calendars and reschedule important and meaningful events. We are

all eager, myself included, to resume our normal lives. What I've been most impressed with is our Scouting community's drive to get back to serving our greater community.

Memorial Day weekend is often a time when Scouts gather and remember the sacrifices made by our country's heroes. It is a time when Scouts conduct flag ceremonies and flag placements at cemeteries. This year's Memorial Day

remembrances may look a bit different, but I encourage all of you to still celebrate and honor those who gave their lives in service to our country. Each year Scouts from the Miami Valley have gathered en masse at the Dayton National Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend to decorate the graves of those who served our country. We've been in communication with Dayton Veterans Affairs and this year's ceremony has been canceled. I've been contacted by other cemeteries throughout our council asking if Scouts would be available to provide service. I've also had unit leaders reach out to me inquiring if they are able to help. Others have asked about continuing our Scouting for Food drive.

As painful as it may be, we have put the safety of our Scouts and overall community ahead of some of these VERY worthwhile initiatives and think of other ways to serve. After all, the spirit of service is woven into the fabric of who we are as Scouts and a Scout is HELPFUL. Our COVID-19 Task Force is determining ways to safely resume Scouting activities and reviewing the logistics and preparations needed to reopen our camp facilities. Until more guidance is available, I'd ask for the continued support of our Scouting community to adhere to our Scouting-at-home points listed in the subsequent article below. We have suspended our in-person Scouting activities and gatherings until May 31 and this also includes traditional good turns and service projects. There will be a time for Scouting to provide the service as we would traditionally do, but while in our Scouting-at-home period, I encourage you to be creative and to be innovative in finding ways to 'Keep the Flame' by doing a good turn daily in a distance-Scouting fashion. The service to our community doesn't have to stop, it just may look a little different than normal.

I've seen a number of good turns that Scouts are doing locally and across the country. Scouts have adopted a member of a senior's community and lifted their spirits with a smiling face through a zoom meeting or Face time call. Scouts have written countless thank you notes to healthcare workers. Scouts have conducted 'touch-less' food drives with a contact-free 'blessing box' or table in front of their homes and communicated to their neighbors to place non-perishable food items for a food pantry to pick up. Please DO NOT stop serving your community, just think about all the different ways you could share your good turn in a Scouting-at-home way.

Please read on for ideas about how you can be a part of a council-wide good turn as we thank our first responders and front-line essential workers. We also want to showcase all the innovative ways our Miami Valley Scouts are helping. If your Scout is serving their community, I encourage you to share it with me. It is always uplifting to see our Scouts in action!

Keep The Flame!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

Jeffrey R. Schiavone
Scout Executive
jeffrey.schiavone@scouting.org

SCOUTING AT HOME

NOW EXTENDED THROUGH MAY 31

DATES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

NOW Through **May 31**:

- The **Miami Valley Council Service Center** and **Scout Shop** are both closed. The Council staff is working remotely and should you need to be in contact with members of our Council team, please email or call. Contact information for staff can be found [HERE](#). We are working to 'Do Our Best' in these unprecedented times to help you keep the Scouting fire lit for the youth and families of our programs, while keeping all parties safe.
- ALL **DISTRICT** and **COUNCIL** in-person meetings and ALL activities through Sunday, May 31, 2020 are postponed or cancelled.
- ALL **UNITS** are to discontinue in-person meetings and ALL activities, including camping trips.
- ALL **COUNCIL** camp properties are closed. For Information regarding refunds for camp facilities rental, event postponement or cancellations, please [CLICK HERE](#).

CANCELED

- Dayton VA Cemetery Flag Placement
- OA Spring Ordeal
- Beaver Day at Woodland Trails - Canceled
- District Day Camps - Canceled, Alternative experience being developed
- Scouts BSA Resident Camp - Canceled, Virtual experience being developed
- Cub Resident Camp - Canceled, Virtual experience being developed

RESCHEDULED

- Scouting For Food Drive - New Date TBD
- Cub Adventure Weekend - rescheduled to September 11-13
- National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) - rescheduled to August 2-7

- Buckskin - rescheduled to October 7, October 16-18

A COUNCIL-WIDE THANK YOU!!!!

A MESSAGE TO ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Please help us thank Miami Valley's first responders and front-line essential workers by sending a photo of your Scout creatively expressing their appreciation. We are working

with local media to send a BIG Scout THANK YOU message to our special heroes.

Additionally, our council is partnering with [Scouting Magazine](#) to send a MASSIVE Scouting thank you video featuring Scouts from across the country.

If you have any questions or to send photos or videos of your Scout for us to share, please email Council-Wide Thank You Staff Adviser, Lilly Pinhas (Lilly.pinhas@scouting.org).



SUMMER CAMP AND PROGRAMS UPDATE

[CLICK HERE FOR 5/1/2020 COMMUNICATION](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO MESSAGE FROM SCOUT EXECUTIVE, JEFF SCHIAVONE](#)

GIVING TUESDAY SUCCESS!!!
\$7,000 raised!



Thank you to all those who supported our council for the May 5th Giving Tuesday campaign. Over **\$7,000** was raised to support the programs, people, and properties of the Miami Valley Council. These much needed funds will go to immediate use allowing our council to maintain the services that you've come to know and expect through these difficult times.

