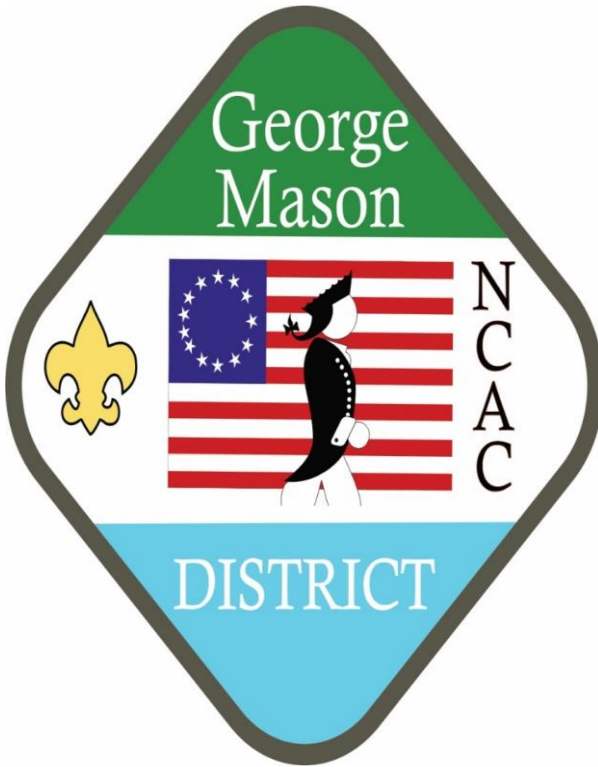




GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

MAY/JUNE 2023

"Life without adventure would be deadly dull." Baden-Powell



Welcome to this edition of the George Mason District Press. We e-mail this out bi-monthly to the BSA registered leaders in George Mason District; unit leaders and merit badge counselors – those who have their current YPT.

George Mason District Leadership and its youth appreciate all of the hard work and commitment you provide to the youth of our community.

Thank you.

Please plan to attend the Thurs. 5/11/2023 –
Thoreau Middle School and Virtual: Roundtable
Meeting at 7:30 pm

USEFUL LINKS:

[NCAC Council Web site](#)

[National BSA](#)

[GMD Web Site](#)

[GMD Upcoming Events](#)

[GMD Roundtable \(PW: GMDRT\)](#)

[GMD Training](#)

[National Order of the Arrow](#)

[wipit470.org](#)

[Pay OA Dues](#)



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

MAY/JUNE 2023

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Calendar of Events – Links included if available

May 2023:

05/5-7/2023 - George Mason Spring Camporee – Theme is Canoeing. Location Antietam, MD. <https://scoutingevent.com/082-66660>

05/05-07/2023 & 06/03-04/2023 Wood Badge Summer 2023 Course [NCAC Wood Badge](#)

05/06/2023 – [IWLA Picnic/Fishing for Children/Adults w/ Disabilities](#)(10am), Centerville, VA.

05/11/2023 – GM Roundtable – Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA.

05/13/2023 – 05/14/2023 – [Lifeguard Training](#), Brookfield Swim Club, Chantilly, VA.

05/13/2023 – [Techstravaganza 2023](#), Alexandria, VA.

05/13/2023 – [Jamboree on the Trail \(JOTT\)](#)

05/13-21/2023 – GMD Hike-O-Ree

05/19-21/2023 – 2023 OA Section Conclave, Camp Rodney, MD.

05/20/2023 – D.C. United Scout Night <https://fevo.me/boyscoutsdcu>

05/20/2023 – 05/21/2023 – [Lifeguard Training](#), Brookfield Swim Club, Chantilly, VA.

05/20/2023 – [Paddle Craft Safety](#) (Still Water), Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA.

05/21/2023 – [Paddle Craft Safety](#) (Moving Water), Riley's Lock, MD.

05/25/23 – Elk's Youth Recognition Dinner for 2022 Eagle Scouts

05/29/2023 - [Flags In Memorial Day](#), National Memorial Park, Falls Church, VA.

05/31/2023 - Unit election season for Order of the Arrow closes



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

MAY/JUNE 2023

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Calendar of Events (cont.) – Links included if available

June 2023:

06/03/2023 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](#), Virtual

06/03/2023 – 06/04/2023 – [Pre-Camp Swim Tests](#), Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA.

06/08/2023 – Program Launch, Thoreau MS, Vienna, VA.

06/10/2023 – Unit Membership Growth Conference, Springfield, VA. 9:00AM-12:00PM

06/10/2023 – Training For Outdoor Ethics Guides, Brandywine, MD 2:30-4:30 [Saturday 6/10/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)

06/18-23/2023 – National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Course 23-2, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA WWW.myNYLT.org

06/22-25/2023 Cub Scout Resident Weekend Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA.

