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WRITER'S GUIDELINES

SCOUT LIFE is a general-interest, four-color magazine that prints 10 times yearly, with a circulation of 1 million, published by the Boy Scouts of America since 1911. We buy all rights for original, unpublished material.

NONFICTION. Major articles run 500 to 1,200 words; payment is $500 to $1,200. Subject matter is broad. We cover everything from professional sports to American history to how to pack a canoe. A look at a current list of the BSA's more than 100 merit badge pamphlets gives an idea of the wide range of subjects possible. Even better, look at a year's worth of recent issues. Find the magazine in libraries and in BSA council offices, or look for the digital edition in your app store. Query Managing Editor Paula Murphey.

DEPARTMENTS run up to 600 words; payment is $100 to $600. Department headings are science, nature, health, sports, space and aviation, cars, computers, entertainment, pets, history, music — and others. Each issue uses five departments, on average. We also have back-of-the-book how-to features. Query Associate Editor Sheniece Chappell.

FICTION. Our short stories are assignment-only. Please do not query or send manuscripts.

STYLE. All articles for SCOUT LIFE must interest and entertain boys and girls ages 5 to 17. Write for a child you know who is 12. Our readers demand crisp, punchy writing in relatively short, straightforward sentences. The editors demand well-reported articles that demonstrate high standards of journalism. We follow The Associated Press Stylebook.

We receive numerous unsolicited nonfiction manuscripts per week. Because of our high standards, all of our articles are commissioned; thus, unsolicited nonfiction manuscripts rarely are appropriate for publication and regrettably must be returned unread.

Please query by mail (with SASE), not by email or phone.

Thank you for your interest in SCOUT LIFE.

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