



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**  
MUSKINGUM VALLEY COUNCIL

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September 7, 2017

Muskingum Valley Scouters,

The Boy Scouts of America has always 'done our best' to protect youth from any form of harm. Our youth protection training, and the constant vigilance of our volunteers is critical to keeping our Scouts safe. Youth and families depend on Scouting to be a safe haven.

Volunteers in Scouting also want to know that Scouting is a safe place to give their time. The BSA has always provided general liability coverage to protect volunteers and charter partners. Without this coverage, volunteers would be putting themselves at great financial risk.

In recent years, numerous lawsuits against the BSA have driven up the costs of our General Liability Insurance Program (GLIP). The cost has increased so dramatically that it threatens the organization's ability to provide other needed services.

The Muskingum Valley Council is also facing financial pressure due to increased insurance costs. Since 2011, our insurance premiums have increased over \$5,000 to \$23,000 per year. Also, because we believe it is so important, the Council has always paid the cost of Unit Accident and Sickness insurance which costs the council another \$2,000 per year.

Finally, as the Scoutbook app continues to become more, and more integrated into the BSA systems, it is becoming apparent that every unit should be using Scoutbook. Indeed, every Scouting family should have Scoutbook!

With these considerations in mind, the Boy Scouts of America, annual individual registration fee is increasing to \$33.00 effective December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Muskingum Valley Council will be adding \$3.00 per person to each registration effective December 1<sup>st</sup>. This fee will provide Unit Accident and Sickness insurance as well as the Scoutbook app for every registered member.

Beginning December 1st, the annual registration fee will be \$36 per year for all youth and adult registrations. This fee equals \$3.00 per month when pro-rated. This fee will be effective with all December recharterers. We understand that this is a significant increase, however, Scouting remains a very safe and affordable program for families when compared to other options.

The Muskingum Valley Council continues to be committed to providing the highest quality Scouting programs. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

  
John Thatcher  
Council President

  
Arv Palmer  
Council commissioner

  
Ed Mulholland  
Scout Executive

**Prepared. For Life.**

