



Goose Creek District Newsletter



August 2023

Volume 15, Issue 1

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Special Interest:

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Advancement

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Quick Calendar:


- Aug 9 – Roundtable
- Aug 19 – Life to Eagle
- Sep 13 – Roundtable
- Sep 30 – Webelos-o-ree
- Oct 11 – Roundtable
- Oct 21-22 – JOTA/JOTI

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article
/Updated
Information



Nostalgia, Tradition, and the Relevance of Scouting

Whenever two or three Scouters get together talk eventually turns to the relevance of Scouting in 'modern society'.

Some think we've diminished the ideals of 'manliness', traditional patriotism, bootstrap initiative, competitiveness and rigor in achievement but have they really examined what those ideas actually mean? Scouting does not consider that these things are scarce, unobtainable qualities, but that each individual Scout has vast potential to develop them.

We wrangle and argue over measurements; what is 'true' manliness, patriotism, achievement? Instead of a system of measurement Scouting sets a star to travel by: the full realization of each individual Scout's potential. Our principal aim is that individual ideal; interdependent, useful human beings who become active citizens and make the world a better place.

Detractors invoke creeping 'political correctness' and suggest that we have watered down our decisiveness and morality. This old chestnut of an argument was used to condemn innovation and change since the dawn of civilization; "Romans are so trendy and effete – what ever happened to good old Etruscans?" In their opinion all we have to do is reprint the original edition of the Scout handbook and return to our imagined ideal past that, of course, never existed. Nostalgia is pleasant, but it is not history. Our forebears had to muddle through the same sorts of flaws and pressures we encounter. They did their best and so can we.

Scouting has always been, and will always remain, something that principally happens when we are out-of-doors camping and trekking our way through the natural world. This is our tradition, but we don't follow tradition blindly.

We don't go camping as a romantic, aesthetic, throwback to the good old days. We go camping because it is the most useful way to achieve the aims of Scouting. We use patrols and engage youth in leadership not because it's a quaint, anachronistic, tradition but because that's how we achieve the aims of Scouting.

Most importantly we do these things because that is what our Scouts want to do! Despite a century of societal and cultural changes there's not much difference between present day Scouts and those few that camped out on Brownsea island at the dawn of the Scouting movement.

That's our past, present and future all rolled into one.

Our Scouts neither need, nor do they particularly want, big flashy programs and entertainments. We aren't trying to entertain, we want to engage our Scouts.

Scouting is relevant, and it will always be, so long as we don't make it into a historic re-enactment, blindly follow tradition, and resist the temptation to misdirect it's simple intentions.

Scouting is not about recreating the past, we are looking toward the future

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

★ Now's A Good Time to Make Sure Your BeAScout Pin Is Up to Date



There are lots of different ways to recruit new members to Scouting. One of the easiest and most valuable is to make sure your unit's information is up to date at BeAScout.org, the official BSA site that allows members of the public to find Scouting units near them.

The BeAScout website allows anyone to search for a Cub Scout pack, Scouts BSA troop, Venturing crew, Sea Scout ship or Exploring post by zip code. We call the search results "pins" because they're displayed on a web page that looks like pins on a map.

Each pin represents a different Scouting unit, and when you click on a pin, you find contact information and sometimes even an online application that allows a member of the public to sign up for your unit right then and there.

There's just one catch: You have to keep your unit's information up to date; otherwise, people looking to join the BSA could be greeted by outdated email addresses and phone numbers.

The good news is, it's easy to do. Here's [how](#).

★ Webelos-O-Ree 2023



Save the date for GCD's Webelos-O-Ree from September 30th to October 1st at Camp Snyder! All Bear and Webelos scouts are welcome to this annual scouting festival where Scouts BSA troops demonstrate their skills and encourage Cubs to join a troop. Cubs can expect to participate in shooting sports, build fires, learn knots, practice first aid skills, enjoy good food and much more! The Webelos-O-Ree promises to complete several Arrow of Light requirements, so plan ahead for your Webelos and Bears. This is a camping event, but options are available for those who only want to spend the day with us.

Scouts BSA troops looking to volunteer please contact Joe Kotch and Charles Thornton at joe.kotch11@gmail.com and scouterchalis@gmail.com respectively.