Details below

06/25-30/2023 – National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Course 23-3, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. WWW.myNYLT.org

06/26-30/2023 Cub Scout Day Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. www.gotosnyder.org

06/29-07/02/2023 Cub Scout Resident Weekend Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. www.gotosnyder.org



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Calendar of Events(cont.) – Links included if available

July 2023:

07/02-08/2023 – Lenhok'sin High Adventure, Goshen Scout Reservation, Goshen, VA.

[Lenhok'sin 2023](#)

07/06-09/2023 Cub Scout Resident Weekend Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA.

www.gotosnyder.org

07/10-14/2023 Cub Scout Day Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. www.gotosnyder.org

07/13-16/2023 Cub Scout Resident Weekend Camp, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA.

www.gotosnyder.org

07/16/2023 – 07/22/2023 – [Camp Snyder Specialty Week \(Merit Badges\)](#), Haymarket, VA.

07/19-28/2023 – BSA 2023 National Jamboree, The Summit Bechtel Reserve, WV,

<https://www.facebook.com/NatJamboree23/>

07/23-28/2023 – National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Course 23-4, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. WWW.myNYLT.org

07/23-28/2023 – National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Course 23-5, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA. WWW.myNYLT.org

August 2023:

08/16/2023 – 08/18/2023 – Lodge Summer Ordeal, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA

08/17-20/2023 – [Powder Horn](#), Camp St Charles, Newberg MD



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Calendar of Events(cont.) – Links included if available

September 2023:

09/08-10/2023 & 10/07-08/2023 Wood Badge Fall 2023 Course [NCAC Wood Badge](#)

09/08-10/2023 - OA Fall Fellowship, Camp Goshen, Goshen, VA

09/09/2023 – Training For Outdoor Ethics Guides, Brandywine, MD 2:30-4:30 [Saturday 9/9/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)

09/23/2023 & 10/21-22/2023 – BCOLS Training – see flyer below

09/23/2023 – [Scouts Night – Nationals vs Atlanta Braves](#), 1:05pm, Nationals Park

09/23/2023 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](#), St James Catholic Church, Falls Church, VA

09/23/2023 – [Paddle Craft Safety](#) (Still Water), Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA

09/24/2023 – [Paddle Craft Safety](#) (Moving Water), Riley's Lock, MD

09/28/2023 – 10/01/2023 – VA Central Ordeal, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA

October 2023:

10/16 & 10/21/2023 – Leave No Trace Trainer Course, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA
<https://scoutingevent.com/082-66417>

10/20/23 – 10/22/2023 – Fall Camporee, Camp Rock Enon, Gore, VA

10/27-29/2023 - NCAC HIKEOREE – Save the Date

10/30/2023 – All Units submit 2023 Journey to Excellence forms to their Unit Commissioners

December 2023:

12/03/2023 – Training For Outdoor Ethics Guides, Brandywine, MD 2:30-4:30 [Sunday 12/3/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)



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Chair's Chat

April Showers bring May flowers. Spring has sprung even earlier than usual. It's time to get outside. Many of our Packs have their spring campouts planned over the next couple of months. Troops are out there year-round. Our new Venture Crews will be out there soon.

I hope many of you are planning to join us for our upcoming spring George Mason District activities.

Coming up quickly is our Spring Camporee at Antietam May 5-7 where canoeing, historic trail hikes are highlight adventures.

May 13-21 is our District Hike-O-Ree. Can we make it to 2023 miles? Get out there with your family, den, pack or troop and take a hike. Around the neighborhood, in town, on a trail and backpacking all count. This year we are even having a guided hike on May 20th.

May 29th marks our Flags In at the National Cemetery in West Falls Church. Join us as we mark Veterans graves with flags for Memorial Day and have pizza when you are done.

Summer will be here before you know it. Have you made plans yet for Summer Camp? Cub Scout Day camp at Camp Snyder is June 26-30 or July 10-14. Resident Cub Camp at Snyder is available on 4 consecutive weekends starting June 22nd. Webelos can camp at Camp Ross any of 6 consecutive weeks starting June 25th. Scouts and Venturers can camp at Goshen for any of 5 consecutive weeks starting June 25th. Lastly Scouts can attend Merit Badge Week at Camp Snyder, July 16-22 as day campers or resident campers.

I hope to see many of you at these upcoming activities. Let's get out there and have fun. Scouting is more fun with more friends. Invite a friend to join you and experience the magic of Scouting

I'll see you on the trail.

Yours in Scouting,

John Kilduff – George Mason District Chair

George Mason District Chair - 732-610-4284





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District Executive's Chat



"There's no reason to not get outdoors in the month of May! We've got events almost every weekend. Let's get out there and have fun! I can't wait to see everyone!"

