

Your Map to Success

Establishing Presence

Using websites, Facebook, and Instagram to create a digital home

Unpacking content

National messaging, where to find content, and creating a content calendar

3

Maximizing Efforts

Strategic marketing planning, Omnichannel marketing, using a marketing funnel

F



Getting Started

Defining social media, current research, and the impact on Scouting

Knowing Your Value

Establishing a value proposition and aligning it with Scouting values

Digital Landscape

Understanding reach, results, and optimization

Measuring Success

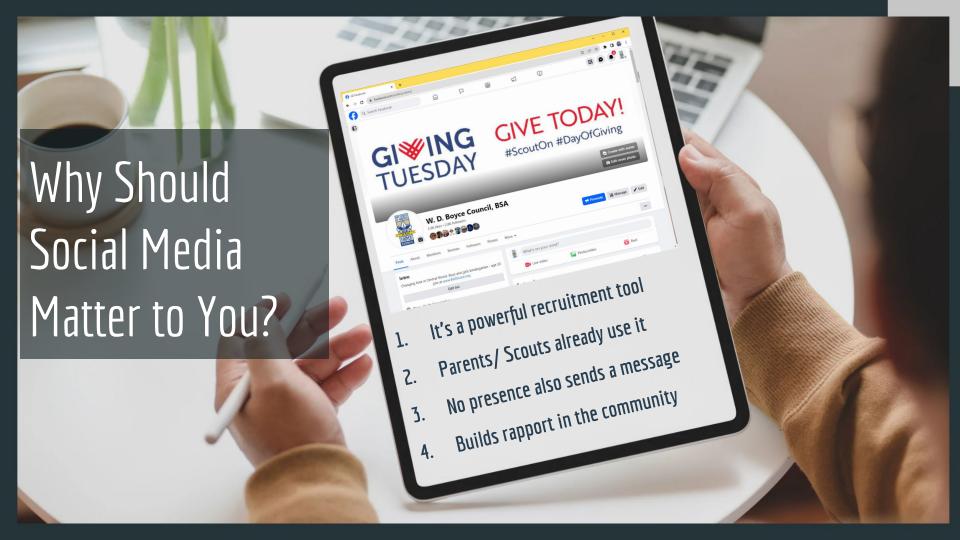
Key Performance Indicators, data mining, and annual benchmarking



According to Tufts University, social media refers to the means of interactions among people in which they create, share, and/or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks.

It is about conversations, community, connecting with the audience and building relationships; not just a broadcast channel or a sales and marketing tool.





Your Audience is Already on Social Media

Did you know? In the US:

- 72% of people use social media
- Average spend 2.5 hours per day on social media
- 60% of all search traffic is on Google

Online channels allow you to target people based on:

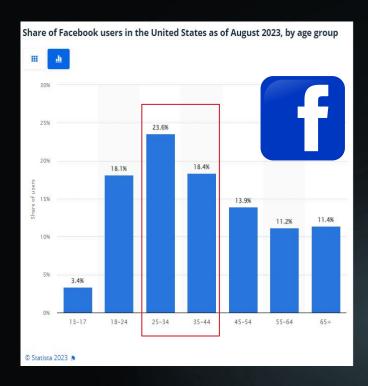
- Demographics such as age, income, gender, marital status, etc.
- Interest and lifestyle characteristics
- Online behavior such as website visits

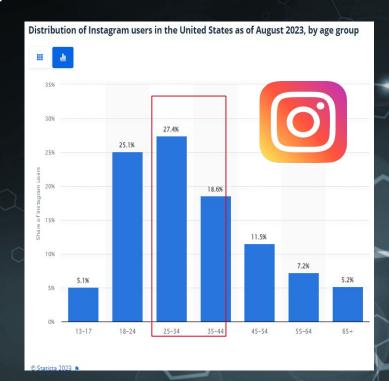
In addition, 79% of parents who use digital and social media seek information from their online networks.

- Social media 51%
- Close friends and family 49%
- School newsletter 33%
- Search engines, such as Google 31%

^{*} Data from 2021 BSACAC poll

Where Do Parents Look for Activities?