Save the Date – Freeze-o-ree 2024



Save the Date - January 26-28 - Goose Creek District Freeze-O-Ree. Presented by the Goose Creek Chapter of the Order of the Arrow. This year - Yeti Mania!

In Remembrance



It is with deep sadness that we report on the passing of Richard Pender, our OA Chapter Advisor and past Merit Badge Dean.

Richard Anthony Pender passed away suddenly on July 18, 2023, from a pulmonary embolism while in the hospital for treatment of an unexpected heart condition. Rich Pender was born in Mineola, New York, to Michael and Francine Pender and was the next to the youngest in a family of five children. He grew up on Long Island and graduated from Garden City High School. Following graduation from high school, Rich attended Dartmouth College, where his father and grandfather also attended and graduated in the class of '79. His fraternity, The Harold Parmington Foundation, was an integral part of his time at Dartmouth, and he cherished and worked to maintain his relationships with his fraternity brothers.

Rich obtained his master's degree in business administration at Boston University in 1984. He then worked at the American Stock Exchange for a time before accepting a job in 1986 with National Life of Vermont/Sentinel Advisors Company in Montpelier, Vermont, where he worked for thirteen years, rising to the title of Senior Vice President for the Sentinel Advisors Company. Then in 1999, persuaded by a friend and mentor, he applied for a job at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, where he worked as a Managing Director for the last 24 years until his retirement on May 1, 2023

He was an active member in Scouts BSA as a boy and later with his son Ian Pender. He participated as an Assistant Den Leader and then Assistant Scoutmaster for Ian's Den and Troop and was immensely proud when Ian reached the rank of Eagle Scout. When Scouts BSA allowed girls to join, he became an Assistant Scout Master for his daughter Riley's Troop and championed her to the rank of Eagle as well. His most recent position for the organization was as the Chapter Advisor for the Goose Creek District, Order of the Arrow, the honor society for Scouts BSA. He led by example and lived his life by the Scout Oath and Law.

Rich was a dedicated husband and father and is survived by Denise Dauphin Pender, his wife of 20 years; by his children Riley Renee Pender, Ian Anthony Pender, and Alexis Ariel Keene and her husband Nickolas Keene and their three children Patton William, Temperance Maple, and Tulip Baker; and by his siblings Michael Pender and wife Marie, William Pender and wife Jo, Robin Pender, and John Pender as well as an extended group of friends, colleagues and fraternity brothers across the US and abroad. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Rich's memory to Loudoun Hunger Relief.

★ **The NCAC Participation Fee**



After an intensive 18-month strategic planning process, NCAC’s volunteer Executive Board determined that our Scouts would be better served by a local Council Participation Fee that would provide consistent revenue and be more equitable to those who support our Scouts. Beginning January 1, 2024, an annual Council Participation Fee of \$80.00 will be assessed to all youth participating in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts programs. For Scouts currently registered, the Council Participation Fee will be collected as part of your unit’s annual re-registration — often referred to as “rechartering.”

- Families with three (3) or more Scouts will be capped at paying three (3) Participation Fees.
- Scouts participating in more than one program will pay one (1) Participation Fee.
- No youth will be turned away for an inability to pay the Participation Fee. NCAC has always provided financial assistance when needed and will continue to do so.

Adults

- No registered adult will incur a participation fee.

Understanding Annual Fees

- NCAC does not directly receive any of the BSA membership fees currently paid as shown below.
- Units may have additional fees or dues to pay for a unit’s programs and activities; those fees also remain with the unit, and do not go to NCAC. Many units also fundraise for these fees and activities, we encourage units to continue those efforts.

ANNUAL YOUTH FEES	
 BSA	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  \$80 <small>Membership Fee</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <small>BSA YOUTH NEW-MEMBER JOINING FEE</small>  \$25 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <small>SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE</small>  \$15 </div> </div>
 NCAC	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  \$80 <small>Participation Fee</small> </div> </div>
Scouting Units - Packs, Troops, Crews and Ships Fees Vary by Unit	

Why is there a new Council Participation Fee?

NCAC works tirelessly to deliver a safe and high-quality Scouting program to our families in a cost-effective manner. Today it annually costs \$240 per youth to deliver this quality Scouting program.

