



# Bridges Together

## Calling All Scouts

For generations, girls and boys have been going through scouting programs, such as Boy/Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Navigators or faith-based groups. Gather together people – young and old – from your organization for a fun-filled meeting/reunion.

Form an Intergenerational Scout Leadership Team. Include leaders from other troops or chapters (including the youth and not just the leaders) and a couple of older adult members of the group.

### Where to Find Alumni of Your Scouting Program

- Put notices in the newspaper and at the library
- High schools and local colleges
- Post on social media groups in town
- Notify the senior center and ask them to put it in their newsletter/ make announcements
- Reach out to places of worship
- Talk the program up with community organizations like the American Legion or Kiwanis Club
- Check in with national headquarters and see if it keeps a database of former local participants



Have your Intergenerational Leadership Scout Team plan the event.

### A Suggested Format:

**Welcome as People Arrive:** Invite people to bring an item from their Scout days and a picture of them in their uniform. Give everyone a nametag.

**Opening Ceremony:** Have an older adult and young participant lead the ceremony which might include a flag ceremony, your organization's oath, Pledge of Allegiance and song.

**Ice Breaker Activity:** Decide on an ice breaker. For ideas, visit our [Recipe for Intergenerational Success on Ice Breakers](#).

**Mini lesson:** Provide an overview of your scouting program and its history. Invite some of the older participants to share for 2-3 minutes each on how the program has impacted their lives. This gives younger people vision.





**Life Reflection:** Break participants into small groups of about six people with at least two older adults per group. Invite people to share their photo or uniform item. Provide a list of questions and have people go around the circle and answer the questions. Sample questions include:

- What has been the most fun badge you've earned?
- What has been the most difficult badge you've earned?
- What has been the most memorable badge you've earned?
- Who helped you earn one of your badges?
- Who was your favorite Scout leader and why?
- What is a favorite memory from a Scouting trip?
- What is an important lesson you learned in Scouts?

**Main activity:** Tradition! Have each group do a 3-5 minute presentation/skit on a different aspect of scouting. For the Boy Scouts of America, the following would be included:

- "Be Prepared."
- "Do a good turn daily."
- Badges
- Ceremonies
- Levels (Cub, Boy, Eagle)
- Faith
- Trips

**Create a take-away:** Girl Scouts might want to do a SWAPS and Boy Scouts, a friendship knot.

**Break bread:** Say grace or a word of thanks and then share snacks or a light meal.

**Closing Ceremony:** Form a Friendship/Brotherhood circle. Sing a song. Do a Rededication Ceremony where scouts recommit themselves to their scout promises. Offer a benediction or dismissal. Retire the flag.

### Moving Forward...

Invite the members of your group to participate in other bridging ceremonies, service projects and/or opportunities to mentor young participants working on badges.



***This Recipe for Intergenerational  
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Massachusetts Association of  
Councils on Aging***