**October Roundtable Minutes**

[items in red have been added since the read-ahead]

* **Announcements**
* **Charter Renewal**
* **Merit Badge Counselors (MBC)** – MBCs are renewed in January as part of the District, Commissioners, and MBC Charter Renewal. The MB Dean will send out a request to those who want to continue being a MBC. She will drop those that request to be dropped or those that don’t respond. For individuals that only wish to be a MBC (are not registered with any unit) they will have to pay the new $25 fee as a MBC-only. This pays for the Background check and processing. More information about the process for paying will be available later in 2023.
* **Errors in Internet Advancement** – Most commonly seen when doing Multiples. Clear Cache or use Incognito Mode typically fixes this.
* **Transfers from out of Council** – Use paper applications.
* **Training for Outdoor Ethics Guides** – [10/22/23](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/GZ1MkwZe8ySEoYCbzpsKudjC) at the Vale UMC (4:30pm – 6:30pm)
* **Troop 987 Recruiting Events** – [10/28 Climbing, 11/4 Camping, 11/18 Iron Chef.](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/MvRGTjC4bhaJGw9TrKCU6v1g)
  + - **High Adventure Survey -** Google Form survey on your unit’s high adventure activities (even if your unit hasn’t done any) at the URL below: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9JOXShmdJVlDg4GeVD4a0bbrQUS6JDW4tOsruUsml9lJ9cw/viewform?usp=sharing>
* **Wilderness First Aid –** Several [classes](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74480) available at Camp Snyder in Oct/Nov/Dec. Commercial classes are available too. This class is for Scouts 14 years and older and for Scouters.
* **Troop 1539 Community Outreach/Recruitment** - October 14th, 8am to noon at the Vienna Farmer's Market (Vienna Community Center).
* [**Troop 13 Recruiting Campout**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/zEGyCzxmkSmD5d9hVpX3DzhN) - November 11th, 1:30pm at Lake Fairfax campground. Email Scoutmaster\_Troop13@outlook.com for more information.
* **Scouting for Food /Scott W & Brian B**
* Tags were distributed at the October Roundtable. If your unit didn’t pick them up, contact Scott Willey at [willeysj@gmail.com](mailto:willeysj@gmail.com)
* Your unit can choose to use the new Tag (10/28) and Collection (11/04) dates or select your own. If you go on your own dates, be sure to coordinate with the food bank/church where you deliver the food.
* Coverage areas for each unit are here: [GMD Scouting for Food map](https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=50c04419fcc1496d8a0d072f186e592b)
* Scott will send out Pantry and Procedure information through the Basecamp site.
* **Good news**: We have stickers! AND THEY HAVE DATES\*!
* We have more than last year. I have extras, some of which have dates and some that don’t
* Through Basecamp, let me know if you have extras, and if you need more
* **Rules to keep in mind**:
* YPT: drive as families or two adults per car
* Respect no soliciting signs
* Don’t go inside people’s homes
* Be careful crossing streets
* Don’t ring doorbells
* **OPTIONAL: Awareness-building during the week**
* Weekly bulletins
* Neighborhood Facebook pages
* Signs – reverse your Join Scouting Signs and use them for SFF signs!
* If possible, try to get the food pantry to weigh each unit’s donation and record the weight. If not, you can estimate: A full bag is about ten pounds (welcome better methodologies from the crowd). 8 cans=7.5 pounds
* **Online Donation Option** – There is an online donation URL available this year. If a scout wants to tell relatives or friends their unit is collecting food, then the online donation portal is a way to have them participate. Donations will go to the Food for Others Pantry. Instructions will be published on Basecamp. Note, SFF contributes about 10 percent of all food drives for the year.
* **Data Capture**
* Unit’s fill out at: <https://www.ncacbsa.org/scouting-for-food-unit-data/>
* District: George Mason District
* Number of Scouts and Other Youth Participants (siblings, friends, etc.)
* Number of Adult Participants
* Pounds of Food Collected
* Food pantry delivered to
* For your Scouts: Express the weight in fun terms, for example
* Vehicles, animals, dinosaurs
* **Camporee /Tim L**
* **Merit Badge Counselors** – We still need MBCs! It would be helpful if unit leaders would email their MBCs and request assistance in the Camporee. This is more effective than someone they don’t know emailing the MBCs. We can use various MBCs, but have a greater need for Pioneering, Orienteering, and Astronomy.