In prior years, NCAC has subsidized 100% of this cost through corporate donations, major gifts, foundations, fundraising events, board donations, and our Family Friends of Scouting campaign. However, in recent years, the combination of a steady decline in participation in our Family Friends of Scouting — less than 10% of all families in Scouting — and the volunteer and professional costs required to maintain this campaign has made it impractical to continue this model.

Nationwide, we have seen many other local councils successfully transition to this participation fee model, while focusing on membership growth. This change will also allow our staff and volunteer time to directly support our units and programs instead of soliciting contributions.



Join Scouting Night Kick-Off Training Sessions



We're thrilled to invite you to our Join Scouting Night (JSN) Kick-Off Training Sessions, exclusively designed for Unit Leaders and Committee Members like you!

In-person sessions

- 8 August 2023, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm @ Rust Library
- 14 August 2023, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm @ Brambleton Library
- 15 August 2023, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm @ Cascades Library

Virtual sessions

- 21 August 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Zoom Link
- 30 August 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Zoom Link

[Zoom Link](#)

Virtual District Join Scouting Nights

Discover the allure of scouting in Goose Creek and Loudoun County at our District Virtual Join Scouting Nights:

- 6 September 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- 21 September 2023, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[Zoom Link](#)

Why Attend Goose Creek District Membership Training?

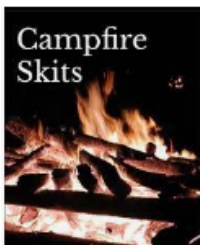
- 🤝 Network with Peers
- 📦 Get Essential Supplies
- 🔄 Master Hosting Your Own JSN

To ensure your spot and receive training materials, please RSVP by contacting Dena at membership@goosecreek.org or text 703-579-7419. You can also reach out to John Hunnicutt at jhunnicutt421@gmail.com.

Don't miss this chance to elevate your scouting journey!



Campfire Skit Collection



Our newsletter editor, Dr. Alan Steiner, has gone through the internet and pulled together a Campfire Skit Collection of over 300 skits and is making it available to everyone. Just contact him at Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org and request a copy.

Note: This is the only collection that includes our Webelos-O-Ree's "Pie in the Face" skit since that created by us specifically for that event



Program Popcorn



Everything you need to run a successful popcorn program for your unit will be found [here](#):

Last Popcorn Training Available:

August 5, 2023
 9:00am at Marriott Scout Service Center,
 9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814

The Popcorn Program is an important part of Scouting. If managed well the program can generate enough income to financially support your Scouting program for the entire year! Some of the great benefits of selling popcorn include:

- There are NO up-front costs to your unit
- A built-in prize program to support the Unit and individual Scout goals
- Participating in the Popcorn Program can complete requirements for rank advancement and multiple merit badges
- Popcorn is supported by the local community
- Scouts can earn a free week at a National Capital Area Council camp of their choice!

More importantly participating in the Popcorn Program teaches Scouts the value of earning their own way, setting goals, and supporting their unit program budget. This is an essential part of the character development learned through Scouting.

Stay up-to-date by joining our Facebook Group, [NCAC Popcorn!](#)

Helpful resources included, for this article are: the Unit Program Budget Planner, 2023 Unit Kernel Check List, and the Unit Registration QR Code.



If you have not registered your unit for the Popcorn Sale, please do so today!

www.trails-end.com/unit-registration

AUGUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scouts start take-order sales! ○ Place first order by Aug. 4 ○ Pick-up first order on Aug. 18/19 (Check the Popcorn Guidebook for locations, dates, and hours) ○ Show & Sales start ○ Wagon sales start
SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Place second order by September 8 (distribution on Sept. 23) ○ First inventory replenishment opportunity on Sept. 9 (order by Sept. 6)
OCTOBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Place third order by Oct. 6 (distribution on Oct. 21) ○ Second inventory replenishment opportunity on Oct. 7 (order by Oct. 4) ○ Review inventory and complete popcorn returns from Oct. 16-19 ○ Encourage military donations sales
NOVEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Place final order by Nov. 3 (distribution on Friday, Nov. 17 at Fairfax and Moyer's sites only) ○ Review online dashboard and review invoice ○ Collect Scout's money with checks made out to your unit ○ Pay any balance due to NCAC
ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Double check Scout totals and submit rewards order in the Trail's End system. ○ Celebrate a successful popcorn program!