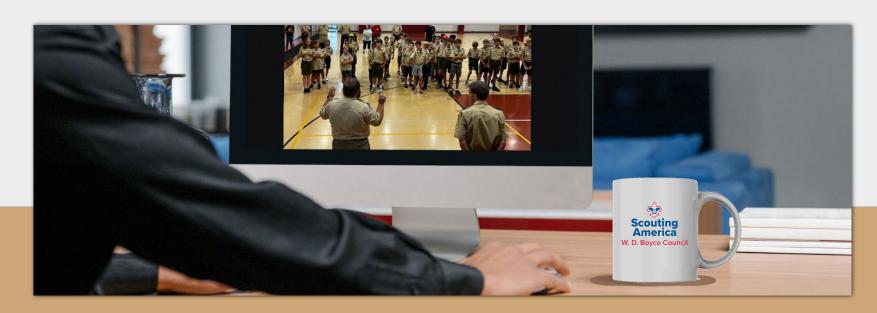




Impact on Scouting

Social media is a 24-hr home for your unit where members of the public may drop by and watch or participate at any time of day or night.

https://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/





Mile Marker 1: Establishing Presence



Everyone Has a Role

Unit Level Leaders drive Scouting by interacting regularly with Scouts, parents and community members.

Most Units use a variety of communication channels already, for example:



Direct Mail

Flyers

Booths

Phone Calls

Email

Text

Video

Conferencing

(Zoom)

Discord

Snapchat

Slack

Teams

Website

Google

(search returns, placement, ads)

Facebook
Instagram
Twitter
(organic and paid content)

Where do I start?

Each of the boxes represents an **online communication channel.** To reach everyone, it takes a **combination approach**. Luckily, it's easier when you understand when to use each one.

Website:

Potential Scouts

Calendar

Troop History

Policies and Procedures

Landing Pages

Facebook:

Sharing Photos

Recruitment

Public Image

Fundraising

Build Partnerships

Curated Content

Instagram:

Recruitment

Build Image

Trends

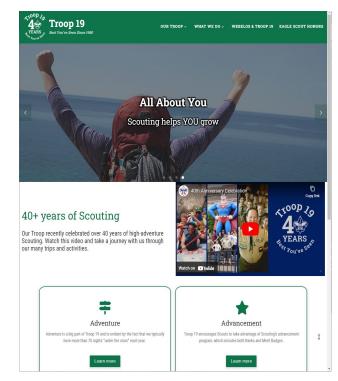
Events

Original Content

Your Unit Website - A Digital Home

Want a top notch site? Check out this great advice from Aaron on Scouting:

- Focus on Prospective Scouting families:
 The website serves as a billboard and brochure as families "shop around" to decide which pack, troop or crew they want to join.
- For Current Scouting families: The website
 hosts a unit calendar, provides contact
 information for leaders, and offers a way to
 share important pack, troop or crew news.

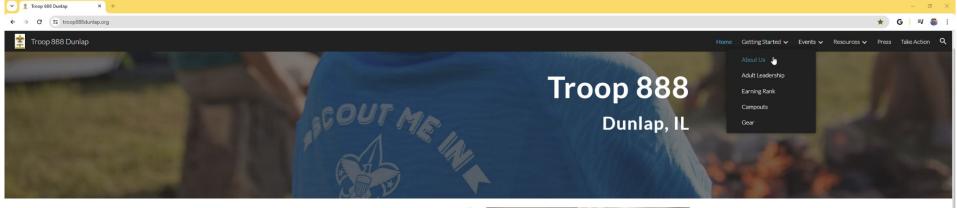


Source: https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2019/12/11/check-out-some-of-the-best-troop-pack-and-crew-websites-of-2019/

Pause for a Closer Look: **How to Build a Website**

- Choose a website builder platform
- Determine your value proposition
- Create engaging content
- ☐ Use videos/ images that represent your Unit
- Find and register your URL
- Promote your website
- Update frequently, but keep it evergreen









An Experience as Unique as You Are

Join Now

Welcome to our area's premier youth development program.

Outdoor adventure, community service, career exploration, life skills, character development, and lifelong friendships... and that's just last month's agenda. Come find out why there is no other program like Scouting.