Yours in Scouting,

Liz Kohler | George Mason District Executive

NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

Boy Scouts of America

Serving youth in Fairfax City, Falls Church, & Vienna

9190 Rockville Pike

Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 214-9147



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GEORGE MASON DISTRICT Canoe Trip and Antietam Battlefield Tour

2023 - SPRING CAMPOREE



CAMPOREE PACKET FOR LEADERS

May 5th to May 7th 2023

Rohrbach Group Campground
18316 Burnside Bridge Road
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

For More Information Contact:
Camporee Director Andrew Zaso
(703) 434-2907 - AndrewZaso@gmail.com

and

Dr. Tim Lapham
(703) 969-9900 - trlapham@gmail.com





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George Mason Hike-O-Ree



- 3rd Annual GM Hike-O-Ree – Open to all (Cubs, Scouts BSA and Venturing Scouts), families and friends.
- Two options to participate:
 1. Hike with the District on Saturday, May 20
 2. Hike at ANY time between May 12 and May 21.
- Participants in both options will receive patches.
- Any age, any place and any appropriate grouping – just keep track of how far you hiked.
- Challenge – District Scouts, Scouters and families hike 2,023 miles.
- Total the miles for each unit and notify Matt Burns at Burnsmj509@gmail.com. We'll see how big a total we reach.

Unit or Personal Hiking During 2 Weeks – Option 2

- For individuals or units that have a conflict and can't attend the District Hike on Saturday, May 20
- Hike at ANY time during the May 12 to May 21 time period.
- Hiking can be done with a unit, with family or with friends.
- Hiking can be done anywhere – national/state park, local park, neighborhood, etc.
- There is no upper or lower limit on distance.
- Remember to report results to burnsmj509@gmail.com.
- Register to receive a patch. Cost is \$5.00 per patch.
- Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-68269>



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS MAY/JUNE 2023

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District Life to Eagle Seminar – June 3



- **Saturday, 3 June 2023**
- **1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**
- **Virtual**
- **Register at:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70700>

Who should attend:

- Life Scouts or advanced Star Scouts who want to pursue the Eagle Rank
- Eagle advisors, coaches or unit leaders that haven't attended a seminar in two years
- Parents of Scouts working on Eagle or other adults interested in Scouting

Registration is live now and must be registered by 1 June 2023 to get the Zoom link.

Any questions contact Matt Burns at 703-938-9550 or at gm.advancement@gmail.com.

District Life to Eagle Seminar – September 23



- **Saturday, 23 September 2023**
- **1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**
- **In Person at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church**
- **Register at:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70702>

Who should attend:

- Life Scouts or advanced Star Scouts who want to pursue the Eagle Rank
- Eagle advisors, coaches or unit leaders that haven't attended a seminar in two years
- Parents of Scouts working on Eagle or other adults interested in Scouting

Registration is live now and must be registered by 21 September 2023.

Any questions contact Matt Burns at 703-938-9550 or at gm.advancement@gmail.com.



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

MAY/JUNE 2023

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Training

Local NCAC Leadership Training: [GMD Training](#)

Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Unit Committee Chairs, and New Member Coordinators must be [fully trained](#) by November 2023. Those who are not fully trained will be dropped at recharter. Any dropped Key 3 member will impact the unit's ability to recharter.

Cub Scout:

- **Cub Leader Position Specific (C40)**
 - [Available on-line \(117 min\)](#)
 - 05/06/23 – Herndon, VA
 - 05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA
 - 06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA
- **Cub Scout Den Leader Specific (C42)**
 - [Available on-line \(125 min\)](#)
 - 05/06/23 – Herndon, VA
 - 05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA
 - 06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA
- **Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO;C32)** – BALOO consists of two sessions, an online portion (<https://my.scouting.org>, Menu, My Training, Cub Scouts, Catalog, search on BALOO) that takes 35 minutes and a hands-on overnight session. The overnight sessions are listed below.
 - [05/12/23 - 05/13/23 - Huntingtown, MD](#)
 - [05/13/23 - 05/14/23 - Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
 - [05/20/23 - 05/21/23 - Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
 - [06/17/23 - 06/18/23 - Lorton, VA](#)

Scout:

- **Scoutmaster Position Specific Training(S24)**
 - [Available on-line \(192 min\)](#)
 - 05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA
 - 06/10/23 – Alexandria, VA
- **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS; S11)**
 - [05/12/23 - 05/13/23 - Huntingtown, MD](#)
 - [05/13/23 - 05/14/23 - Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
 - [06/17/23 - 06/18/23 - Lorton, VA](#)
- **Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)**
 - [09/23/23 \(Alexandria, VA\) & 10/21/23-10/22/23 \(Markham, VA\)](#)