Day/Twilight Camp Wrap-Up



It's a wrap! Once again, Goose Creek enjoyed a successful week of Day and Twilight Camp in June. We want to thank the large number of families that responded to our followup survey. We got some good information! From your replies, we gleaned some excellent ideas for future improvements. We also found out:

- The First Aid team this year did an outstanding job! The relay on Friday was especially popular, and there was praise for the caring attitude the team showed toward the campers.
- Many compliments to the Archery and BB's team! As always, Goose Creek takes great pride in offering all of the available shooting sports at our Day and Twilight Camps.
- The Wood Shop crafts were received extremely well. Have you played with your tic tac toe or "Cracker Barrel game" at home yet? Ask your camper about it, if not!
- Despite initial skepticism of using Camp Snyder for our site (including from the Camp Director, herself), the survey showed it was received with extreme enthusiasm for those who went! The facilities at Snyder simply can't be matched anywhere else that we know of, and it showed.

(Which reminds us, in case you didn't know, you can always take your unit camping there! They are open year-round. If you haven't been out there, get ready for a real treat.)

Staffers are already working out ideas for next year's camps (June 17-24, Twilight June 17-23). Watch for our announcements in the spring!



Shooting Sports Corner



This month's Shooting Sports message is safety as many Scouts and Scouters are finishing up summer camps and/or attended the National Jamboree.

Let's review the 3 NRA rules of gun safety:

ALWAYS Keep the Gun Pointed in A Safe Direction

ALWAYS Keep Your Finger Off the Trigger Until Ready to Shoot

ALWAYS Keep the Gun Unloaded Until Ready to Use

Knowing these 3 rules of gun safety and following them will guarantee an enjoyable Scouting shooting experience.

Remember if you're unsure on how to handle a firearm, ask your friendly neighborhood Rangemaster for help.

Be safe out there and see you next month on the range

Venturing an Opportunity for Adventure, Leadership, and Service



Many of our older Scouts and youth in our community are interested in being part of a program that empowers and gives them an opportunity to plan, lead and participate in adventures, opportunities, and interests of their choice. This includes such interests as high adventure, fun filled teen oriented activities, community service, and even international travel.

Venturing is a year-round program for young men and women ages 14-20 (or 13 and have completed 8th grade) that provides positive experiences through exciting and meaningful youth-run activities that help them pursue their special interests, grow by teaching others, and develop leadership skills.

Venturing uses four areas of emphasis to help the crew plan and carry out its program. ALPS stands for: Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service. Venturing's areas of emphasis are the four pillars around which the crew will construct a fun and rewarding program to prepare for their future, regardless of if that may be in college, the workforce, or elsewhere.

The Venturing program compliments the traditional ScoutBSA program. It enables our older youth to extend their Scouting experience from their teen years to early adult years. Venturing empowers our youth and enables them to develop essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication, and responsibility while having a blast!

Youth who are part of the ScoutBSA program can be registered with both a Scout Troop and a Venture Crew. This enables them to participate and enjoy the opportunities and experiences offered through both the ScoutBSA and Venturing program. In addition, Venturing is a coed program that provides the opportunity for young men and women to learn to work together and share the Scouting experience in a structured environment.

For more information about joining or starting a Venturing Crew, contact our District Executive or Unit Commissioner for Venturing and Explorers, Brian Zabella.

Onward and Upward™

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Owen Cook – Troop 966

Jack Gibney – Troop 966

Nicholas Gray – Troop 1907

Timothy Hicks – Troop 966

Ethan Jacks – Troop 966

Joseph Long – Troop 966

Fred Simpson – Troop 962



2023 Eagle Scout Project of the Year



While volunteering with the Messengers of Hope Mission, Jackson Davis noticed a need. The Florida-based food pantry would ask its volunteers to load up canned goods and frozen food, and drive it all to a parking lot for low-income families and those experiencing homelessness to pick up.

“Since they used the volunteers’ personal cars,” the 17-year-old says. “they were limited; they couldn’t get enough food out to the people who needed it the most.”

