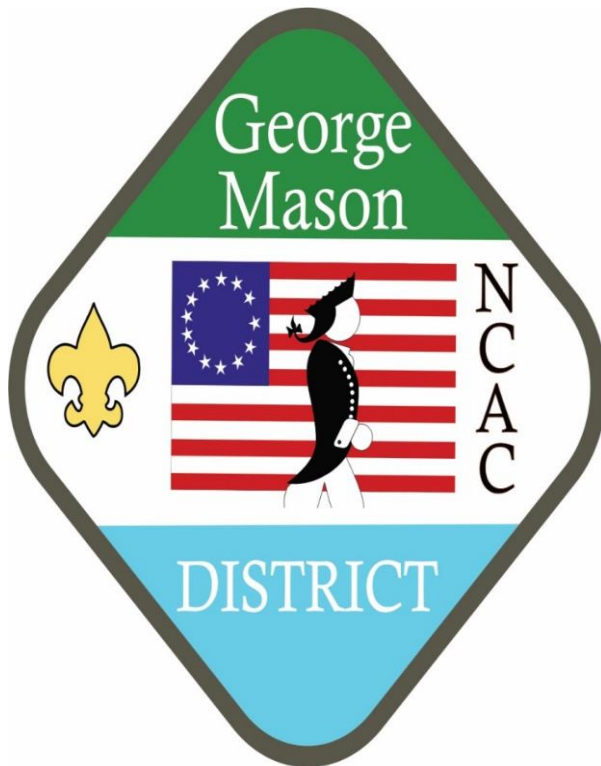




GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023



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 Roundtable Thurs. November 9, 2023 at Thoreau Middle School, Vienna Va.

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](#)



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Calendar of Events – Links included if available

November 2023:

11/01/2023 – 2023-2024 OA Unit Election Season Opens

11/04/2023 – Scouting for Food Collection

11/09/2023 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

11/09/2023 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

11/11/2023 – Veterans Day Flags In, National Memorial Park, Falls Church, VA [Flags in Registration](#)

11/18/2023 – 8-11AM Citizenship in Society MBC Training, Alexandria, Va 22315 [Reg](#)

11/18/2023 - Scouterhorn Operations Training, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Va [Scouterhorn](#)

11/18–19 /2023 – Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS), Lorton, Va [IOLS Reg](#)

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](#)

12/06-07/2023 – OA Trade-, O-REE Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Va

12/14/2023 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

12/14/2023 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va



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

January 2024:

01/06/2024 – OA Banquet, Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center, 7801 Alumni Dr, College Park, MD 20742

01/11/2024 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

01/11/2024 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

01/12/24-01/15/24 & 01/27/24-01/28/24 – NYLT - Session 24-1 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA [NYLT](#)

February 2024:

02/03/2024 – GM Virtual Life to Eagle Seminar, Registration

02/08/2024 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

02/08/2024 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

02/24/2024 – NCAC University of Scouting, Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria, Va

March 2024:

03/09/2024 – NCAC Commissioner College

03/09/2024 – George Mason District Merit Badge Day, Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, Va. Contact John Drisco at gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com

03/14/2024 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

03/14/2024 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

03/23/2024 – George Mason District Pinewood Derby, Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, Va.

03/23/2023 & 04/27-28/2024 – Back County Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS), Lorton, Va



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

April 2024:

04/11/2024 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

04/11/2024 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

May 2024:

05/04/2024 – [19th NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet](#), PWD, Triangle, Va

05/09/2024 – GM Roundtable, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

05/09/2024 – GM OA Chapter meeting, 7:30 PM, Thoreau MS, Vienna, Va

05/31/2024 - 2023-2024 OA Unit Election Season CLOSSES –
NO MORE OA UNIT ELECIONS for 2023-2024 after May 31, 2024.



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Chair's Chat

As I write this note I am realizing that this may be my last Chairs' Chat and the last GM Newsletter of 2023. It is time to review and see what we have accomplished and look forward to where we can go in the coming years. So where are we?

For the last 2 months I have been visiting with many of our Packs as they conducted their new member Join Scouting events. It was great to see the enthusiasm and commitment of the leaders and the happy, eager faces of the potential new Scouts. What is the result? As of Oct. 25th our Cub membership is 914 the same as at the end of October 2023. Our Scouts BSA membership is down 50 from last year, mostly due to aging out. Our total membership of 1689 is just 133 short of our goal for 3% growth in 2023. In addition, we have a new Pack and a new girl troop under development and 2 new Crews formed this year. This is great. It shows that we have an eager Scouting audience and leaders who want to deliver the promise of Scouting.