Chartering Organization Representative (CR; D72)

- [Available on-line \(48 min\)](#)



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District:

- **Commissioners**
 - [Available on-line \(305 min\)](#)
- **District Chair/District Commissioner**
 - TBD

Miscellaneous:

Climbing Level 1 Instructor Training

- [05/06/23 - 05/27/23 - Sugarloaf Mountain, Urbana, MD](#)
- [09/16/23 - 09/17/23 - Sugarloaf Mountain, Urbana, MD](#)
- [09/23/23 - 09/24/23 - Great Falls Park, McLean, VA](#)

Community Emergency Response Training

- Fairfax County [CERT](#) training – take your Emergency Prep to the next level by attending the CERT – Contact: [Jeffrey Katz](#) (Volunteer Liaison, 703-246-3926)

Den Chief Training (C31)

- [Available on-line](#)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Scouting

- [Available on-line \(30 min\)](#)

First Aid/CPR/AED

- [Campaign Pay It Forward](#) (30% discount – use code “Scouts”)
- [American Red Cross](#) – Blended Courses (2.5 hr online, 1.75 hr classroom)
- [Stop the Bleed](#)– *How to stop bleeding in a severely injured person*
- [Until Help Arrives](#)
- (See *Wilderness First Aid*)

Life-to-Eagle Seminar

- 06/03/23 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](#), Virtual
- 09/23/23 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](#), St James Catholic Church, Falls Church, VA

Mental Health First Aid – Understand mental illnesses, seek timely intervention, and save lives

- [Various](#)



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[National Youth Leadership Training \(NYLT; S78\)](#)

- [06/18/23 – 06/23/23 – Session 23-2 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [06/25/23 – 06/30/23 – Session 23-3 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-4 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-5 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Outdoor Ethics/Leave No Trace (D78)

- [06/10/23 – Brandywine, MD](#)
- [09/09/23 – Brandywine, MD](#)
- [12/03/23 – Brandywine, MD](#)
- [Outdoor Ethics Newsletter](#)

Powder Horn (P50)

- [08/17/23 – 08/19/23 – Newburg, MD](#)

Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)/NOVA

- [Scouting at Home – STEM](#)
- [NOVA Awards to do at home](#)
- [STEM in Scouting – Online Activities](#)
- [STEM Scouts – YouTube Channel](#)
- [STEM Scouts – Facebook Channel](#)
- [NASA STEM](#)
- [Scout Life – Science Fun!](#)

University of Scouting

- [02/24/2024](#) (2023 Course Materials available on [Basecamp](#))

Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (N02)

- [05/20/23 – 02/21/23 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Wood Badge (A90)

- [05/05/23 – 05/07/23 & 06/03/23 – 06/04/23](#)
- [09/08/23 – 09/10/23 & 10/07/23-10/08/23](#)

Youth Protection Training (YPT)

- [Online](#) (72 minutes)



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Local NCAC Leadership Training: [GMD Training](#)

Scoutmaster Position Specific Training(S24)

The course will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The course will provide Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters with the basic information and tools they need to lead successful Boy Scout troops.

This session will be held at Heritage Presbyterian Church at **no cost** and is limited to 12 participants.

- **05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA**

STEM Events

- **[05/04/2023 – Cub Scouts Can Code Nova Award \(Zoom\)](#)**
- **05/13/2023 – [Techstravaganza 2023](#), Alexandria, VA**

Merit Badge Opportunities

- **[05/13/23 – Welding, Alexandria, VA](#)**
- **[07/16/23 – 07/22/23 – Camp Snyder Specialty Week, Haymarket, VA](#)**
- **09/09/23 – Americanism MB Workshop, Fredericksburg, VA**



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CLIMBOREE 2023

Registration Opens
Saturday, April 29

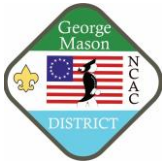
Join us on the long holiday weekend from October 6–9 for two full days of climbing, high ropes challenges, shooting sports, and Dutch oven cooking!

The National Capital Area Council and Mountaineer Area Council will host **CLIMBOREE 2023** at [Camp Mountaineer](#) near [Morgantown, WV](#). Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts are all welcome.

- Climbing on natural rock
- 60-foot climbing tower
- Bouldering on gritstone walls
- Guided challenge course
- Big Zip quarter-mile zipline
- Rifle, shotgun, and archery
- Dutch oven cooking class
- Advancement programs

\$30 per participant. Some activities will require additional fees for supplies. Campers must provide their own tents and meals. See our [flyer](#) and our [registration page](#) for details.