All Are Welcome

Troop 888 Dunlap

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. Whitewater Rafting Campout

Epic memories made! The rafting course was extremely fun and the troop learned a ton on this outing. Scouts spoke with experts about the creation of the waterway, how the rapids are created, and even were able to watch the dam being opened and see for themselves how the flow rate changed the water surface quickly. They also had some safety lessons from the lifeguard and even practiced throwing a lifesaving line.

Scouts that hustled were able to traverse the coure up to 11 times! By the end, Scouts were able to navigate the rapids backwards!

Special thanks to Mr. Kravetz for his extensive efforts in making this happen. His passion for kayaking made this event what it was.



. '23 BSA National Jamboree

What's better than waking up to a new adventure every day? Doing it with 14,000 of your closet friends! Five members of our troop joined our council's contingent for an epic 10 day journey that will never be forgotten.

Highlights including zip lining, whitewater rafting, leadership training, and the cutest little bear cubs in the world.

Check out our detailed blog!



Summer Camp @ Ingersoll (ISR)

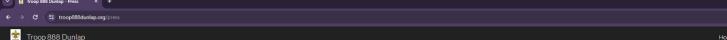
What a difference a year makes!

This year our troop filled our own campsite! Not only did the ladies do a fabulous job keeping their site clean, they exhibited overall Scout Spirit worthy of the highest honors: The Baden Powell Award. Way to to go, ladies!



















Scouts depart Central Illinois for National Scout Jamboree

By Emily Ries, Jon Schoenheider and Victoria Williams for 25News Now

For the first time since 2017, thousands of Scouts will gather for the National Scout Jamboree, including Troops from Central Illinois.

Excitement was in the air as 63 Scouts from the W. D. Boyce Council contingent gathered in East Peoria Tuesday morning to leave for their 10-day adventure.

The Scouts are on their way to the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia, which they'll arrive at Wednesday after spending the night camping in Friendship, Ohio. They'll be joined by 20 more Scouts from Champaign's Prairielands Council.

For the full story, click here.



2023 Scouts BSA National Jamboree will be the first to include female Scouts

By Isabela Nieto for WCBU

The 2023 Scouts BSA National Jamboree will be the first Jamboree in Scouts history to include troops of all-female Scouts from around the country for the week-long outdoor gathering.

The Jamboree will take place at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia. Every four years, the National Jamboree hosts thousands of Scouts from around the country.

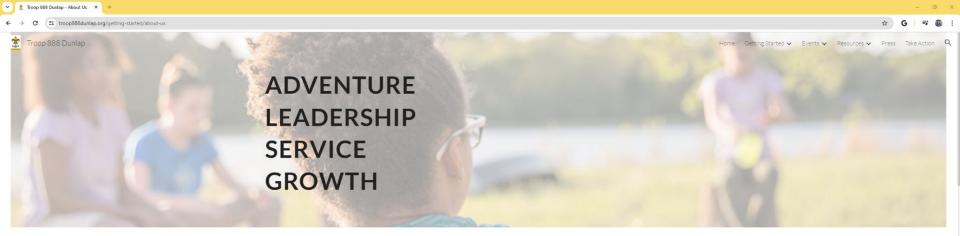
The W.D. Boyce Council, which is the governing body of the Central Illinois district of Scouts BSA, will send nearly 80 scouts to this year's Jamboree.

Read full article here.



60 Illinois Scouts Depart for National Jamboree

By Isabela Nieto for WCBU



Who are we?

Troop 888 is a Scouts BSA girl troop dedicated to growing tomorrow's leaders today with a focus on building character and giving back to the community.

We operate in the Dunlap/Peoria area working in partnership with boy Troop 88.



Scouts BSA Girl Troop 888 spin about 2 years app Join now and get back outdoors, #beascout

Troop Meetings:

Monday nights when Dunlap 323 is in session

Arrival time: 6:45 pm (earlier on merit badge class nights)

Meetings generally include a group skill time, patrol time, skill tests,

and campout/meal planning.

Parents are encouraged to join us at 8:15 pm as we conclude each meeting with announcements and troop updates.