What remains to be done with membership? We need to make sure all those who visited our Packs get follow up if they have not yet joined. We need to attract and register more girls in both Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA. We need to continue to recruit in our minority communities and we need to make sure no one is denied the opportunity to join Scouts for financial reasons.

Even though we are facing some financial headwinds, we have succeeded in reaching our Friends of Scouting fundraising goal and did it early. Popcorn sales are ongoing. Popcorn sales helps our units fund their program for the year. It can also help Scouts pay their own way and cover unit dues, registration and summer camp.

Our program has been going great this year. We had a terrific District Pinewood Derby in March, a great Spring Camporee and our Fall Camporee just set new attendance highs with 2/3 of our Troops attending. In May we had a fine turnout for our Flags In event and hope to have a great attendance for the Veteran's Day Flags In. Many Scouts have been taking advantage of the Life to Eagle Seminars.

What lies ahead for program? This year the emphasis has been on getting all leaders trained for their position. That effort continues as we seek to get all Den leaders trained. Trained leaders are more confident and effective in their job and deliver a better program to their Scouts.

Our District Annual Meeting is coming up on November 29th. If you are a Charter Organization Representative or a District Committee Member, I hope you will join us. We will be presenting a full District status report and electing our District Committee to serve us for 2023.

Respectfully submitted, John Kilduff – George Mason District Chair - 732-610-4284



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George Mason District Executive’s Chat



Thank you everyone who came to the Camporee at Rock Enon. It was so much fun and it was great seeing everyone supporting each other! I'm looking forward to getting out there and visiting units this winter and getting close to celebrating a full scouting year as your DE!

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



Cub Pack Updates from National

Coming soon: Cub Scout packs can camp up to two consecutive nights

By Aaron Derr August 3, 2023 1 Comment Camping, Cub Scouting

Effective Sept. 1, 2023, Cub Scout packs who are conducting their own overnight camping activities may now camp up to two consecutive nights.

This is a change from the earlier policy on pack unit-coordinated camping, which was previously limited to single overnight experiences.

The updated policy also applies to Webelos and Arrow of Light dens, who can now conduct campouts for up to two consecutive nights.

This and additional information is on the Scouting Magazine website with more details. <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/08/03/coming-soon-cub-scout-packs-can-camp-up-to-two-consecutive-nights/>

Webelos often transition to Scouts BSA during the spring. Here's what you need to know

By Aaron Derr March 9, 2023 3 Comments Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Things You Should Know

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/03/09/its-webelos-to-scouts-bsa-transition-season-heres-what-you-need-to-know/>



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Unit Key-3 Training

Adult Leaders with direct contact with the Scouts (i.e. Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, etc.) are highly encouraged to become fully “trained”. To be “Trained” requires mostly on-line training which is available at your convenience. There is one in-person course that is required for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters – Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS). Requirements are discussed below.

To be fully Trained for Committee Chairman, Chartering Organization Representative, and New Member Coordinator requires current Youth Protection Training (YPT) and completion of specific on-line courses found at My.Scouting.org. (YPT expires after 2 years. The other on-line training for these jobs does not expire.)

To be fully Trained for Cubmaster:

- Requires current Youth Protection Training (YPT).
- Completion of Cubmaster specific training course available on-line at My.Scouting.org. (This course is also available in-person at various places and on various dates around the Council.) This course does not expire.
- Completion of the Hazardous Weather Course. This course is only available on-line at My.Scouting.org. It expires after 2 years.

To be fully Trained for Scoutmaster:

- Requires current Youth Protection Training (YPT).
- Completion of Scoutmaster specific training course available on-line at My.Scouting.org. (This course is also available in-person at various places and on various dates around the Council.) This course does not expire.
- Completion of the Hazardous Weather Course. This course is only available on-line at My.Scouting.org. It expires after 2 years.
- Completion of Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS). This course is an in-person class only. It requires an overnight camping experience. It is available at various places and on dates around the Council. It may be available at some summer camps. It does not expire.



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Unit Key-3 Training (cont.)

To be fully Trained for **Venturing Crew Advisor**:

- Requires current Youth Protection Training (YPT).