If you missed your opportunity to support please consider making a gift by [CLICKING HERE](#) and if you pledge at a level of \$25 a month for the remainder of 2020, we will mail you a MVC shoulder patch and ball

cap as a token of thanks.



VIRTUAL MERIT BADGE WAVE 5!

Featuring 3 Badges

We have already held FOUR waves of virtual Scouting Merit Badges and more than 100 Scouts have participated!!!



**WAVE FIVE IS LIVE!!! [CLICK HERE](#)
to REGISTER TODAY!!!!**

Announcing Wave 5!

- **Family Life** "Jump-Start!" - May 14 & 21, 3:00PM
- **Citizenship in the Community** "Jump-Start!" - May 14 & 21, 4:00PM
- **Chess** - May 19 & 26, 7:00PM

**Note* Registration closes at 6:00PM the day before the first session of class.*

As we develop more merit badge clinics for future waves, if you'd like to be a virtual merit badge counselor or would like to see a certain merit badge offered, please [CLICK HERE](#) to email Virtual Merit Badge Staff Adviser, Jay Shankel. Please [FOLLOW US](#) on Facebook to register for Merit Badge Clinics when they go live!

Bryon on Scouting reviewed all the Merit Badges and determined these 58 are the best to complete in a social distancing fashion. [CLICK HERE](#) for the list!

Additionally Bryon provides resources to Scouts for working on Merit Badges at Home. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article.



'CUB SCOUT VIRTUAL ADVENTURES' LAUNCHED: KEEP YOUR CUB...SCOUTING!!!

Started on **Monday, April 27**, the 30 days of virtual adventure are featuring a daily dose of Scouting for your Cub Scout. Each week will focus on a different adventure for each rank and we will post a new activity for each rank every day at 8am. Be sure to keep track of what your Scout completes so that their Den Leader or Cubmaster can give them credit. Also don't forget to leave a video or picture of your activity in the comments so your fellow Scouts can see the fun you are having! Be Sure to [FOLLOW US](#) on Facebook!

'Keep the Flame' Video Series

Spark Session #7 featuring Eagle Scout Garrett Piel
Troop 586, Tipp City, OH - Good Turns.



Keep the Flame Ep 7: Eagle Scout Garrett on doing a good turn while Scouting-at-Home

During our 'distance Scouting' period, it is important to stay connected and for all of us to 'keep the flame' of Scouting burning brightly. A new video series was created to showcase the unique and fun ways our Miami Valley Scouters are keeping Scouts together during our time apart!

Keep the Flame Archives

[Spark Session #1: Richelle Zbinden - Virtual Scouting Ideas](#)

[Spark Session #2: Home Scouting - Short Version](#)
[Spark Session #2: Home Scouting- Extended Version](#)

[Spark Session #3: Lori Frankart - Virtual Troop Meeting](#)

[Spark Session #4: Pediatrician Dr. Greg Eberhart - Scout Wellness](#)

[Spark Session #5: Assistant Chief Scout Executive & DFS Patrick Sterrett - National Camp-In and Virtual Scouting ideas](#)

[Spark Session #6: Take 2 Patrick Sterrett, National Assistant Chief Scout Executive discussed Good Turns and Supporting Local Scouting](#)

If you have a creative idea that should be considered for an upcoming episode please [CLICK HERE](#) to submit.



NATIONAL JAMBOREE 2021... **FACE THE CHALLENGE!**

Applications are now being accepted for our 2021 National Jamboree contingent leadership team. We are seeking 10-12 adult leaders who are interested in serving as Scoutmasters or Assistant Scoutmasters for both male and female contingent troops. If you are interested, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the online application. The application deadline is May 15 so that the selection committee can make their decision by the end of May.

Youth who are interested in attending Jamboree should first apply through the national application portal by [CLICKING HERE](#). The registration for the council contingent will be available within the next two weeks. Cost to attend is still being finalized is expected to be in the \$1,400 to \$1,550 range. Scholarship funds are available from the BSA for youth attending the National Scout Jamboree. The application is available as part of the national application portal.

For any questions [CLICK HERE](#) to contact Jody Malone, Council Jamboree Steering Committee Chair or [CLICK HERE](#) to contact Patrick Higgins, Jamboree Staff Adviser.

The Miami Valley Council has established a **Virtual Scouting Program Committee** to research and create programming ideas for our Scouting units during our 'distance Scouting' period. There are new resources flooding the internet and Facebook each day to help assist leaders, parents, and Scouts. To help you 'Keep The Flame' for Scouting burning brightly, all Scouting-at-home resources are being linked or uploaded to the front page of our website.

www.miamivalleybsa.org



Our National BSA organization launched a Scouting at Home Website full of resources!

www.scouting.org/scoutingathome



**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
FOR ALL THE LATEST
INFORMATION!!!**

[Follow us on Facebook](#) for all the latest news and information

Please help us stay connected by participating in the 'Scout-Task-Tic' challenges, which occur twice a week through our Facebook page. These are quick and fun activities that you can conduct from your home and share with our Miami Valley Scouting community.