* **MB Locations** – The sites have pavilions that will be used for rain protection and for seating. We will need two-deep leadership in the pavilion areas (near the camping sites). If you have a parent that can support the MB event, that would be helpful.
* **Female Leadership** – Liz Kohler is working on getting enough female adults to cover all the needed MB locations.
* **Registration** – Registration is currently closed as we are making staffing adjustments. May reopen after the weekend. Updates will be available by Tuesday (at the latest).
* **Ecology MB** – This should have been Environmental Science. Making the change in the materials.
* **Non-MB participants** – If some youth just want to do Shooting Sports, this is fine.
* **Upcoming Roundtable meetings:**
  + **November 9, 2023 –** Scout Expo (Troops introduced to Webelos/AOL/parents) (7:00pm). We will send out invites to the Webelos parents (about 80-90) in the district. Will also use the Facebook Geofencing to try and recruit new Scouts BSA youth aged 11-17. Eliabeth Warren (Goshen) will be available to talk about Goshen Scout Reservation and to listen to feedback from Scouters. We will also try to get a representative from Camp Snyder to attend.
* **Cub Breakout**
* **Summer Camps** – Discussed where cubs/parents went to camp. Most sent someone to Camp Snyder or Goshen’s Camp Ross.
* **Provisional Scouts/Parents –** Need to further share with parents that individual cubs/small groups can go to camp. You don’t need the whole den to go.
* **Day Camp –** Several Districts offered Day Camp this year. These are local offerings. Several Scouters thought we should partner with Patriot District to staff/attend their Day Camp.
* **Rocket Launch** – Several units have done rocket launches at Camp Snyder and at the [NOVAAR](https://www.novaar.org/drupal7/index.html) range in The Plains, VA.
* **Scouting BSA Big Rock – Recruiting**
* **Panel featuring T1887 w/Colin Dorrity, T681 w/Alan Harvey and P681 w/Josh Cavan**
* **Recruiting events orchestrated locally, not to far**
* **First scout meeting with hot dogs**
* **Recruit parents – parent recruiter position**
* **Excellent Feeder Pack program enhances recruitment**
* **Den leaders for AOL scouts excellent first patrol leader to scouts post bridging**
* **Challenge with 9/10th graders coming in**
* **Council Update /Rus P**
* **2024 National Dues** – Effective 08/01/23 - <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/XoisQJcMr1NncMfshG7xCj9f>
* **2024 Council Dues** – Effective 1/1/24 - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/participation-fee/https://www.ncacbsa.org/participation-fee/>
* **Unit Charter Renewal -** Charter Renewal opened on 10/02/23 at <https://advancements.scouting.org/>.  Only the unit Key 3 and Key 3 delegates can access the software.  Use the same Username and Password that you use for [https://my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org/) and Scoutbook.
  + Thanks to all that attended one of the two Charter Renewal training sessions.  The first session was recorded.  [Link](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/%20n%257N4C%5eu%20/NiLCVfVSdmUhBHY7noLB3Tj_Vehc3q1DEOy_chd25SCcAXMpxPaQ4IXokNJUpm9f.u8QuIdVvuS-HOyRu) (Passcode: n%7N4C^u) to view the session (70 minutes long).
* Here is a [link](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/jeCAyYxsF2GZPeEJCuYbJm55/vault) to the GMD Basecamp site that contains the
* 2024 Annual Membership Handbook (PDF)
* Internet Rechartering User Guide (PDF)
* Membership Renewal for Units (PPTX)
* NCAC Charter Renewal web site:  <https://www.ncacbsa.org/recharter/>
* In addition to the online Charter Renewal, we need units to get their unit’s Annual Charter Agreement signed by the Chartering Organization (Executive Officer), the COR, and your Unit Committee Chair.  The fillable Annual Charter Agreement is [here](https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Annual-Charter-Agreement-Charter-Orgs_2023-2024-Year.pdf).  If your Chartering Organization is a Catholic Dioceses/Parish, they may require [this version](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/BSA_Catholic_Trad_Charter_Agreement_2023-2024_FINAL.pdf?_gl=1*1zj3zq*_ga*MTEwMzIxODIwNi4xNjk2MDI5OTUy*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTY5NjAyOTk1Mi4xLjEuMTY5NjAyOTk1Mi42MC4wLjA.*_ga_61ZEHCVHHS*MTY5NjAyOTk1Mi4xLjAuMTY5NjAyOTk1Mi42MC4wLjA.&_ga=2.117831881.117872926.1696029952-1103218206.1696029952).  Please check with your Executive Officer to determine which version they would prefer to submit.  NCAC will accept either version.