Don't wait until the last minute to schedule your training, get started on it today! On-line courses are at your convenience.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

YIS,

Key De Lauder

Training Chairman, George Mason District, NCAC

District Life to Eagle Seminar – February 3, 2024



- **Saturday, 3 February 2024**
- **1:00 to 4:30 p.m.**
- **Virtual**
- **Register at:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-77316>

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 February 2024 in order to receive Zoom link.

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



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George Mason District's Annual Merit Badge Day

Date: March 9th, 2024

1. March 9th, 2024 at Fairfax Presbyterian Church located at 10723 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22030 .
2. Registration will open in **December 2023** on the Corsizio BSA George Mason District Events website.
3. We will need the Unit Merit Badge Day Coordinator names and contact details by November 30th to John Drisco at gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com
4. Encourage Scouts to get their merit badge books by December 31. Read the requirements and start tackling “pre-work” by early January 2024.
5. Note: The “pre-work” is not the same as a “prerequisite.” The “pre-work” consists of tasks/activities that the Scout is advised to do in advance of the Merit Badge Day. A Scout can still participate in the Merit Badge Day class if he hasn't completed the pre-work but failure to complete the pre-work may mean the Scout leaves the Merit Badge Day with a partial badge. A prerequisite is something that must be done in order to qualify to take the class. The only prerequisite we are aware of for the George Mason Merit Badge Day is that the Scout must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts in a participating unit.
6. Feedback at gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com



Contact John Drisco at gmasonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com



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Update for financial assistance from Deputy Scout Exec Lee Murdoch.

All,

Hope that this note finds you well. I wanted to give you all an update on our Financial Support process to date.

As we heard through the Participation Fee listening sessions creating an easier to access point for families to request financial support was a customer service enhancement that would be greatly appreciated. We launched a new platform on September 1st, 2023 and have generated the following requests year to date:

Moving forward, we will work to process updates and notify individuals every Friday to ensure there is no delay in the request and the unit's ability to process their Recharter.

At this juncture we believe that the appropriate communication reach will be to the individual family with a Courtesy Copy to the Unit Committee Chair.

I know that many have been patiently waiting, and for that I thank you. Thank You also to all the individuals and organizations that have graciously made financial gifts to ensure that NCAC has the ability to offer this critical support. Friends of Scouting support will continue to offset these costs in the years to come.

Regards,

Lee Murdoch

NCAC Deputy Scout Executive

Just an update on the Participation fee & Financial Aid.

1. If a family is requesting Financial aid the family will get an email confirming they have received X amount of dollars. They will be instructed to inform the Committee Chair and that amount should be deducted from the total check given to council for recharter. (Council is working on being able to send Committee Chairs list of Financial aid recipients)
2. If a family has 3+ kids families will need to coordinate with unit leaders to deduct 4th+ participation fee from recharter. If children do not share the same surname as each other or parents please provide that information with recharter packages.



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<https://scoutingevent.com/082-76291>

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
AND SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday
February 24, 2024**

University of Scouting

**IN-PERSON EVENT
WITH LIMITED ON-LINE OPTIONS IN THE
COLLEGES OF SCOUTS BSA AND CUB
SCOUTING**

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-76291>



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Training

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

Cub Scout:

- **Cub Leader Position Specific (C40)**
 - [Available on-line \(117 min\)](#)
- **Cub Scout Den Leader Specific (C42)**
 - [Available on-line \(125 min\)](#)

Scout:

- **Scoutmaster Position Specific Training(S24)**
 - [Available on-line \(192 min\)](#)
- **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS; S11)**
 - [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Lorton, VA](#)
- **Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)**
 - [03/23/24 & 04/27/24-04/28/24](#)
 - [10/05/24 & 11/02/24-11/03/24](#)

Chartering Organization Representative (CR; D72)

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

District:

- **Commissioners**
 - [Available on-line \(305 min\)](#)

Miscellaneous:

Climbing Level 1 Instructor Training

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](#)



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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*)

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

- [Various](#)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT; S78)

- [01/12/24-01/15/24 & 01/27/24-01/28/24 – Session 24-1 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [06/16/24 – 06/21/24 – Session 24-2 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [06/23/24 – 06/28/24 – Session 24-3 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/28/24 – 08/02/24 – Session 24-4 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/28/24 – 08/02/24 – Session 24-5 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Outdoor Ethics/Leave No Trace (D78)