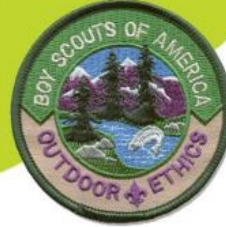
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Leave No Trace Trainer Courses

2023



March course in Maryland:



3/20, 7pm-8pm online
3/25, 9am-7pm @ Germantown MD
<https://scoutingevent.com/082-66414>



October course in Virginia:



10/16, 7pm-8pm online
10/21, 9am-7pm @ Haymarket VA
<https://scoutingevent.com/082-66417>

What is the purpose of this class?

- Trains youth and adults how to teach Leave No Trace in their units
- Every Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scout unit should have *at least one individual fully trained* in Leave No Trace

Who should take this course?

- Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts aged 14+
- Adult Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scout leaders
- District and Council leaders and trainers

What will I learn?

- Concepts and methods that will advance your Leave No Trace knowledge!
- An expanded repertoire of low-impact skills for your unit to utilize!
- The level of expertise and confidence to teach these skills to others!

On completion of this course, participants will be registered as Leave No Trace Trainers with Leave No Trace and BSA

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-66417>



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**TRAINING FOR
OUTDOOR
ETHICS
GUIDES**

**SATURDAY 6/10/23
SATURDAY 9/9/23
SUNDAY 12/3/23
@ 2:30-4:30
BRANDYWINE, MD**

#ADVENTUREON

We all know about the Outdoor Ethics Guide position and have seen the Handbook, but how do you operationalize this position of responsibility to have the greatest positive impact in your unit?

Join Outdoor Ethics Guides and adult advisors for an in-person session to learn best practices, meet other Outdoor Ethics Guides and adult advisors, share experiences, discuss ways to overcome challenges, and create a network of Outdoor Ethics Guides across NCAC.

This session is open to current and future Outdoor Ethics Guides and their adult advisors. Ideally scouts and their advisors will attend together but attendance of both is not a requirement to attend.

Register

[Saturday 6/10/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)

[Saturday 9/9/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)

[Sunday 12/3/2023 at 2:30-4:30](#)

06/10/2023 – Training For Outdoor Ethics Guides, Brandywine, MD 2:30-4:30



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Flags In – Memorial Day 2023

George Mason District Scouts Honoring our Veterans

Celebrate Memorial Day by joining the George Mason District Crews, Troops, and Packs for "Flags-in" – placing American Flags on the graves of veterans.



Class-A Uniforms

The scout family's pick-up flags at the Chapel: The National Memorial Park, 7482 Lee Highway, Falls Church, VA 22042. Families should then move into the NMP and place flags.

Schedule for May 29, 2023 (Monday)

- 10:00 am – Event Starts – get flags and instructions
- 11:00 am and 12:00 pm – TAPS blown (buglers needed)
- 12:15 pm – Pizza will be available about 12:00pm. Water and Gatorade will be provided.
- 1:00 pm – Event ends

Scout service hours (up to 3 hours) will be available. Each participating Scout earns a unique patch and rocker.

For more information, please contact: Russell Pittman at (571) 354-7378 or ruspittman@gmail.com

Slideshow: [How to Identify Veteran's Graves](#)

Pamphlet: [How to Identify Veteran's Graves](#)



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Wood Badge

By taking Wood Badge, Scouters will acquire valuable tools such as listening, communicating, conflict management, project planning and leading change. Participants will better learn to understand and appreciate diversity and differences in our society. They will learn skills that will make them better Scout leaders.



Living the Values

Growing

Connecting

Guiding

Empowering

Wood Badge was begun by Baden Powell in 1919 as a way to ensure Scouters were properly trained. Since then Wood Badge has been held worldwide, providing advanced leadership training to thousands of Scout leaders.

Wood Badge builds upon the best traditions and experiences of the Boy Scouts of America and also draws from a wide range of courses within and beyond the bounds of Scouting to present the latest in leadership theory and team development.

Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters.

Cost is only
\$300
Scholarships available

All Courses at Camp William B. Snyder

Spring 2023

12-82-23-1
31 March - 2 April
& 22-23 April

Course Director: Maria Cooper

Summer 2023

12-82-23-2
5-7 May & 3-4 June

Course Director: Bobby Tran

Fall 2023

12-82-23-3
8-10 Sept & 7-8 Oct

Course Director: Jai Evans



REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION:

www.ncacbsa.org/woodbadge





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2023

NYLT

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) equips young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their Scouting program and in life. NYLT brings together Scouts from all over the council to learn and practice leadership techniques in a risk free, Scout-friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.