**George Mason Program**

* **Current GM Calendar**
* October 20-22, 2023 – [Fall Camporee](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74555)
* October 28, 2023 – [Scouting for Food (Tags)](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/scouting-for-food/)
* November 4, 2023 – [Scouting for Food (Collection)](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/scouting-for-food/)
* November 11, 2023 – [Flags In (Veterans Day)](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/flags-in-veterans-day-2/)
* **STEM /John D**
* [Cubs Can Code](https://scoutingevent.com/082-75328), 11-18-23 (6pm), Zoom
* Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky (on PBS) - [link](https://us.engagingnetworks.app/page/email/click/10004/2037650?email=j2mObVAw6OCBePIN6tZ3hlESkN1MQhKC&campid=xocb452w9CaZkArzVWMSmA==)
* Anytime – [DC STEM Trek](https://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/DC-STEM-Trek-2.pdf)- Showcases 24 government agencies, private organizations and monuments related to the tenets upon which STEM is based. Two hikes - 10.57 miles, or 4.75 miles
* **Advancement – Changes to Merit Badge Counselors /Matt B**
  + Starting August 1, 2023, the fee for new Merit Badge Counselors that are not already registered in a BSA adult position (Unit leader, committee member, district staff, etc.) will be $25.
  + Current Merit Badge Counselors that are not also registered in a BSA adult position will need to pay $25 when the District recharters in December.
  + Impact on merit badge counselor re-registration is uncertain.
  + I’d like a volunteer to help me work with unit merit badge deans to assess the impact on MBCs and help recruit new ones to cover gaps.
  + Don’t know how this will impact the requirement to be registered to stay overnight with a Troop. Hope to learn more over the summer.
* **Merit Badges /Margee E**
* The online Merit Badge Counselor [registration](https://my.scouting.org/VES/OnlineReg/1.0.0/?tu=UF-MB-082gm23) works for all Scouters who do not already hold another District position.
* New Merit Badge Counselors must complete online merit badge counselor training, in addition to YPT. Be sure the counselor uses his/her legal name – no nicknames.
* Merit Badge Counselors, or the unit Dean/Leader, also need to scan and send Margee the Merit Badge application form listing the badges the counselor is applying to teach and providing a justification of his/her qualifications.
* Youth Protection Training is the essential first step. Don’t hit “send” on the application without it!
* Contact Margee if you have questions at [GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com](mailto:GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com).
* ***Did you know***:
* The National Council does not limit the number of Merit Badges a youth may earn from one counselor, though a **unit leader is permitted to do so**, as long as the same limit applies to all Scouts in the unit. Ideally, Scouts should work with a variety of adults. (GTA 7.0.0.3)
* Partial Merit Badges have no expiration except for the Scout’s 18th birthday. (GTA 7.0.3.3)
* Due to the BSA policies related to Youth Protection and two-deep leadership, a merit badge counselor must have another adult present during all merit badge counseling sessions. However, the parent or legal guardian of the Scout may serve as the second adult. **This parent or legal guardian does not have to be a registered leader**.
* If the requirements for a merit badge differ between the merit badge pamphlet and the current edition of Scouts BSA Requirements, the requirements in the Scouts BSA Requirements book supersede all others.