The food pantry wanted a bus to transport the food, but that wish had stayed just that: a wish. Until Jackson decided to devote his Eagle Scout project to making it a reality.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, his project got delayed, but after two years of working on it and raising \$16,000, he transformed an old school bus into a mobile food pantry.

“It’s been able to serve thousands of people so far,” Jackson says. “Because of Scouting and my dream, there were people in my community that were able to be helped.”

For his exceptional efforts, Jackson, a member of Troop 77 in New Port Richey, Fla., received the 2023 Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award.

The Adams awards, which include 16 territorial winners and a national winner selected from one of those territorial winners, recognize outstanding Eagle projects completed by young people who earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2022. The national winner receives a \$3,500 scholarship, which they can use for their future education or to attend a national or international Scouting event.

To learn more about Jackson’s project go to [Aaron on Scouting](#).



Life-to-Eagle Seminar



The next L2E Seminar is tentatively scheduled for.

Date: Sat, 19 August, 2023

Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Place: Gum Spring Library, Mtg Room C

While primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level, these trainings, but are by no means limited to same. Life Scouts and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend as well. The key goal is to get each of the unit Eagle Advisers up to speed on changes to the process, and some of the district-level mechanics of same. That way, they can help share the message to the Life Scouts in their units on a more frequent basis.

If you are a Life-to-Eagle Adviser or Advancement Chair for your Unit and have not attended one of these in Goose Creek within the last 2 years, you really should make an attempt to do so.

Any questions about Life-to-Eagle training can be directed to Brad Scales ... MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com; or 703-850-6679.

Updated YPT Requirement for Merit Badge Sessions



BSA has recently updated YPT requirements for merit badge sessions. If one Scout is working with a Merit Badge Counselor, YPT compliance may be achieved by having one of the Scout's parents present (unchanged). However, if more than one Scout is involved, YPT requires that both adults be registered adult volunteers (this is a new, strengthened requirement).

Completing Partial Merit Badges



Partials refer to merit badges that for whatever reason are not completed during the summer camp session. The Scout has done some of the requirements towards being awarded the merit badge but for one reason or another, has not been able to cover all of them. Partials may also occur when a Scout starts the badge with a counselor who has since moved away or retired from Scouting while the Scout is still working on the requirements, or most likely, taking a break from working on the requirements.

To finish the merit badge it is up to the Scout to make an appointment with another merit badge counselor to complete the missing requirements. There is no requirement that the original counselor be the one to whom they go or that they have to wait till the next summer camp to complete it. If troop level or district level merit badge counselors exist for the subject badge, the wise Scoutmaster, Troop Advancement Chair, and/or Troop Committee would make certain that the list of those counselors is readily available to the Scout so he knows where to begin the trail to completion.

Important Facts:

- The only expiration date on a partial is the Scout turning 18. If a Scout got the partial when they were 11 they can still complete it when they are 17 years and 11 months old.
- The only requirements the Scout needs to do are the ones not signed on the Blue Card. The new merit badge counselor cannot make a Scout redo a signed requirement as a test or not accept it because they suspect the 'quality' of the work done. If it's been signed then it's done, period. Conversely, if all the Scout has is a worksheet from camp of what was done and it wasn't also signed on the Blue Card then it officially wasn't done and it is up to the counselor on whether to accept it or not.

Changes in the merit badge requirements that have occurred since the partial was done are not to be considered. The Scout must complete only the requirements in place when the badge was started. This means that any new requirements do not have to be done, on the other hand, any requirements that were dropped but were not completed do have to be done.

Innovation Academy - Scouts BSA Merit Badge & Nova Stem Award Summer Camps



Welcome to scouts and non-scouts! Students may earn four BSA badges and awards: Model Design and Building, Electronics, Welding merit badges and The Next Big Thing Nova Award, all in one week! Students will get hands-on experience working with:

- CAD
- 3D printing
- Laser cutting
- Soldering
- Welding

Students will get the real-world experience of time management while completing several hands-on projects throughout the week. This is a fast-paced camp best for students who are eager to learn and put in the hard work.

Rising grades 7-12 August 7 - August 11 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Military and Family Discounts 10% Off. Our merit badge counselors are trained and registered with NCAC BSA for the badges we teach.

