



Camp Alumni Association Toolkit

"Encouraging and Assisting Councils with Developing a Camp Alumni Association!"



(Camp Hale Alumni Association)



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INTRODUCTION

Camp Alumni Associations...an Introduction

The BSA Alumni Association defines Scouting Alumni as anyone who has ever been personally impacted by Scouting. The definition is broad by design to be more inclusive. Scouting Alumni can include those who are currently registered and active in the Scouting program, those who are registered but currently disengaged, and those who are unregistered and may have been disconnected from Scouting for some period. Regardless of their registration status and level of engagement, these groups of individuals are all considered to be Scouting Alumni.

The primary mission of the BSA Alumni Association is to assist the Scouting program in its alumni relations efforts through the identification, outreach, meaningful engagement, and retention of its Scouting Alumni. Simply put, it is goal of the BSA Alumni Association to bring every Scouting alumnus back to the campfire...and there is no better way to accomplish this than through a local camp alumni association.

When asked about their best Scouting memory, many Scouting Alumni will respond with a fond story involving their Scout camp, especially during their time at summer camp. Long-term camping at one's Scout camp is a memorable experience shared by nearly all Scouting Alumni. With that said, the formation of a local camp alumni association may be one of the best tools in the toolbox for reconnecting with Scouting Alumni, rekindling their Scouting spirit, and re-engaging them in the Scouting program.

Therefore, the BSA Alumni Association has developed a "Toolkit" to assist councils in developing a Camp Alumni Association. Notice that we said Camp Alumni Association, and not Camp Staff Alumni Association. The reason for this is to allow your alumni association to be less restrictive and more inclusive. A Camp Staff Alumni Association can always be a sub-group of the larger Camp Alumni Association.

Feel free to review the information found within the toolkit, and use the documents and images as templates, references, and suggestions to assist your council in developing a new or strengthening an existing Camp Alumni Association. The **mission** of most camp alumni associations is to provide "Spirit, Service, and Support" to their local Scout camp and/or reservation, and its related outdoor programs. The **purpose** of most camp alumni associations is to help sustain and enhance the traditions, legacy, and permanence of their local Scout and/or reservation through a network of active and dedicated alumni.

Remember, "**Once a Scout, Always a Scout**"

(YOUR CAMP'S NAME) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SAMPLE ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

(Adopted: Month / Day / Year)

To further common purposes, the undersigned founders agree to form an association under these Articles of Organization:

NAME:

The name of this Association shall be the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, and shall be an unincorporated entity, and shall be a part of the (YOUR COUNCIL NAME) of Scouting America.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE:

The principal office of the Association shall be the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), council office at ADDRESS. The Association may have such other offices as may from time to time be designated by its board of directors.

MISSION:

The mission of the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association is to provide "Spirit, Service, and Support" to (YOUR CAMP'S NAME), and its related outdoor programs.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association is to help sustain and enhance the traditions, legacy, and permanence of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) through a network of active and dedicated alumni.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this Association shall be to:

- 1) Provide an opportunity for Camp Alumni to collectively reconnect and serve Scouting through the outdoor programs of the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America
- 2) Promote the year-round usage of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME)
- 3) Promote by example Scouting's core values of Character; Leadership; Self-Reliance; Service to Others; and Environmental Conservation
- 4) Perform 'Service Days & Weekends' to improve (YOUR CAMP NAME's) infrastructure and programmatic areas
- 5) Provide professional skills, expertise, leadership, training, and financial support to enhance the operations and programs of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME).

POWER:

The Association shall be an unincorporated association and shall be part of the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America. The Association shall have all powers necessary to accomplish its objectives under these Articles.

MEMBERSHIP:

Any person who is eligible for membership in the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association must be at least 18 years of age, paid their dues, and...

- Has attended (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) (or other Scouting America camp) as a youth camper, adult leader, staff member, or adult volunteer while camp was in session
- Or has utilized the camping, hiking, or water sport facilities of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME)
- Or has previously provided service or support to (YOUR CAMP'S NAME)
- Or desires to be a 'Friend' of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) by supporting its outdoor programs

Voting by Members...

- Each active (dues paying) member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in the affairs of the Association

Membership Fiscal Year...

- The membership fiscal year for the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association shall be from September 1 through August 31

Membership Revocation...

- Membership in the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association may be revoked at any time by a majority vote of the board of directors, with approval from the Council Scout Executive

DUES/DONATIONS:

The dues required for membership shall be reviewed and set annually by the board of directors. The board of directors may establish special dues for certain categories of members.