* **Merit Badge Opportunities (**[**https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/merit-badges/**](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/merit-badges/)**):**
* **10/05-23 – 12/04*/*23 *-*** [**Innovation Academy**](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=30354341&msgid=299576&act=85C6&c=1518147&pid=1672759&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fscoutingevent.com%2F082-innovation&cf=14346&v=fecd2563af9b7362f6aa62c38f6806898aa82ef4df112a948bc1b186e212ec99) **(on Mondays), Alexandria, VA**
* **11/11/23 -** [**Electronics and Welding**](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=30354341&msgid=299576&act=85C6&c=1518147&pid=1672759&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fscoutingevent.com%2F082-WeldSolder&cf=14346&v=aa9213d7d0e5c04d0b8a42ca78c5a7718d63d37fdaad42686029b8b79f8ac005)**, Alexandria, VA**
* **02/11/24 –**[**Model Design and Building, Alexandria, VA**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-MDB)
* **05/18/24 –**[**Welding, Alexandria, VA**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-WCM)
* **05/18/24 –**[**Composite Materials, Alexandria, VA**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-WCM)
* **Training (**[**https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/training**](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/training)**) /Roy D**
* **Cub Scout Leader**
  + [11/04/23, Alexandria, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-clst3fall23)
  + [12/09/23, Alexandria, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-clst4fall23)
  + **Scouts BSA Leader**
  + [11/04/23, Alexandria, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-sst3fall23)
  + [12/09/23, Alexandria, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-sst4fall23)
* **Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**(**BALOO; C32)**
  + [10/13/23 – 10/14/23, Huntingtown, MD](https://scoutingevent.com/082-wsd_balooiols)
  + [10/20/23 – 10/21/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-70326)
  + [10/14/23 – 10/15/23, Middleburg, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74794)
  + [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Lorton, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-baloofall23)
* **Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS; S11)**
* [10/13/23 – 10/14/23, Huntingtown, MD](https://scoutingevent.com/082-wsd_balooiols)
* [10/14/23 – 10/15/23, Middleburg, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-73317)
* [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Lorton, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-iolsfall23)
* **Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)**
* [10/21/23 – 10/22/23, Camp Big Mac, Markham, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-70527)
* 03/23/24 & 04/27/24-04/28/24
* 10/05/24 & 11/02/24-11/03/24
* **Mental Health First Aid** <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47>
* **NYLT**
  + [24-1: 01/12/24 -01/15/24 & 01/27/24-01/28/24](https://www.ncacbsa.org/national-youth-leadership-training/)
  + 24.2: 06/16/24-06/21/24
  + 24.3: 06/23/24-06/28/24
  + 24.4: 07/28/24-08/02/24
  + 24.5: 07/28/24-08/02/24
  + Registration will open in the Fall and will be announced via email and on Facebook
* **Trainer’s Edge**
  + 12/02/23
  + 09/10/24
  + 12/07/24
* **Wilderness First Aid (N02)** 
  + [**10/21/23 – 10/22/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74480)
  + [11/18/23 – 11/19/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74480)
  + [12/16/23 – 12/17/23, Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](https://scoutingevent.com/082-74480)
* **Wood Badge (A90)** <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wood-badge/>
* 04/12/24 – 04/14/24 & 05/04/24 – 05/05/24
* 10/14/24 – 10/15/24 & 10/05/24 – 10/06/24
* **Leave No Trace/Outdoor Ethics -** [10/16/23 (Zoom) & 10/21/23 (Camp Snyder)](https://scoutingevent.com/082-66417)
* **BSA Leave No Trace Trainer Course - Outdoor Ethics**
* [10/16/23 (Zoom) & 10/21/23](https://scoutingevent.com/082-66417) – Haymarket, VA
* **Outdoor Ethics Orientation Courses (Scouts and Cubs)**
* [12/03/23](https://scoutingevent.com/082-69069) – Brandywine, MD
* **Outdoor Ethics Newsletter** - Sign up [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-7UORw4wBNIkuzqEkKjolA_-RogqHYMojzhB2xwLoENWVSg/viewform).
* **GM High Adventure / Brian H**
* Important notes for this month
  + HELP NEEDED FROM ALL George Mason Scouts BSA Troops, Venture Crews & Sea Scout Ships!!
    - Thanks to Troops 152, 1978, 918, 1887, & 1888 that have completed the survey!!
