## Advancement Corner (Aug. 2021)

(From the Council Advancement Committee)

Beginning this month, the Council Advancement Committee will provide a monthly feature on advancement related matters, updated procedures, and information on Scout advancement.



The BSA publication *Guide to Advancement* is the policy and procedure guide to all matters related to Scout advancement. The guide is updated every 2 years, and the most recent update was released in July of this year.

The *Guide to Advancement* reminds Scout Leaders that advancement is not the main intent of Scouting, but that advancement is one of the eight methods of Scouting, and is only an intended outcome of a fun and exciting, well-developed program offered to our Scouts.

Whether you are a leader in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Exploring or Sea Scouts, you can find information on how advancement is administered, answer questions related to advancement matters, and determine what is and isn't policy when it comes to BSA advancement within the guide's pages.

Your District and Council Advancement Committees adhere to the policies defined within the *Guide to Advancement* to ensure our Scouts receive their due recognition. The <u>Guide to Advancement</u> can be found here.

As a reminder, Scouts should receive immediate recognition once they have finalized the requirements for any pin, belt loop, badge, or rank. Immediate recognition may be as simple as providing recognition prior to the end of the meeting at which the Scout's recognition has been signed off.

But is that all there is to it? Not at all. The Scout should be recognized by his peers at the next scheduled meeting as well, where they may receive the award (pin, belt loop rank badge, etc.). A final recognition may be offered at a major ceremony such as Cub Scouting's Blue and Gold ceremony or a Scout BSA Troop's Court of Honor. Immediate recognition as well as follow-up recognition at the

right moments keep your Scouts enthused and wanting for more, thereby providing incentive for them to remain in the program for the duration.

As a leader in the Boy Scouts of America, it is important to all of us that we offer our Scouts the recognition they deserve for a job well done.

For further questions or issues related to advancement, please get in contact with your District Advancement Committee or the Council Advancement Committee.

Wishing you Good Scouting,

Ron Bender Council Advancement Committee Chair ron.bender79@gmail.com (918) 373-4744