- [12/03/23 \(Guide\) – Brandywine, MD](#)
- [12/03/23 \(Orientation\) – Brandywine, MD](#)
- [Outdoor Ethics Newsletter](#)

Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (N02)

- [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [12/16/23 – 12/17/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)



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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!](#)

Scouterhorn Operations Training

- [11/18/23 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

University of Scouting

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

Wilderness First Aid/CPR/AED (N02)

- [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [12/16/23 – 12/17/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- www.campaignpayitforward.com, (833) 273-6263, info@campaignpayitforward.com
- www.wildsafe.org, (855) 505-1700 or (703) 444-9468 – Clif Castleman – clifton@wildsafe.org
- www.onthetrailfirstaid.com, (410) 456-6861 – Saleena DeVore – saleena@onthetrailfirstaid.com
- www.ETRsafety.com, (703) 771-6092, info@ETRsafety.com
- www.solowfa.com, (434) 326-4697, courses@solowfa.com
- <https://www.rei.com/events/a/outdoor-skills-wilderness-medicine>
- www.wfa.net, (703) 836-8905, Chris Tate – chris@wfa.net
- **Troop 1430** – South Riding VA (ECSI), Dallas Cecil – dkcecil@earthlink.net – (571) 969-1592
- **Venturing Crew 80** – Alexandria VA (ARC), Michael Martin (Associate Advisor) – CPRAEDFAWRFA@comcast.net

Wood Badge (A90)

- [04/12/24 – 04/14/24 & 05/04/24 – 05/05/24](#)
- [10/14/24 – 10/15/24 & 10/05/24 – 10/06/24](#)

Youth Protection Training (YPT) [Online](#) (72 minutes)



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Colonial District is sponsoring Citizenship in Society MBC Training

Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 8 to 11 a.m.

Franconia Family Moose Lodge

7701 Beulah St, Alexandria, VA 22315

The training is free of charge. This training allows a prospective Citizenship in Society Merit Badge Counselor to complete one of the requirements for qualifying to be a CIS MBC.

Sign up for the training at: https://scoutingevent.com/082-mbc_cis

Thank you to Colonial District for sponsoring this training.

Yours in Scouting,

Matt Burns

Chair, Advancement and Recognition Committee

National Capital Area Council

ncac.advancement@gmail.com



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS
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Council Virtual Roundtable | NCAC Camping Programs 2024

Meet your NCAC experts and learn about the amazing camping programs and outdoor adventures NCAC has for our Scouts!

- [Goshen Scout Reservation](#) - Elisabeth Warren
- [Camp William B. Snyder](#) - Ryan Alford
- [Camp Catoctin](#) - Sean Byrne
- [Camp Howard M. Wall](#) - Laura Kuras
- [Day Camp & Twilight Camp](#) - Kelly Wratkowski

Breakouts for Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA will begin at 8:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Details

- Link: bit.ly/ncacvrtnov2023
- Meeting ID: 886 9737 8679
- Audio Only: 301-715-8592

If you have any questions about this event or Roundtables, please contact Bill Desmond, our NCAC Roundtable lead via Basecamp Ping Bill or via email at bspd1438@aol.com

Bryan N. Martin Firvida | Council VP for Marketing & Communications | Assistant Council Commissioner | Council Champion, BSA Scoutbook User Advisory Council - **National Capital Area Council**

email: bryanscouting@gmail.com

Photo: Goshen Scout Reservation's Lake Merriweather!

COUNCIL VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE
NCAC CAMPING PROGRAMS 2024
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023
7:30 TO 8:30 PM

Meet your NCAC experts and learn about the amazing camping programs and outdoor adventures NCAC has for our Scouts!

- **Goshen Scout Reservation** - Elisabeth Warren
- **Camp William B. Snyder** - Ryan Alford
- **Camp Catoctin** - Sean Byrne
- **Camp Howard M. Wall** - Laura Kuras
- **Day Camp & Twilight Camp** - Kelly Wratkowski

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Meeting ID: 886 9737 8679
Audio Only: 301-715-8592

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

Questions? Contact Bill Desmond at bspd1438@aol.com
NCACBSA.ORG

[NCAC VRT - NOV 2023.pdf 925 KB • Download](#)

[NCAC VRT - NOV 2023.png 821 KB • Download](#)



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Save the Day!

