The annual volunteer development training conference was held in Las Vegas on the 27th to 29th of August. Thirty-two participants attended in person along with between 40 and 80 participants virtually for five of the sessions.

Presentations were made on a number of subjects across current and planned projects by our Instructional Design Team, an update on the NYLT revision and Wood Badge new syllabus rollout, updates on Scouting U organization and staffing, and a review of the new Scouts BSA training face-to-face syllabus.

We had a focus group with the researchers on the BEST Study to review data from Scouts BSA leaders and youth concerning diversity and inclusion. This started with a review of the data and progressed into an evaluation of most likely interpretations of the data. The group then started evaluation of potential actions that could be taken to improve diversity and inclusion in our overall training in the BSA. These efforts by the group will feed into the overall training plans for diversity and inclusion that will be rolled out this fall across both professionals and volunteers in the BSA.

We also had focus groups on impacts to training from the COVID pandemic, potential changes to training products for the near term and longer term, and discussion of the requirements for the Training Award. The results of these focus groups are guiding our approaches to these subjects in the near future.
WOOD BADGE TICKET EXTENSIONS

There is no special provision for ticket extensions for 2019 courses due to COVID 19. If a participant does need an extension, there is a general provision in the Administration Manual (page 38). “The course director, with approval from the council training committee, may grant extensions of time to finish the ticket up to six months. No extension shall be granted for more than six months.”

A participant working on a ticket should continue working their ticket and not wait for the pandemic to end. If adjustments need to be made to their ticket due to COVID 19 restrictions, the participant needs to work with their Ticket Counselor to make changes to their ticket. Scouting continues during the COVID pandemic and adjustments should be made to help the unit, district or council during these unique times.

VIRTUAL TRAINER’S EDGE

The Virtual Trainer’s EDGE continues to be available to council Wood Badge and NYLT staff and other council trainers who are unable to meet in-person. The Virtual Trainer's EDGE is an engaging and interactive 3-hour training course conducted online as a Zoom meeting. Everyone needs to have their own link and microphone to participate fully. This is not a webinar or video to watch. Councils host the program on Zoom and Scouting U provides the content and the facilitators from the NYLT Leadership Academy. To receive information about hosting a course, contact Kathy Craig at (kathy.craig@scouting.org.)

If you are not restricted from meeting in-person, you should conduct the regular Trainer’s EDGE course.

TRAINING AWARDS UPDATE

In response to feedback from Scouters around the BSA, the Volunteer Development Team, at Scouting U, has taken another look at the Scouter’s Training Awards and has updated the requirements.

Requirements have been changed to make it possible, once again, for all members of unit committees to earn the appropriate Training Award for their position within the unit. The district committee award has been updated to provide council options with the end of the Journey to Excellence for districts.

Thank you for your feedback, your support of volunteer recognition, your commitment to training and to delivering the best possible Scouting experience to youth in your community.

Access the Training Award Progress Records and applications at:
https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/
HYBRID ONLINE & VIRTUAL INSTRUCTOR LED
INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR TROOPS (ILST) OR CREWS (ILSC)

ILST and ILSC have been made available in a hybrid online and virtual instructor led format to support Troops and Crews during COVID-19. The material in the syllabi is very similar to the material in the face-to-face syllabi, but a number of activities had to be removed to allow online delivery. Each course now consists of two modules in the online Learning Management System as well as a live Troop/Crew led virtual class, using an online format such as ZOOM.

The purpose of the ILST or ILSC course is to teach Scouts or Crew members, with leadership positions, about their new roles and how to most effectively reach success in that role. It is intended to help them understand their responsibilities and to equip them with organizational and leadership skills to fulfill those responsibilities. ILST or ILSC is the first course in a series of leadership training, offered to Scouts and Crew members. Completion of ILST or ILSC is a prerequisite for youth to participate in the more advanced leadership courses—National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE). It is also required to participate in a Kodiak Challenge Trek.

Covering the same Learning Objectives as the face-to-face course, these courses combine online and virtual components providing Scouts/Venturers an opportunity for completion in a socially distanced setting. Completion of this three-module course meets all required ILST & ILSC training requirements.