The Association may also establish programs to allow its members to make additional donations to (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) and the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- 1) Association Funds... All dues, contributions, and other funds received by the Association will be deposited into the bank account of the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America. The Association will receive periodical accounting reports from the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America regarding its account balance.
- 2) Expenditures... The Association will have the right to spend for its authorized purposes the entire amount in its account with the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America minus a reserve for its outstanding debts. To make any expenditure of such Association funds, a (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America check request must be approved by action of the board of directors and signed by the current Camp Director of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME). A check will then be issued by the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America, from the Association's account.

MEETINGS:

- 1) Annual Meeting... There shall be an annual meeting of the Association. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the board of directors. Notice of the meeting will be provided to all active members at least thirty (30) calendar days before the meeting.
- 2) Business at the meeting shall include the election of a vice chair, the election of eight directors, and such other business as shall come before the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- 1) Governed by Board... The Association shall be governed by a board of directors. The board shall have nine (9) members plus one ex officio (non-voting) member. The board of directors will consist of six (6) elected directors, the chair, vice chair, immediate past chair, plus the current Camp Director of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME), ex officio. The term of all elected members of the board of directors shall be one year. The Association will strive to have broad representation on the board of directors.
- 2) Board Operating Procedures... Most of the board shall be the quorum requirement for a board meeting. The board will act by a simple majority of the voting members present at a meeting. The board may fill vacant board positions and elected offices until the next annual meeting of the Association.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

- 1) Elective Officers... The elective officers of this association shall be a chair and vice chair. The vice chair shall be elected at the annual meeting. The chair in any year shall be the person elected the vice chair in the previous year, provided they have the approval of the Council Scout Executive, or their official designee.
- 2) Appointed Officers, Committees and Committee Chairs... Each year the chair shall nominate, and the board of directors shall appoint from the board a secretary-treasurer. There shall be a nominating committee for board vacancies. The board of directors may establish other committees and committee chairs as it deems appropriate.
- 3) Nominating Committee... The nominating committee will consist of the outgoing chair, the vice chair, and the immediate past chair. The nominating committee will be chaired by the outgoing chair.

BYLAWS:

Bylaws for the Association may be adopted and amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a duly called meeting of the members or by a majority vote of the board of directors.

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES:

These Articles may be amended, in whole or in part, by a majority vote of the members present at a duly called meeting of the members, or by a two-thirds majority vote of the board of directors.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON DISSOLUTION:

In the event of dissolution of this Association, its property shall be distributed to the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America.

These Articles of Organization are hereby ratified and adopted by signature of the organizing Chair, who announces the following founders of this Association, who are to serve as the initial Board of Directors, to be effective as of: (Month / Day / Year)

SIGNATURE, Chair

NAME, Chair

NAME, Vice Chair

NAME, Secretary-Treasurer

NAME, Member

NAME, Member

NAME, Camp Director

NAME, Scouting Professional

SAMPLE INFORMATIONAL FLYER

(YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association

What is the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association?

The (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association is an adult organization within the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America whose mission is to provide 'Spirit, Service and Support' to (YOUR CAMP'S NAME), and its related outdoor programs. The Association's purpose is to help sustain and enhance the traditions, legacy, and permanence of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) through a network of active and dedicated alumni.

Why was the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association formed?

The greatest adventures of a Scout's life begin at Scout camp. Camp is the best place for Scouts to develop their outdoor skills, self-confidence, leadership, an appreciation for nature, and respect for others. It is at camp that Scouts learn to live and work together, and to share and cooperate with one another. The (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association was formed to foster the ideals of Scouting, and to promote Scout camping.

What are the objectives of the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association?

1. To provide an opportunity for (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni to collectively reconnect and serve Scouting through the outdoor programs of the (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America.
2. To promote the year-round usage of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME).
3. To promote by example Scouting's core values of Character; Leadership; Self-Reliance; Service to Others; and Environmental Conservation.
4. To perform 'Service Days & Weekends' to improve (YOUR CAMP NAME's) infrastructure and its programmatic areas.
5. To provide professional skills, expertise, leadership, training, and financial support to enhance the operations and programs of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME).

*If you would like more information regarding the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association, send your name, address, and contact information (phone number & email address) to:

(YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association

c/o: (YOUR COUNCIL'S NAME), Scouting America

(YOUR COUNCIL'S) Street Address / City / State / Zip Code

SAMPLE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**(Your Camp's Name) Alumni Association****What is the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association?**

The (Your Camp Name) Alumni Association is an adult organization (minimum 18 years of age) within the (Your Council Name), Scouting America whose mission is to provide 'Spirit, Service and Support' to (Your Camp Name), and its related outdoor programs. The Association's purpose is to help sustain and enhance the traditions, legacy, and permanence of (Your Camp / Reservation Name) through a network of active and dedicated alumni.

Why was the (YOUR CAMP'S NAME) Alumni Association formed?