Patrol Leader's Council:

Scouts take turns being in charge of their patrol in order to gain leadership experience. Our troop is scout-led; that means the scouts plan and lead most of our meetings and events.

They have the support of a large group of adult volunteers and mentors to help them do their best.

Patrol Leaders Council meets the first Tuesday of each month during the school year. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm and pizza is served.

Things to Remember for Websites

- 1. **Use free resources:** Attractive, mobile-friendly, current themes are available for use, check out the digital marketing guide: https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-membership-2/digital-marketing/
- 2. **Remember internet safety:** Follow Scouting America's Cyber Safety guidelines and Social Media Guidelines to keep young people safe online.
- 3. **Stay on brand:** Consult the Scouting America Brand Identity Guide to make sure that your site is seen as part of the movement.
- 4. **Strive for "one source":** Whenever possible, link or embed directly from the source to ensure posted Scouting America content is up to date. Check for your website regularly for broken links or expired content.

Source: https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2019/12/11/check-out-some-of-the-best-troop-pack-and-crew-websites-of-2019/

Safety Notes: Personal Identifiable Information PII

DO: DO NOT:

- Use First Name and Last Inital (when needed)
- Use Town, City, State
- Check for people in the background
- Attain an annual photo release each year
- Use Brand Center Content

- Use Full Names
- Use Addresses
- Use phone, email or social media IDs
- Reference School or Venue (when possible)

Safety Notes: Threats and Negative Comments

- Do not delete comments (unless they violate Scouting America Social Media Policy)
- Report to unit and Council leadership.
- Having multiple admins helps keep channels monitored.
- External media requests should always be referred to the Council Scout Executive or pr@scouting.org

Tough Topics and How to Address Them

Chapter 11 Reorganization

- Scouting America's Chapter 11 was the largest, most complicated bankruptcy re-organization in U.S. not-for-profit history. It should generally be avoided as a unit level topic and if there are questions or concerns, pefer them to your Council Scout Executive.
- Media inquiries of this nature should ALWAYS be referred to <u>pr@scouting.org</u>.

Emergency or Crisis Communications

Anytime you are in a situation where there is significant injury, fatality, police intervention or media interest you have now entered the world of "crisis communications."

- First priority: Call 911 if fire, ambulance or police are needed
- Second: Contact your Scout Executive
- Third: Please do not speak to media. Refer media inquiries to your Scout Executive or <u>pr@scouting.org</u>

Pause for a Closer Look: Facebook Basics

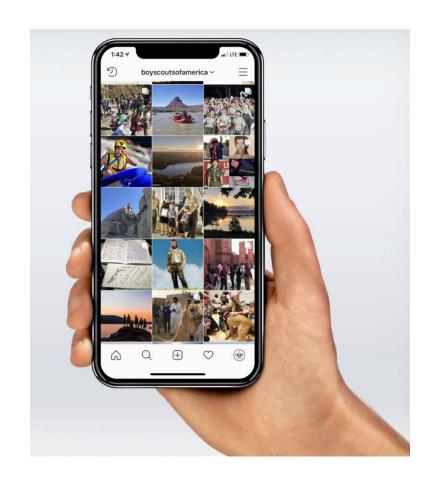
- Reels vs posts
- Pages vs groups
- Reshare vs original content
- Paid vs organic
- Timeline housekeeping



Instagram

With over **1.4 billion daily users**, **95 million photos and videos** shared per day, and **2 billion like**s happening **each day**, Instagram photo and video sharing is one of the most engaging channels on social media.

You can share pictures and short videos with those in your network, giving them a glimpse at what Scouting has to offer.



Source: https://blog.hootsuite.com/instagram-statistics/ Visited October 2023

Proven Ways To Use Instagram

1. **Add hashtags** to your image descriptions.

Pictures with hashtags get nearly 2x the amount of interaction as those that don't.

- 2. **Follow people, and like their content**If you want interaction, you need to interact
- 3. Choose a filter and make it your own
- Use Instagram video
 Instagram will allow you to take 15-second videos and post them to your account

33:1

Comment Ratio

For every 33 likes you get 1 comment, on average.