Be a Superhero!

at Camp Snyder Summer 2024

Cub Scout Camp Day Camp

6/24 - 6/28
7/8 - 7/12

Resident Weekends

6/20 - 6/23
6/27 - 6/30
7/11 - 7/14

Family 4th of July

7/5 - 7/7

Adventures! Advancement! Fun!

Programs are open to Cub Scouts
 - rising Tigers to rising Arrow of Light.
 Family 4th of July is open to all ages!

www.gotosnyder.org

Looking for programs for older campers?

Scout Specialty Weeks
 for Scouts BSA
www.gotosnyder.org

Goshen Scout Reservation
 for Scouts BSA, Venturers, & Webelos
www.gotogoshen.org



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GOSHEN SCOUT RESERVATION



Camp Olmsted - *Scouts BSA / Venturing*

Camp Olmsted is a center for STEM, hosting the "Tech Center" with programs including robotics, animation, and design. Olmsted also offers wide variety of programs in aquatics, ecology, outdoor skills, shooting sports, and crafts. Units at Olmsted enjoy meals prepared in the Forster Dining Hall and take part in a dynamic "dining hall program." Camp Olmsted offers camping for 400 and is the largest camp at the Goshen Scout Reservation.

Camp Bowman - *Scouts BSA / Venturing*

Units who attend Camp Bowman will take part in the Patrol Cooking program, creating the opportunity for Scouts to apply their new and developing scout skills. By working together to cook each meal and care for the campsite, Camp Bowman units see growth in scout independence and teamwork. Camp Bowman offers camping for 300, and includes program areas for outdoor skills, shooting sports, aquatics, crafts, and more.



Camp Marriott - *Scouts BSA / Venturing*

With a focus on vocational and trade skills, Camp Marriott offers a large variety of merit badge programs in areas including aquatics, ecology, outdoor skills, shooting sports, and eagle advancement. With an emphasis on vocational and trade skills, "The Guild" hosts classes in metal working, welding, automotive maintenance. Camp Marriott offers camping for 300 and offers patrol cooking and "heater stack" dining methods. Camp Marriott is also home to GSR's Provisional Camp program.

Camp Ross - *Webelos and AOL Scouts*

With the goal to give scouts "a great week and an introduction to scouting," Camp Ross serves as week-long introduction into the Scouts BSA program and future scouting experiences. Camp Ross offers camping for 300 and supports programs in nature, outdoor skills, crafts, shooting sports, and aquatics (including a water trampoline!). Units at Camp Ross enjoy meals from the Dining Hall and participate in camp songs and celebrations with the staff.



Lenhok'sin High Adventure - *Backpacking and Canoeing Treks*

Based on a "plan your own adventure" structure, Lenhok'sin's customizable Backpacking Trek and 61-mile James River Canoe Trek serve as a preparation opportunity for units who may be aspiring to attend a National High Adventure Base, such as Philmont or Northern Tier, in the future. Lenhok'sin backpacking units also take part in other high adventure activities including caving, black powder rifle shooting, blacksmithing, stand-up paddle boarding, and more!

www.gotogoshen.org



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2023

FALL EXPOS FAMILY CAMP *at Camp Snyder*

October 20-22, 2023
November 17-19, 2023

Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA welcome!
Take part in climbing, target sports,
STEM, crafts, and the popular
Woodshop.

2024

GOSHEN FAMILY CAMP *at Goshen Scout Reservation*

Memorial Day: May 26-29, 2023
Labor Day: September 1-4, 2023

Enjoy the beauty of Goshen and make
the most of your weekend with fun for
all ages!

SPRING FAMILY CAMP *at Camp Snyder*

April 19-21, 2024
May 10-12, 2024

Get into the outdoors and enjoy spring
with a variety of activities!

www.gotogoshen.org & www.gotosnyder.org



GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS

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Want the coolest summer job?

JOIN CAMP STAFF!



Snyder • Ross • Olmsted • Marriott • Bowman • Lenhok'sin • Post

Ever year, Camp Snyder and the six camps of Goshen Scout Reservation employ close to 300 highly motivated individuals to participate in the experience of a lifetime.

Job Requirements

We are seeking enthusiastic people who enjoy the outdoors. Prior experience with the Boy Scouts of America is not required.

- 21+** Specialty Leadership positions
- 18+** Area & Outpost Directors, other leadership
- 16+** Lifeguards, Lenhok'sin staff
- 15+** Program staff
- 14+** Counselor-in-Training

About the Job

For most positions, the primary focus is delivering program to youth and adult participants, whether in a program area or a wilderness outpost. Other responsibilities include general duties based on the operations of camp.