Cost: \$500

Register at: <https://buildmo.com/offerings/innovation-academy-scouts-bsa>

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

CLIMBOREE 2023



The National Capital Area Council and Mountaineer Area Council will host the Climboree 2023 at Camp Mountaineer near Morgantown, WV on the long holiday weekend from October 6 to October 9, 2023.

\$30 per participant for a weekend of tent camping and adventure. Additional fees for shooting and cooking programs. We will not provide meals.

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-Climboree>





Scouts can apply now for the 2023-24 National Youth Council



The Scouts BSA program is meant to be led by youth and guided by adults. The National Youth Council — a group of youth that will help shape the future of the Scouts BSA program — is an extension of that philosophy.

The National Youth Council is made up of 30 youth with a wide range of experiences and backgrounds from councils across all areas served by the BSA. Their job is to share their perspectives on the program's strengths and growth areas, and to initiate discussions on which topics should be important moving forward.

As the National Scouts BSA Committee develops programmatic ideas, the council has the opportunity to provide feedback and offer their thoughts.

"The Scouts BSA program is youth-led, and our vision as an organization is to prepare youth to become responsible, participating citizens and leaders," says Angelique Minett, chair of the Scouts BSA committee. "We want to live our values and allow our youth to have an active role in the leadership structure of their own program."

What is the National Youth Council?

Created in 2021, the National Youth Council requires its members to serve a one-year term. A new council with different members is formed for the next year. I'm calling this version the 2023-24 National Youth Council because its members will serve from November 2023 to April 2024.

During that time, the council will meet virtually once per month. Overall, the anticipated time commitment is around 3 hours per month, including the virtual meeting and other pre-meeting and post-meeting duties.

The first meeting is set for Nov. 5 from 7-9 p.m. Eastern. The council will continue to meet at that time the first Sunday of each month.

Who is eligible to serve on the National Youth Council?

The first requirement is that youth on the council must be available to meet on Sunday evenings and have the technology required to participate in Zoom meetings. (They do not need to purchase a Zoom license; the basic, free version will work just fine.)

After that, the National Youth Council members must be:

- currently a member of the Scouts BSA program;
- First Class rank or higher;
- at least 14 years old and not yet 18 during the entire term (Nov. 1, 2023-April 30, 2024);
- currently serving or having previously served in a position of responsibility in a Scouts BSA troop.

There is no cost to participate.

Application deadline is Aug. 31, 2023. Click [here](#) to apply and find more information

V3 HIKE-O-REE 2023



The 32nd Annual V3 (originally named for Venturing, Varsity, and Venture) Hike-o-ree will be held October 28-30, 2023, at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, Front Royal, VA. Registration is limited to trail capacities of the fifteen trails. The Hike-o-ree is open to all Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Scouts BSA Troops. Units must form trail crews consisting of no more than 12 members, including at least two adults. If a unit has more than 12 simply form another crew (with proper adult leadership). The minimum age to participate is 13.

BSA units will need to comply with the Guide to Safe Scouting, etc., and meet the safety requirements therein. All BSA Scouts and Scouters that hike must bring a current BSA Annual Health and Medical Record, parts A, and B, and meet the weight limits on part C.

Trail crews will be assigned a hike based on the preferences indicated in their registration. All hikes are approximately ten miles in length and range in difficulty from moderate (1500 foot change in elevation) to super strenuous (2600 foot change in elevation). Other Hike-o-ree activities include a Friday night opening rally, a Saturday night High Adventure Rally, and a service project on Sunday morning. Crews receive their Hike-o-ree t-shirts Saturday night.

The Hike-o-ree is intended to be an introduction to backpacking and shakedown. Therefore, camping at the 4-H Center is BACKPACKING style using ONLY backpacking equipment. Bring ONLY what you can carry in your backpack. Come prepared to cook outdoors; bring a trail tarp. Do not bring chuck boxes, coolers, Dutch ovens, propane tanks, camp lanterns, etc.!!

Registration on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS begins on August 1, 2023, on the BSA National Capital Area Council website.

Unit deposit is required to reserve a particular hike not later than October 7, 2023. After you register for a hike and pay your deposit, you will be sent a confirmation email with the leader's package and detailed information about the hike you have selected.