Use Hashtags

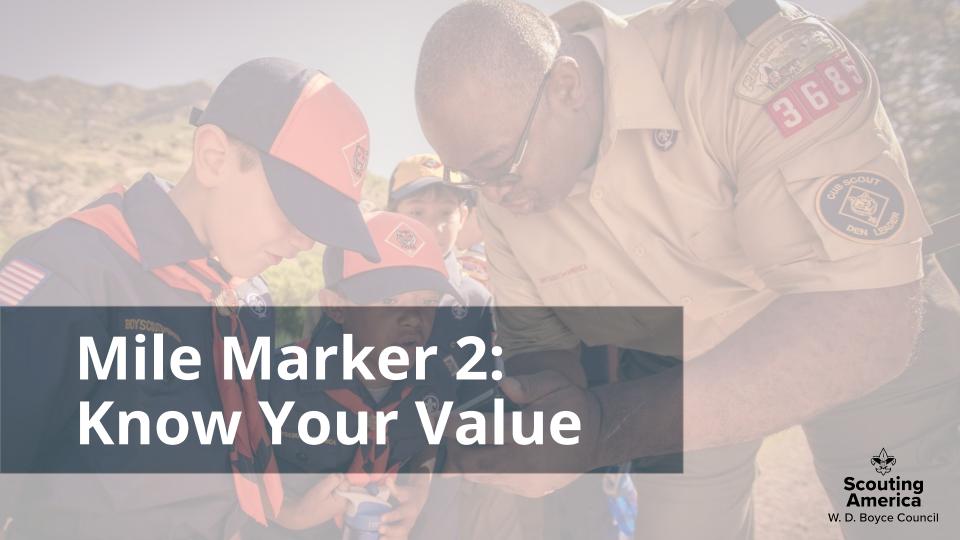
More hashtags equals more engagement #trustus #theywork

Post on

Sunday

Sunday posts have the highest engagement.

Source: Scouting America Social Media Playbook https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/marketing/pdf/Social_Media_Playbook.pdf



Your Unique Unit, Your Unique Image

Questions to ask when considering your value include:

- Why is your unit so **fun** for Scouts?
- Why are Scouts from your unit at a competitive advantage to their peers after completing your program?
- How is your unit changing your local community?
- What is your unit's legacy?
- Why choose your unit over another hobby or interest?



Creating A Value Proposition

A value proposition **articulates the value and benefits** that a product or service provides its clients/customers/members.

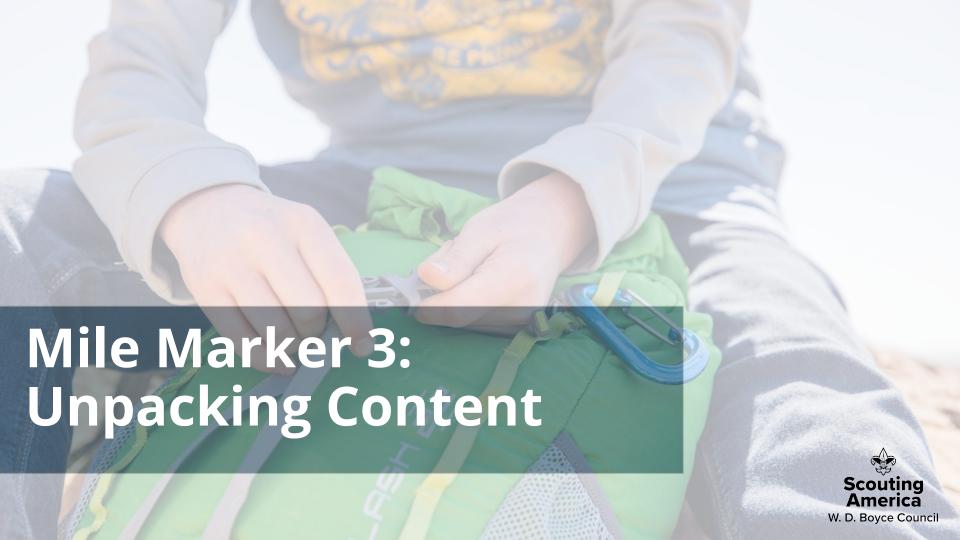
A value proposition should:

- → Explain how the product/service addresses a problem, challenge or need
- → Speak to **specific benefits** provided
- → **Differentiate** an organization from its competition

The Nature Of Character
GIVING BACK

Source: "Identify Your Value Prop & Unique Differentiators"

Association Town Hall: Social Media for Local Councils 101; September 2023



National Core Messaging

- Scouting is alive and well... and growing
- Scouting includes boys and girls
- Scouting instills personal values
- Scouting teaches leadership
- Scouting teaches practical life skills
- Scouting is about the outdoor experience
- Scouting builds self-confidence
- Scouting has benefited millions of lives

REMEMBER **Tailor Messages for the Audience Keep Messages Simple** Repetition is Good

Focus on the GOOD

Positive, value-centered, and **consistent messaging** is key.

- Messaging is consistent with the Boy Scouts of America
- Counteract negative news with positive messaging
- Focus on scouting's value message
- Convey a sense of energy and and ongoing activity



To identify your Troop's unique differentiators, consider:

- Surveying your audience(s)
- Hosting conversations with key stakeholders such as unit leaders, Scouts, Charter Org., etc.
- Testing different messages

Source: "Identify Your Value Prop & Unique Differentiators"

Association Town Hall: Social Media for Local Councils 101; September 2023

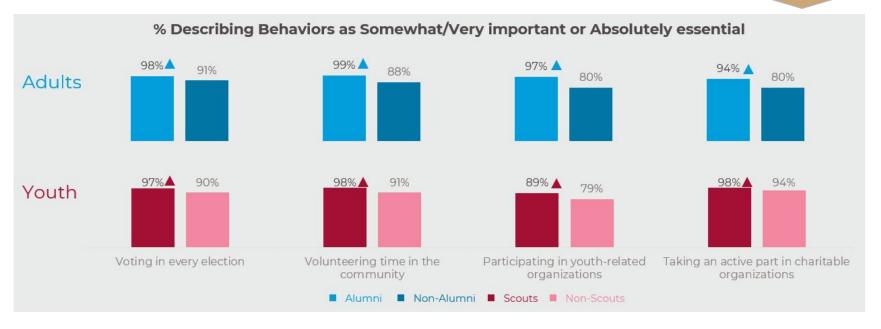
The Scouting EDGE: A New Study

Conducted by **The Harris Poll** on behalf of Scouting America in 2023

- Nationally Representative Sample
 - 1,617 youth ages 10-17
 - 1,614 adults ages 18+
- Scout and Scouting Alumni Sample Sizes
 - 440 Scouts ages 10 -17
 - 226 Scouting Alumni ages 18+

The Scouting EDGE: A New Study

Infographics coming from Nationals soon.



Base: All Qualified Respondents (Total Alumni n=226; Total Non-Alumni n=1305; Total Scouts n=440; Total Non-Scouts n=1432) Q1045. Please indicate the extent to which you think the following behaviors are important in being a good citizen, if at all.



Great Social Media Communications

LCO

ZIP Code

ZIP Code

Find and Apply

What it is:

Planned Communication

Trackable Metrics

Lead Generation

Relationship Building

Networking

What it is NOT:

Expensive

Time-Consuming

Hard

For Big Companies Only

What it does:

Builds Awareness

Generates Leads

Fosters Relationships

Educates

Where Do I Find Content?

- Establish shared content sources
 - a. National Scouting websites and social media Scout Wire, Scouting Newsroom, Chief's Blog, Scouting Magazine, Scout's Life, Scouting America Home Page, Cub Hub, Venturing, Scout Stuff, and Facebook
 - b. Community websites and social media
 - C. Local and regional medial channels
- 2. Create an admin team and pre-schedule posts
 - a. Local Events
 - b. Promotion
 - c. Scouting Tips
 - d. Local Scouting Stories
- 3. Remember: video creates the most engagement, followed by a simple photo with a great caption