6 DAYS OF FUN & ADVENTURE
TEAMWORK • GAMES • FOOD
CHALLENGES • CAMPING • LEARNING

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

NYLT is for Scouts who are likely to take on leadership positions in their Troop, Crew, Ship or home unit.

REQUIREMENTS

- 13 years or older
- First Class Rank
- Unit Leader approval
- Completed Intro. to Leadership Skills*
- BSA Med Form: Parts A, B & C

NYLT is an *intense course* for *mature Scouts* who want to become *better leaders*. Scouts must be *respectful* of each other and their actions must be consistent with the *Scout Oath and Law*.

* Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Crews (ILSC), or Ships (ILSS)

COURSE # DATES

23-1 Jan 13-16 & Jan 28-29

Must complete both weekends

23-2 June 18-23

23-3 June 25 to 30

23-4 July 23-28

23-5 July 23-28

Concurrent courses.

All courses held at Camp William B. Snyder.



REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION:

www.myNYLT.org



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Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA. It is a fun, energetic, and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth is getting everything they are promised from the program.

Spring 2023 - March 31- April 2 / April 22- 23
Course Director: Maria Cooper

Summer 2023 - May 5 - 7 / June 3 - 4
Course Director: Bobby Tran

Fall 2023 - September 8-10 / October 7-8
Course Director: Jai Evans

Powderhorn 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 the Boy Scouts of America. 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.

08/17-20 (Friday – Sunday)
Camp St Charles, 15375 Stella Maris Dr, Newberg, MD 20664
Course Director: Paul McDonald

For registration links and additional information, please visit:
<https://www.ncacbsa.org/training>



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National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is an exciting six- day in-camp program designed for youth to learn leadership skills that will help them succeed in Scouting and in life!

Course 23-2 (06-18-23-2023)
Course Director: Justin Day

Course 23-3 (06-25-30-2023)
Course Director: Carrin Painter

Course 23-4 (07-23-28-2023)
Course Director: Lee Ackiss
Cooper

Course 23-5 (07-23-28-2023)
Course Director; Christopher

Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS) provides adults with an understanding of the skills necessary to implement a basic backcountry program. While this course uses backpacking as the training vehicle, the skills are applicable to treks focused on specialized skills such as rock climbing, caving, white water, mountain biking or winter camping. The training is conducted in two parts: one indoor classroom session followed by a weekend outdoor, overnight session.

Spring 2023 - 03/03/2023 & 04/15-16, 2023
Fall 2023 - 09/23/2023 & 10/21-22. 2023

For registration links and additional information, please visit:
<https://www.ncacbsa.org/training>



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2023 Journey to Excellence – NEW INFO from BSA

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/>

Journey to Excellence is the Boy Scouts of America program to help Packs, Troops, Crews, Ships and Posts to plan, monitor and evaluate their performance and their ability to serve youth. There are specific criteria for the unit to plan and accomplish. These standards are reviewed each year and revised standards are published.

The 2023 Journey to Excellence Standards are now available.

Here are the major changes in the JTE scorecards for 2022.

1. The standards are written as activities that the unit will do. This is to emphasize that JTE is primarily a planning tool.
2. The Cub Scout scorecard has many changed standards. This is because of changes in the Cub Scout program.
3. For standard #10, Gold now includes recruiting a new leader. We have found that the best units continually recruit parents and other adults who have never been involved in Scouting.

There is no requirement, no expectation and, in fact, we might discourage a unit from believing that they should achieve Gold in all JTE criteria. A great unit is balanced in the service that it provides to youth. There is no shame and no problem if a unit achieves Silver or Bronze. That unit is serving youth. We regard the various colors as meaning:

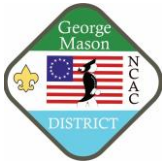
Bronze – Effective
Silver – Excellent
Gold – Exceptional

Please share with us your thoughts about JTE and any suggestions that you have for improvement. Please sent them to jte@scouting.org

National Assessment and Evaluation Committee
Boy Scouts of America

[2023 JTE Unit Scorecards \(PDF\) links:](#)

- [Pack Scorecard \(2023\)](#)
- [Troop Scorecard \(2023\)](#)



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Merit Badge Program



The Scouting BSA is a movement dedicated to supplementing and enlarging the education of youth. As a vital part of the BSA's advancement plan, the merit badge program is one of Scouting's basic character-building tools and plays a key role in the fulfillment of this educational commitment. There are over 100 different merit badges in the program. Upcoming events will be listed below:

- [Online Merit Badge Courses](#) - Watch video, fill out workbook, contact Counselor
- [Parktakes](#) (select "Scouts" from the Category of Activity)
- [MeritBadge.Info](#) - Various MB Days throughout the country
- [Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program](#), Northern Virginia
- [Merit Badges Scouts can complete at Home](#)

Current Merit Badge Counselors and Guidelines:

The current roster of merit badge counselors is provided periodically to the Scoutmaster of each troop. If a scout needs information about a specific merit badge, the scout can contact their troop leadership or the George Mason Merit Badge Dean (**note emails should include two adults - no one-on-one contact for electronic media.**)

To become a Merit Badge Counselor:

You can apply online [here](#) (note, please ensure you have a current YPT before filling out application). When you are done with the application, send the MB Dean your list of MBs using the [Merit Badge Counselor Information Sheet](#).