The greatest adventures of a Scout's life begin at Scout camp. Camp is the best place for Scouts to develop their outdoor skills, self-confidence, leadership, an appreciation for nature, and respect for others. It is at camp that Scouts learn to live and work together, and to share and cooperate with one another. The (Your Camp Name) Alumni Association was formed to foster the ideals of Scouting, and to promote Scout camping.

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5. To provide professional skills, expertise, leadership, training, and financial support to enhance the operations and programs of (YOUR CAMP'S NAME).



PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

(Please Type or Print Clearly)

Today's Date: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Full Name: _____

Street Address / P.O. Box: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Primary Phone Number w/ Area Code: _____

Email Address: _____

PREVIOUS SCOUTING EXPERIENCE

Were you a Scout? Yes / No Youth / Adult / Both Youth and Adult

Council Name: _____ State: _____

Dates of Membership: _____

Unit Type: _____ Unit Number: _____ Youth Rank: _____ Position: _____

Order of the Arrow Member? Yes / No Ordeal / Brotherhood / Vigil Honor

Lodge Name: _____

PREVIOUS SCOUT CAMP EXPERIENCE

Did you attend (Your Camp Name) as a youth (under 18 years of age)? Yes / No

If so, were you a: Camper / Staff Member / Both

Year(s) Attended: _____

Did you attend (Your Camp Name) as an adult (over 18 years of age)? Yes / No

If so, were you a: Unit Leader / Staff Member / Professional Scouter / Other

Year(s) Attended: _____

Did you attend another Scout summer camp? Yes / No As a: Youth / Adult

Camp Name(s) / Location(s): _____

AS AN ALUMNUS, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE?

(Check All That Apply)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Summer Camp Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as Summer Camp Unit Leader |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as Camp Counselor / Course Instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as Merit Badge Instructor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Service Project(s) – Work Crew | <input type="checkbox"/> (Your Local Trail) – Trail Crew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Donation – Youth Campership(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Donation – Service Project(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Tools / Materials – Service Project(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide Needed Vehicles & Equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Services (Explain): _____ | |

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP DUES / DONATION OPTIONS

(Association's Membership Fiscal Year is September 1 – August 31)

- Alumni Membership Due..... \$25.00 / Year
- College Student Membership Dues..... \$15.00 / Year
- Lifetime Membership Dues..... \$250.00 / One Time
- Additional Cash Donation to the (Your Camp Name) Alumni Association: _____
- Additional Cash Donation to the (Your Camp Name) Campership Fund: _____
- Additional Financial Sponsorship of Camp / Trail Service Project(s): _____

- Payment by cash – enclosed
- Payment by check – payable to (Your Council Name)

Payment by credit card (check one):

- Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Card # _____

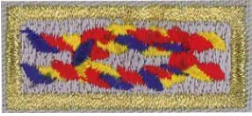
Exp. Date: _____ CVV Code: _____



Mail this form and payment to:
(Your Council's Mailing Address)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

The BSA Alumni Association has created a recognition program to encourage participation in council alumni relations programs, including those associated with camp alumni activities. Areas of participation may include but are not limited to: alumni identification, outreach, engagement, and retention; youth education; service.



Alumni Award

The Alumni Award is designed to encourage alumni to actively promote alumni activities in their council. The award focuses on accomplishment in the areas of alumni service and development with emphasis on memories, marketing, mentoring, membership, manpower, and money. Specific requirements are listed on the application form, which can be found on the Scouting America's Alumni website at <https://scoutingalumni.org>.



Alumnus of the Year Awards

The Alumnus of the Year Awards are the BSA Alumni Association's highest recognition for alumni service. These awards were established to recognize alumni of Scouting America, who, over a sustained period, have used the skills and values they learned through their association with Scouting to make significant and long-lasting contributions to the Scouting alumni movement, to Scouting in general, and to their communities. The awards are not meant to be another Person of the Year, Good Citizen, or General Philanthropist award, but rather for specific alumni service. There are three levels of this award: National Alumnus of the Year, Territories Alumnus of the Year, and Council Alumnus of the Year. All are bestowed for alumni service.

The Council Alumnus of the Year Award (shown above), is given for exceptional service to the alumni movement on a council-wide basis. Each council may select one nominee for this award annually. The council must notify the national office of their selection allowing accurate record keeping and current website information. The national office will forward an award certificate to be signed locally for a formal presentation at a public event. A neck ribbon and lapel pin are also available from the national office for award recipients.

For more information, including a list of past recipients and the application form, please visit the Scouting America's Alumni website at <https://scoutingalumni.org>.

INSIGNIA SAMPLES

The logos shown below are merely a few examples of the types of designs your council might select to use to recognize its Camp Alumni Association...