HOME | OUR COMMUNITY | ENJOYING | COMMUNITY NEWS & MEDIA

Community News & Media

- . Peoria Journal Star Peoria Journal Star is the local newspaper for the City of Peoria, capturing the local and state news and interests.
- · Peoria Magazine Published monthly, Peoria Magazine focuses on issues and people of the Greater Peoria region.
- The Community Word The Community Word is published monthly and is available free of charge at businesses throughout the Peoria area and online. It reports news and issues in the Peoria area.
- . The Traveler Weekly has served Peoria since 1966 and was founded by Elise F. Allen
- WCBU Radio WCBU is Peoria's public radio station, located at Bradley University, bringing you the latest local news, views, and weather.
 WCBU also broadcasts the regularly scheduled City Council meetings.
- . Week | 25 News Now. WEEK is one of the local television stations that broadcast the news and weather online
- . WMBD WMBD also reports the latest news and weather online for your convenience
- . WMBD Radio 1470 WMBD is Peoria's news and talk radio station brings you the latest news, views, and weather
- . WTVP | Public Media for Central Illinois



Creating a Content Calendar

- National Vs Local
- Events
- Stories
- Trainings
- Ads
- Fundraising Campaign
- Press
- Recruitment







Comment Moderation

First and foremost, be sure to monitor your comments!

- → If it is not following the Scout Oath and Law, then it doesn't have a place on your Scouting page.
- → Be sure to take an active engagement role so that people know you are there get social!
- Negative words to block (using Admin Settings)

 https://www.frontgatemedia.com/a-list-of-723-bad-words-to-blacklist-and-how-to-use-facebooks-moderation-tool/
- → Scouting America Social Media Guidelines: https://scoutingwire.org/social-media-guidelines/
- → Social Media Playbook:
 https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/marketing/pdf/Social_Media_Playbook.pdf







Plan Your Content

Create a simple calendar to manage messaging and timing.



Make Consistent Placements

Don't worry about being everywhere at once. Start with Facebook and be consistent in your voice, frequency, and audience.



Track Metrics

Be a good steward of your time and resources. Track what you do and repeat what works.

Practices to Start Today



It Starts with Your Goals

Quality of goals

- SMART
- Focus on only 1-2 goals at a time
- Clearly communicated and reviewed
- Manage stakeholders and accountability

Types of goals (just a few examples)

- Increase reach (audience)
- Increase membership (recruitment)
- Increase participation (engagement)
- Increase financial resources (fundraising)
- Improve community image (pubic relations)
- Or just get started (presence)



Next a Simple Plan

Audience

- 21-50 males and females
- Geographic radius varies by population density
- Target interest groups:outdoorsmanship, leadership, STEM, and community

Channels/ Platforms

- Facebook, Instagram, and Tik Tok
- Slack, Discord, Twitter, Snapchat
- Google

Timing

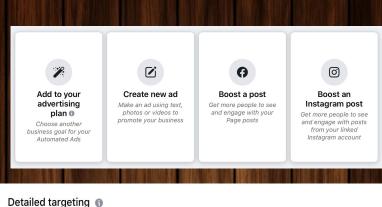
- Create and stick to a calendar
- 2-3 quality posts generates more interaction than 6 pass through posts
- Be responsive to comments and questions

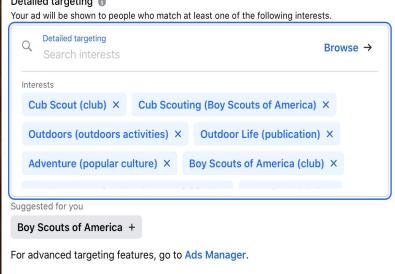
Resources

- Cost
- Content Creators
- Admins

Broaden Your Audience Strategically

- Encourage your Scouts and Scouters
 to Like, Follow, & Share your Social Media accounts
- Use target marketing to broaden/narrow your reach based on local interests
- Reserve **Geofencing** for specific events.
 Your Charter Organization reach should help determine your distance. Work with the Council to avoid redundancy or overlap.





Search Engine Optimization (SEO)

Search engine optimization (SEO) is the process of making your site better for search engines.