Any questions or concerns please contact the District's Merit Badge Dean:

Margee Egan at margee.egan@gmail.com



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2023 HIKEOREE SAVE THE DATE

October 27 - 29, 2023



"THE PURPOSE OF LIFE, AFTER ALL,
IS TO LIVE IT, TO TASTE EXPERIENCE
TO THE UTMOST, TO REACH OUT
EAGERLY AND WITHOUT FEAR FOR
NEWER AND RICHER EXPERIENCE."





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George Mason Chapter Order of the Arrow (OA)

The George Mason Chapter of the O/A is back to meeting in Person on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Thoreau Middle School from 7:30-8:30. (Same time/location as GM Roundtable.)

Fall Fellowship, September 8-10, 2023 at Camp Snyder.

Save the date – VA Central Ordeal – September 28-October 1 Camp Snyder. Registration for the ordeal will be available soon!

11/01/2022 – 05/31/2023 – Unit election season for Order of the Arrow

Amangamek-Wipit Lodge – 2023 Annual Dues

To attend any OA event or wear your sash and lodge flap, you must be a current dues-paying member of our lodge! For 2023, annual dues will be \$14 until March 31, 2023 when they increase to \$16 on April 1, 2022 (no fooling!). Payment may be made by credit card or e-check.

You will have an opportunity to make a contribution to help support our lodge activities and operations. Become a Lodge Contributor by making a \$100 contribution and receive our special Lodge Contributor patch and the satisfaction of knowing that you've dramatically helped further our mission of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service.

If you are transferring from another lodge, please visit the Membership Dues and Transfers page on the lodge website <https://scoutingevent.com/082-MembershipTransfer> and complete

the [Membership Transfer Form](#) to pay your dues.

[Pay OA Dues](#)

Lodge Website: Wipit470.org



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Amangamek-Wipit Lodge – 2023 Calendar

May 2023		
7	LO&A	MSSC
19 - 21	Section Conclave	
June 2023		
3	LLDC	TBD
3	LEC/Induction of new Officers at LLDC	
25	Goshen Week 1 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
18 Jun - 1 Jul	GOAT	Goshen
July 2023		
2 & 8	Goshen Week 2 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
9 & 15	Goshen Week 3 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
16 & 22	Goshen Week 4 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
23 & 29	Goshen Week 5 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
30	Goshen Week 6 Bus Loading	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
August 2023		
5	Goshen Week 6 Bus Loading Return	Fairfax County Govt Ctr
4-6	Vigil 1	Goshen S.R.
16 - 18	Lodge Sabbath-friendly Ordeal	CWBS
20	LEC Pool Party	CWBS
September 2023		
8-10	Fall Fellowship	CWBS
9	LO&A at Fellowship	GSR
15 - 17	<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	
24-25	<i>Yom Kippur</i>	
October 2023		
1	LEC	MSSC
November 2023		
1	Unit Election Season Opens	
5	LO&A	Virtual
23	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	
TBD	Vigil (2)	TBD



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December 2023		
1-2	2023 Trade-O-Ree	CWBS
3	LEC	MSSC
3	Chapter Budgets and PMP packages due	MSSC

Reporting Service Hours

NCAC Wipit 470 has provided a self-reporting online solution for any Wipit OA member, youth and adult, for service hours one performs. You can report hours as many times during the year as one wishes. These hours help support the Wipit Golden Tooth Service Award.

OA Service Hour Reporting - Online form for reporting all O/A service hours performed at the Troop/Crew/Ship level (all service hours worked for the Lodge or at Ordeals are recorded by event staff). This will help with tracking hours for Golden Tooth and other related awards. Units can choose to use the [spreadsheet](#) as an alternate way of submitting their data.



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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

2023 Aquatics Programs

<https://ncacbsa.org/Aquatics-Committee>



Safe Swim Defense (SSD) and Safety Afloat (SA)



What: BSA Safe Swim Defense (SSD) and Safety Afloat (SA) training is required for any BSA unit conducting swimming or boating activities.

Who: Adult leaders supervising a swimming/boating activity must have completed Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat within the previous two years.

Where: SSD and SA training is available online at <https://my.scouting.org>. The in-person training must be presented by a qualified instructor.