Because of the lead-time required to produce the t-shirts, the final date to provide shirt numbers and sizes (S, M, L, XL, 2XL) is October 14. No additional orders can be taken after that date. Submit payment and final shirt orders online on BSA National Capital Area Council website.

The cost of the Hike-o-ree is \$30.00 per participant.

For additional information contact:

Joe Flaig, (703) 250-9791 (H), jwflaig@aol.com

Dominick Caridi, (703) 625-4196, dscscouting@aol.com



National/International Recognition Days/Weeks/Months Calendar



Here is a listing of some of the things we can celebrate this month. To get a full list of the Day, Week, or Month celebrations for the month go to [National Day Calendar](#)

- Aug 1 – [World Scout Scarf Day](#)
- Aug 2 – [National Ice Cream Sandwich Day](#)
- Aug 3 – [National Watermelon Day](#)
- Aug 4 – [National Water Balloon Day](#)
- Aug 5 – [National Sunflower Day](#)
- Aug 6 – [American Family Day](#)
- Aug 7 – [National Lighthouse Day](#)
- Aug 8 – [Global Sleep Under the Stars Night](#)
- Aug 9 – [National Book Lover Day](#)
- Aug 10 – [World Lion Day](#)
- Aug 11 – [National Sons and Daughters Day](#)
- Aug 13 – [National Bowling Day](#)
- Aug 14 – [World Lizard Day](#)
- Aug 15 – [National Leathercraft Day](#)
- Aug 16 – [National Tell a Joke Day](#)
- Aug 18 – [National Ice Cream Pie Day](#)
- Aug 19 – [National Potato Day](#)
- Aug 22 – [National Tooth Fairy Day](#)
- Aug 23 – [National Sponge Cake Day](#)
- Aug 24 – [National Waffle Day](#)
- Aug 25 – [National Banana Split Day](#)
- Aug 26 – [National Dog Day](#)
- Aug 27 – [National Rock Paper Scissor Day](#)
- Aug 28 – [National Bow Tie Day](#)
- Aug 29 – [National Lemon Juice Day](#)
- Aug 30 – [National Beach Day](#)
- Aug 31 – [National Eat Outside Day](#)



FAMOUS LAST WORDS

- ... the campsite is just another half-mile up the trail.
- ... of course I packed the food.
- ... and I checked and no rain is expected this weekend.
- ... one match is all I ever need to start a campfire.
- ... bugs never bite me.
- ... so I volunteered, they said it would take just one hour a week.

Training Opportunities

My.Scouting.org



The My.Scouting.org portal is a critical resource for registered adults and unit leaders. It provides access to individual and unit account information, training records, reports, and metrics. If you are an adult member of Scouting, you should have an a My.Scouting.org account to enable you to perform the following:

For individuals: a.) access and update your contact and personal information directly in the BSA national database. b.) take the required online Youth Protection Training course and print a certificate. c.) take online BSA training courses you need to understand the Scouting program and position specific training required to be considered fully “Trained”. (Refer to the NCAC event calendar for additional in person training and outdoor training such as BALOO, Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills, BCOLS, and Powder Horn training).

For Units: a.) access and download the official unit roster maintained in the BSA national database. b.) monitor and track completion of YPT position specific training at a unit level. c.) respond to and track leads from BeAScout.org inquiries using “Invitation Manager” and processing online applications using “Application Manager”.

Note: Adding individuals to Scout Book does not officially register an individual in Scouting, this must be done through processing an online application using “Invitation Manager” and “Application Manager”.

For additional information regarding My.Scouting.org contact your District Executive or Unit Commissioner.

Powder Horn 2023



Purpose. Powder Horn is a resource course designed to introduce Scouting’s leaders to the exciting high-adventure program possibilities for their unit. The course supports the mission of strengthening units so they can achieve the mission of Scouts BSA. Not a personal development course or team-building experience, the ultimate goal is for the participants to leave the course with a list of ideas, contacts, and resources needed to implement a more exciting and robust program. Powder Horn teaches Scouters about specific high-adventure skills, to connect them to resources to deliver those skills in an exciting, challenging way to youth.

18 – 20 August 2023 [Friday – Sunday] (can arrive on 08/17/23) at Camp St Charles, 15375 Stella Maris Dr, Newberg, MD 20664

Registration is located at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-65171> .