The 3 Keys to SEO are:

- 1. Frequently updated sites
- 2. Quality content that users value
- 3. Effective use of backlinks, tags and keywords



https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/digital-marketing/search-engine-optimization-guide/

https://developers.google.com/search/docs/fundamentals/seo-starter-guide

Scouting America Suggested Keywords for SEO

Eagle Scout

Webelos

Scouts BSA

boy scouts near me

Scouting America

Scoutbook

Sea Scouts

Venture / Venturing

BSA / Boy Scouts of America

Cub Scouts

scouts

kids events near me

kid friendly activities near me

fun places for kids near me

development

things to do with kids near me

kids activities near me

kids activities

child development

kids fun near me

trails near me

crafts for kids

tent camping near me

science experiments for kids

science projects for kids

stem for kids

scout

boy scouts

fishing

swimming

canoe

trails near me

hiking trails near me

all trails

campsites

walking trails near me

activities

camping

campground

hiking near me

camping near me

campgrounds near me

*Added suggestions

hiking trails near me

* girl

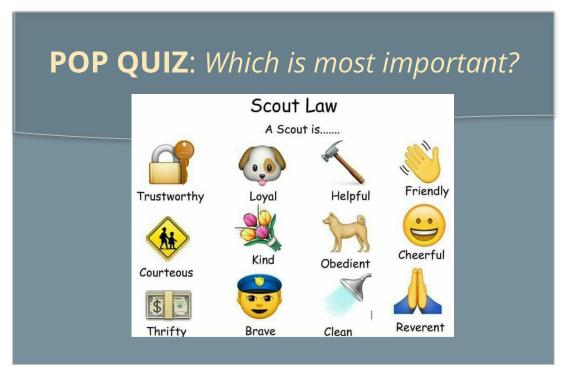
* leadership

* service

^k community

Source: https://scoutingwire.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/SEO-Keywords.pdf

Increasing Content Engagement



33%
Increase with emoticons
Using emoticons increases
comments by 33%

100%

More Comments
Question posts get 100% more comments

23%

More InteractionShorter posts get 23% more interaction

Source: BSA Social Media Playbook, https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/marketing/pdf/Social Media Playbook.pdf



Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- **Reach.** Post reach is the number of unique users who saw your post.
- **Clicks.** This is the number of clicks on your content or account.
- **Engagement.** The total number of social interactions divided by the number of impressions.
- **Hashtag performance.** *What were your most-used hashtags?*
- **Organic and paid likes.** *Beyond a standard "Like" count, these interactions are attributed to paid or organic content.*
- **Sentiment.** This is the measurement of how users react to your content, brand, or hashtag.
- **Cost per lead (CPL).** *Marketing costs divided by the number of leads generated.*
- **Cost per acquisition (CPA).** *Marketing costs divided by the number of sales generated.*
- **Conversion rates by channel.** *Users who complete a desired action divided by reach, and then organized by channel.*
- **Clickthrough rate (CTR).** The number of clicks on your content divided by times shown.
- Customer lifetime value (CLV).
- **Net Promoter Score (NPS).** A measure of customer satisfaction, loyalty, and enthusiasm.
- **Traffic to Lead ratio.** *Percent of user that come to your site that turn into leads*
- **Return on Ad Spend (ROAS).** *The amount of revenue earned for every dollar spent.*

Overview - Social Metrics

Cross-Network Performance Summary

View your key profile performance metrics from the reporting period.

 Impressions ●
 Engagements ●
 Post Link Clicks ●

 88,401 ≥ 0.8%
 4,675 ≥ 122%
 474 ≥ 289%

Audience Metrics	Totals	% Change
Total Audience	130,626	70%
Total Net Audience Growth ®	7	⊅ 123%
Twitter Followers Gained	6	7-
Facebook Page Likes	26	≯ 4%
Instagram Followers Gained	60	7 46.3%
Pinterest Followers Gained	0	⅓ 100%

Increased engagements results in your audience spending **more time** interacting with your content.

When **engagements decrease** - give broadcast information messages less focus, increase open-ended posts, reach out to influencers, increase "feel good content" and check to see if you are posting too frequently.

Increased followers shows a **healthy frequency** to content posting and **useful content** for users

Audience growth results from increase in communication reach or broadened value message.

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