Cost: Free!

Pre-Camp Swim Classification Tests



What: This is an opportunity for your unit to have your annual BSA Swim Classification Check done under supervision of NCAC-approved aquatics personnel.

Who: Any NCAC unit (Pack, Troop, and Crew)

Where: Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA

When: June 4 – One-hour blocks starting at 9am.

Last session is 4pm. Registration deadline is June 1st.

Cost: \$3 per participant.

Paddle Craft Safety Training

What: This is the hands-on training that is recommended in Safety Afloat guidelines for anyone conducting Scout boating activities. Two versions of the course are offered: The Basic course covers flat water introductory boating skills and basic trip planning. The river course includes skills and knowledge development that are required for conducting trips on moving water. The Basic course is a prerequisite for the moving water course.

Who: Adult leaders

Where: Still Water – Camp Snyder; Moving Water at Riley's Lock

When:

- Session 1: May 20 (Still Water), May 21 (Moving Water)
- Session 2: Sept 23 (Still Water), Sept 24 (Moving Water)

Cost: \$30/class day



Lifeguard Training

What: BSA Lifeguard Training is professional level training that meets the requirements of government agencies for professional lifeguards at regulated swimming activities. Lifeguard certification qualifies one for many summer opportunities. This class is being conducted by Campaign Pay It Forward (<https://campaignpayitforward.com/booking>, select BSA Lifeguarding from the pull-down menu)

Who: The program is open to all registered adults and older youth (minimum age 15). Strong swimming skills are required. The course includes online pre-work that must be completed before the first session.

Where: Brookfield Swim Club, Chantilly, VA

When: Session 1: 05/13-14/2023; Session 2: 05/20-21/2023

Cost: \$200 (listed as \$250/ask for 20% scout discount)

Scuba Certification and Merit Badge

What: PADI Open Water Scuba certification and the BSA SCUBA Diving Merit Badge

Who: Youth (12+), Parent or Adult leaders

Where: Pool (TBD), Open Water (Rappahannock Quarry)

When: Aug 12/13 (Pool) and Aug 19/20 (Open Water)

Cost: TBD

Note: Prior to the first pool session on August 12, all students must have completed the PADI online training. Link will be provided upon registration. Please leave at least two weeks to complete online training. It's not difficult, it'll be fun to take, but there's quite a bit of material to go through.



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Michael's Woodshop News



Spring 2023

Upcoming Events



2023 Woodwork Merit Badge Sessions (monthly): Michael's Woodshop offers "[Classroom Sessions](#)" focused on safety and other non-tool requirements and "[Shop Time Sessions](#)" for Scouts to work on project requirements.



STEM Nova Activities: Michael's Woodshop can support the woodworking project requirement of the Townes Supernova Award and we are also happy to arrange shop tours to support NOVA Swing! [Learn More...](#)

Spring Family Camping (April & May): A stop in Michael's Woodshop is just one of many enjoyable family activities available during the Spring Family Camping weekends. [Learn More...](#)



Baloo the Builder & Webelos Build It Workshops: Two popular workshops designed to help youth complete these electives. For more details, see the [Baloo the Builder](#) and [Webelos Build It](#) workshop descriptions.

Plan Now for Summer Camp at Camp William B. Snyder



A Summer Camp Mystery: Day Camp & Resident Weekends (June & July dates): Enjoy all the summer camp fun and activities at Camp Snyder, including a visit to Michael's Woodshop! [Learn More...](#)



Scouts BSA Specialty Week, July 16-22: Woodwork Merit Badge is just one of many merit badge opportunities being offered during Camp Snyder's third Scouts BSA summer camp program. [Learn More...](#)



[Upcoming Events and Shop Calendar](#)



View our [Activity Slideshows](#)



Click here to see [Shop Use Measures](#)



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1,873! Recent Activities in Michael's Woodshop

2022 was another great year for Michael's Woodshop, with 1,873 youth attending sessions in the shop! Please click on the Shop Use Measures link above to see how the shop is being used.



Our 5th Annual Pinewood Derby Days season was a huge success with 619 cars built! Click on the Activity Slideshows link above to see the fun.



Michael's Woodshop has hosted its first two Eagle Scout Projects of 2023 (with 3 more on the calendar). See [Eagle Project Information](#) to learn how to reserve the shop for your project.

Volunteer in Michael's Woodshop

Michael's Woodshop continues to grow in popularity and offers great programs for Scouts of all ages. We are always looking for new volunteers. Learn how you can [Join the Michael's Woodshop Team](#).

To learn more about upcoming events, planning an event or reserving the wood shop, please visit the [Michael's Woodshop web page](#) or email us at MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com