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) is an optional course offered to adult leaders who have completed the required training in their Scouting program. This course assists Scouters working with youth in the backcountry by providing the skills necessary to conduct a safe and risk-managed high adventure program in venues outside those supported by BSA infrastructure. It has been continuously designed to address new and emerging issues, techniques, and gear.

BCOLS has three key goals:

- Provide adult leaders with an understanding of safety and risk management issues in the back country environment.
- Expose adult leaders to interpersonal, small group dynamics, and leadership models consistent with National syllabi and curricula.
- Familiarize adult leaders with the planning processes, skills, and equipment necessary to a successful back country adventure.

BCOLS consists of two parts:

- One day-long classroom session
 - Working Together — covers needs and characteristics of the age group; discusses group dynamics and the interpersonal skills needed to build and maintain a high-performance team.
 - Trek Planning and Preparation — covers the detailed preparation and planning that is necessary to a successful Trek and includes risk management, Leave No Trace principles, and discussion and displays of the personal and crew equipment used for Trekking, as well as other Trek tools.
- Two-day weekend outdoor session provides a mix of skill presentations and hands-on practice. Activities include Leave No Trace camping skills, problem solving through initiative games, the use of bear bags/canisters, equipment maintenance, stove maintenance, water treatment, menu planning and trail cooking (and clean-up), terrain awareness, health and safety and personal hygiene issues, hands-on land navigation, and trail meditations.

Requirements for attending BCOLS:

- Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
- Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
- Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Parts A, B, and C are required which includes a physical.

Both Session Must be Attended to get credit for the Course.

Class Room Session: Saturday September 23, 2023 at Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308

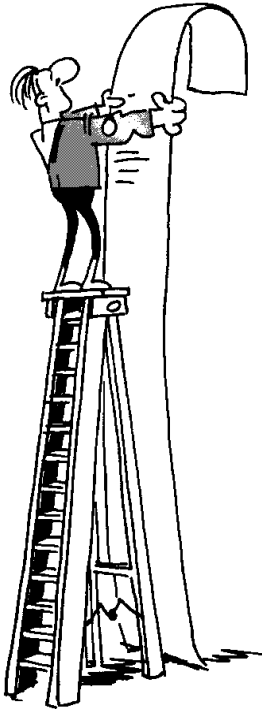
Weekend Session : Saturday October 21 thru Sunday October 22, 2023 at Camp Big Mac 12647 Moss Hollow Road Markham, VA 22643

QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact Course Coordinator, Shawn Carroll at Shawn.carroll@yahoo.com

Registration opens May 12: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70527> .

District Calendar



August 2023

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 19 **Life to Eagle Training**
- 23 District Committee
- 24 First Day of School

September 2023

- 4 Labor Day
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner Mtg
- 25 School Holiday
- 27 District Committee
- 30 **Webelos-o-ree**

October 2023

- 9 School Holiday
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Mtg
- 21-22 JOTA/JOTI
- 25 District Committee
- 30-31 School Holiday

November 2023

- 1 **OA Election Cycle Begins**
- 4 Scouting for Food (SFF) Notices out
- 7 School Holiday
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 11 SFF Food Pickup
- 18 **Life to Eagle Training**

December 2023

- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner Mtg
- 27 District Committee

January 2024

- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Mtg
- 15 MLK Jr. Day
- 20 **Life to Eagle Training**
- 22 School Holiday
- 24 District Committee
- 26-28 **Freeze-o-ree**

February 2024

- 9-10 Scout Jumuah
- 9 Scout Shabbat
- 11 Scout Sunday
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Commissioner Mtg
- 19 President's Day
- 28 District Committee

March 2024

- 5 Student Holiday
- 8-9 **District Pinewood Derby**
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner Mtg
- 25-20 Student Holiday
- 27 District Committee

April 2024

- 5 Student Holiday
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Mtg
- 12-14 **Spring Camporee**
- 20 **Life to Eagle Training**
- 24 District Committee

May 2024

- 8 **Program Launch**
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 22 District Committee
- 27 Memorial Day

June 2024

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 17-24 **Day Camp**
- 17-23 **Twilight Camp**
- 26 District Committee

July 2024

- 4 Fourth of July