

TRAILBLAZER

Serving families in the counties of Christian, Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, and Shelby



A cooperating partner with the United Way

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Centennial Quality Award



The 100th anniversary of Scouting is only two years away. This is going to be an exciting time as we celebrate a century of fun and adventure, citizenship, patriotism, and good character. What a great opportunity to remind America about everything that Scouting stands for.

Through our National Strategic Plan, "2010: When Tradition Meets Tomorrow," we are extremely pleased to present the second year of the Centennial Quality Unit Award. This award helps us to recognize those units who truly go above and beyond in offering the best possible program to their members.

Our primary focus is still "To improve the QUALITY of program in every unit in America!" Your unit will set its' own goals to achieve this award and can earn it anytime after October 31st. Contact your District Executive or Unit Commissioner now to ensure that your unit receives this award and show other units that you are committed to a quality program for our youth.

Criminal Background Checks and Rechartering

Recently the Boy Scouts of America began a process to obtain authorization for criminal background checks from volunteers who have continuously served in the same volunteer positions. Since 2003 background checks have been conducted on new volunteers when they registered. Background checks were not performed on those volunteers who did not change their position. The new volunteer authorization website opened on June 1st and was available until August 1st.

Letters were sent in early June to volunteers requesting that they visit the site, log-in, and accept the background check authorization. Volunteers who gave authorization received the background check and need to do nothing more.

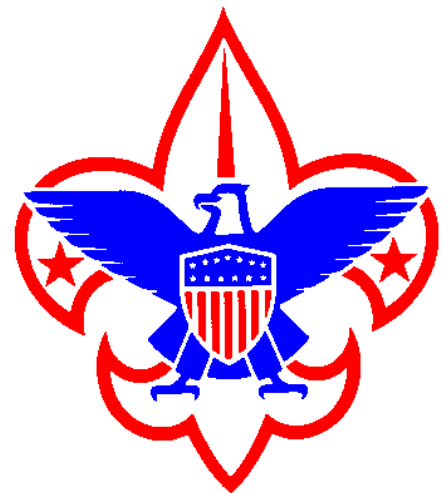
Volunteers who did not give their agreement, or who took no action to respond to the letter, are required to submit a new application when it is time to renew their registration. To protect our youth members, those volunteers who did not have the background check will have their registration expired. These adults will not be listed for selection at the time of charter renewal.

Units that use Internet Rechartering for online renewal will need to enter these adults, if they are to be registered, as new adults and submit the volunteer applications to the council along with their renewal.

Units that renew using the paper application must submit the volunteer application for these adults, if they are to be registered, with the charter renewal papers.

Background checks will be conducted on all new volunteers. This summer, the BSA introduced a new application to replace previous versions of the BSA adult application. This form includes a new authorization and disclosure statement. Units should use this new BSA adult application to ensure that new adult registrants use the proper authorization and disclosure statement. Units may obtain the new BSA adult application from the Council Service Center.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Council Registrar, Matt Kaufman at 217-429-2326 or 1-800-416-2328 or matt.kaufman@scouting.org.



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