To take the Modules 1 and 2 online you will need a My.Scouting account. Only Scouts 13 and older can create a My.Scouting account, younger Scouts will require using a parental account. To create an account, go to my.scouting.org and click the CREATE ACCOUNT button and follow the instructions. Once you have created your account, enter your username and password and click on the LOGIN button. The My.Scouting application will open and you can click on the BSA LEARN CENTER graphic to open the Learn Center.

When the Learn Center opens you can select the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) or Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC) from Programs as applicable to you. In the Programs are 2 Learning Plans – Introduction and Tools of Leadership – you will need to complete both.

When selecting a Learning Plan, it will open with a description and course listing – click the Enroll Button to record your completion progress. For courses within the Learning Plan simply click the Start button and take the course until you complete it. Both the Learning Plans and Course will show your percentage of completion. You must complete all courses in a Learning Plan to complete the Learning Plan.

Certificates for completion of courses can be obtained in My.Scouting by clicking the Menu button, selecting My Training and then selecting the Completions tab. To obtain a course certificate, highlight a course and click on the icon to the far right – it will generate and download a certificate automatically to your default download folder.
NATIONAL CAMP ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

As of January 1, 2021 Wood Badge, NYLT and National Youth Leadership Academy will fall under the category of “Short Term Camping” [https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/camping/short-term-camp/] and must follow and adhere to, the short-term camp standards set forth in the National Camp Accreditation Program (NCAP). It will be the prime responsibility of the professional staff advisor, along with the course director, to understand, and comply with the appropriate standards for your course.

NATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2021

Florida Sea Base Conferences

Unfortunately, the 2021 Florida Sea Base Conferences have been cancelled due to a variety of reasons, mostly COVID-19 restrictions.

LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE WILL SHARPEN YOUR SCOUTING SKILLS IN 2021!

Leadership Challenge is the preeminent outdoor experiential Scouting leadership course for those who have completed Wood Badge. For 2021, Summit Leadership Challenge (SLC) will be held July 4-10 at The Summit, and Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC) will be held September 12-18 at Philmont.

Both courses bring to life the potential of servant leadership through challenging and engaging activities that motivate you to follow a life of helping others succeed based on the values expressed in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Scouters from across the country will observe and participate in team building and problem-solving, while effectively managing challenging situations. Will you meet the challenge?

To register for Summit Leadership Challenge: [https://tinyurl.com/2021SUP]
To register for Philmont Leadership Challenge: [https://tinyurl.com/2021PHP]

Join SLC & PLC on Facebook! [https://www.facebook.com/philmontleadershipchallenge/]

NAYLE PREPARES YOUTH SCOUTING LEADERS FOR SUCCESS IN 2021!

Youth leaders are invited to attend National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) at The Summit and Philmont in 2021! NAYLE builds upon skills learned during National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), with engaging activities that equip young women and men to navigate team dynamics to plan for success using tenets of servant leadership. For more than a decade, outstanding Scouts have participated in NAYLE, and these young leaders are now shaping the future of the Boy Scouts of America.

To register for NAYLE at The Summit (2 courses available): [https://tinyurl.com/SNAYLE2021]
To register for NAYLE at Philmont (6 courses available): [https://tinyurl.com/PNAYLE2021]

Join NAYLE on Facebook! [https://www.facebook.com/BSANAYLE/]
NYLT Leadership Academy is an instructor course for those who have attended NYLT. The focus is to hone leadership, communication, and teaching skills in an enthusiastically supportive environment through practice and evaluation. The expanded confidence and skills will be important throughout life, and more immediately as NYLT staff. The academy task force has been meeting and is currently planning with the expectation of having courses in 2021.

With so many NYLT courses canceled or with their attendance curtailed in 2020, the academy will be open to anyone who has attended NYLT and will make accommodations to accept those youth essential to relaunching a council's NYLT program. The number of courses, dates, and locations are not ready to be announced.

The Leadership Academy staff has been keeping sharp by being the facilitators for Scouting U's Virtual Trainer's EDGE and several virtual NYLT CDCs.
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YOU’RE INVITED!!

To Attend the

PHILMONT LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

September 12-18, 2021

Open to ALL Programs. Participants must:

Have successfully completed Wood Badge (you may still be working on your ticket)

Complete a BSA Annual Health and Medical Record – parts A, B and C. (must be dated within one year of the course)

Cost is $550

A deposit of at least $250 is due when you complete the online application. Balance is due 30 days prior to arrival. Only registrations paid in full are considered to be complete.

See full registration details at the link.