Room and board are provided. Staff at Snyder return home for their weekly day off while staff at Goshen live on site and go into town.

Camps

WGoshen Scout Reservation is comprised of 3 Scouts BSA/Venturing Resident Camps (Camps Bowman, Marriott, and Olmsted), a Webelos Resident Camp (Camp Ross), Lenhok'sin High Adventure, and the administrative headquarters Camp Post. Camp Snyder primarily offers day and overnight programs for Cub Scouts, Tigers through Webelos, with two weeks of program for Scouts BSA.

Dates

Goshen camps (most): June 15 - July 30, 2024
Camp Snyder: June 15 - August 2, 2024

Interviews start in January 2024.

Apply by January 19 to get a January interview slot!



Goshen Scout Reservation
www.gotogoshen.org/staff

Camp Snyder
www.gotosnyder.org/work





GEORGE MASON DISTRICT PRESS NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023



Flags In – Veterans Day 2023

Scouts Honoring our Veterans

Celebrate Veterans Day by joining George Mason District scout families at “Flags-in” – placing American Flags on the graves of veterans. In 2022, approximately 315 youth and adults participated.



Class-A Uniforms and Masks

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 November 11, 2023 (Saturday)

- 10:00 am – Event Starts – Get flags and instructions.
- 11:00 am and 12:00 pm – TAPS blown (buglers needed)
- 11:30am – Pizza served
- 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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Thanks to all our **amazing staff, participants, parents and supporters** who made our **five 2023 courses a success!!**

2024 NYLT

Planning is already underway for **five more courses** next year at Camp William B. Snyder. Information and Registration will be available soon as we create space for more participants and staff to have extraordinary NYLT experiences!

Schedule-

- 24-1 Jan 12-15; Jan 27-28, 2024 (*both weekends*)
- 24-2 June 16-21, 2024
- 24-3 June 23-28, 2024
- 24-4 July 28-Aug 2, 2024
- 24-5 July 28-Aug 2, 2024

Registration will open in the Fall and will be announced through NCAC distro and on Facebook.

*** Staffing Opportunities**

Youth who have completed NYLT and will be at least 14 years old can apply for staff. This is an amazing opportunity to join a motivated team of youth trainers.

[Apply for Staff](#)



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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

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



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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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George Mason Chapter Order of the Arrow (OA)

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

Lodge Annual Banquet

01/06/2024 – OA Banquet, Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center, 7801 Alumni Dr, College Park, MD 20742

2023-2024 OA Election Period

11/01/2023 – 05/31/2024 – Unit election season for Order of the Arrow

Lodge Website: [Wipit470.org](https://wipit470.org)

Ordeal registration page is here: <https://wipit470.org/ordeal.html>

Reporting 2023 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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Amangamek-Wipit Lodge / GMD Chapter Calender		
Date	Event	Location
October 2023		
10/28/2023	Scouting for Food Delivering Fliers	GMD
November 2023		
11/1/2023	Unit Election Season Open	GMD
11/4/2023	Scouting for Food Picking up Food	GMD
11/5/2023	LO&A	Virtual
TBD	Chapter Leadership Meeting time TBD	Virtual
11/9/2023	Chapter Meeting 7:30-8:30pm *	Thoreau M. S.
11/23/2023	Thanksgiving	
Dec-23		
14-Dec	Chapter Meeting 7:30-8:30pm **	Thoreau M. S.
January 2024		
6-Jan	Lodge Banquet 9am-1pm	UofM Riggs Aumni Center
11-Jan	Chapter Meeting 7:30-8:30pm	Thoreau M. S.
*Adgenda: Chapter Business, OA elections Ms.Nause, Activity TBD, Cracker Barrel TBD		
**Adgenda: Chapter Business, Speaker District Pinewood Derby, Activity Clasic Pinewood Derby (Bring in your clasic pinewood derby cars to race) Cracker Barral Pizza		
Chapter meeting Thoreau Middle School 2505 Cedar Lane Vienna VA 22180		

[Pay OA Dues](#)



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Amangamek-Wipit Lodge – 2024 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 2024, annual dues will be \$14 until March 31, 2024 when they increase to \$16 on April 1, 2024 (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.

[Pay OA Dues](#)

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.