    - If you haven’t already, please complete the Google Form survey on your unit’s high adventure activities (even if your unit hasn’t done any) at the URL below
    - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9JOXShmdJVlDg4GeVD4a0bbrQUS6JDW4tOsruUsml9lJ9cw/viewform?usp=sharing>
  + Philmont 2025 registration occurs Oct 1-16, 2023 – For more information, go to <https://www.registerphilmont.org/entry/2025>
  + Most BSA High Adventure bases still have availability for summer 2024 trips – See the URL below for more information
    - https://www.scouting.org/outdooradventures/open4adventure/
* NCAC-Organized High Adventure Trips - 2024
  + Lenhok’sin – James River Canoeing Trek - July 7-13, 2024 - Crew of 6-12
    - Registration Opens November 1, 2023 - $470
    - FOR INFO: highadventure@ncacbsa.org
  + Wind River Range, WY: Proposed DIY HAC Provo Trip – June 22-30, 2024, ~$1,500
  + Northern Tier – Jul 23-Aug 3, 2024 – Already full
  + Philmont – Jul 13-27, 2024 – Already full
  + Sea Base – Jul 29-Aug 3, 2024 – Already full
  + Sea Base – Aug 6-11, 2024 - Already full
* Training - Open to all NCAC Scouts & adults that are participating in HA trips in the next few years
  + Philmont 2024 Sessions: I – 11/19/23; II – 01/07/24; IIIa – 03/24/24; IIIb – 04/06/24
  + Philmont Advisor Hikes: 8:00am, Sat 3/09 & Sun 3/17/24, 8:00am Catoctin Mt Park, Thurmont, MD
  + Northern Tier 2024 Sessions: Sat, 04/06/24 (in-person); Sat, 04/20/24 (virtual)
  + Sea Base Session: TBD
  + Members of the High Adventure Committee are available to assist units in planning and training for their upcoming high adventure trips
* National High Adventure Base Quick Links
  + Philmont: <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/register/>
  + Northern Tier: <https://www.ntier.org/provisional-scout-connections/>
  + Sea Base: <https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/scout-connections/>
  + Summit: <https://www.summitbsa.org/registration/scoutconnections/>
* Other High Adventure Bases
  + Adirondack High Adventure Area: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/hLgsVbk7Suju6cuDzQQJaEn4>
  + Maine High Adventure Area: <https://www.mainehighadventure.org/>
  + Montana Outdoor High Adventure Base: <https://montanabsa.org/camps/high-adventure/>
* Other useful links for high adventure information and opportunities
  + NCAC High Adventure website - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/high-adventure/>
  + List of units with available slots in their upcoming high adventure trips - <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/xWpkdrKHKAA9pCzwmHMNdbWb>
* **Shooting Sports /Brian S**
* Requests for Shooting Events – Lead Time!
* Notice needed for SSC: 50+ scouts - 6mos; Less than 50 scouts - 3mos
* Shooting on private land:
* Requirements
* Permissions/protocols
* Shooting Sports [web page](https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/shooting-sports/)
* Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:
* [Rifle/Shotgun](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/merit-badges/rifle-shotgun-training/)
* [Archery](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/merit-badges/rifle-shotgun-training/)
* Contact for finishing Shooting Sports MB Partials [brian.summers@verizon.net](mailto:brian.summers@verizon.net)
* **Order of the Arrow / Collin L & Brian F**
  + Mary Neuse has accepted the Scoutmaster position at T1978G. Brian Fleck will be the new Chapter Advisor.
  + 2023 Dues can be paid online: <https://wipit470.org/dues.html>
  + 11/01/23 – Election Season Opens
* The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge will be sending a contingent to the one-and-only National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) next summer and we want you to join us! Registration is now open! Follow the directions below to register for the one and only 2024 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) at the University of Colorado at Boulder.   Here are the steps to register for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!
* Step 1: [Click the registration link here!](https://u5354241.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=0YlUef6ScEuFGXvSWVsPIggmo1nV-2BFWpCdq1Ye743GJtp-2FK5pnhJlSIN8EoO1dSKhEWL_yuIfwpi4wZF-2FAbB8pnXtOaJ11uHXJIqypi-2B5rFYEvxbjYfSyq8mV65XUAbaBccYxDEXTrMNT-2FmrKbvWT5ZfqxutNqz5t2FJmuFl9Qwjr6ySgFWZEW4xz54LShnaSYBJ488H6zYrG5PB-2BASSu1TZwK-2Bm5pCjzsBH9SysPRzUm0CrYqxTm1poaRE7aTcP1AlDP3KvW2RdNYvEi8coHmxjEF7xl-2BhL31Loz-2FyclRj7K5jMFV8EMvxJAC1A1WxGdTYv800M-2BHCGixndZzerKpsvsq2WdtshNNCIbSr9qU-2BxhXPPPgOzX-2FWaab5QrL54XJMMNMH7bbruOJDJHp-2Fyy34k8fwKY4rVSzO43IX69P2jIREzBgphvq6yF5niYEgtnDLlnkhvu8MaV8p64Kbe7I8sriN1ZtgMl4uXHEB5rU5yBP3ZojwK2-2BZZhMdq73vCjxsjE-2FmMIGgIWXxg7B-2B76z1exQAwCTpympGhRUW5sxSFh6pI-3D)
* Step 2:  Fill out all information for the registration form.
* Step 3: Congrats! You have reserved your spot for the 2024 NOAC! Look out for other emails in regard to both national registration AND further payments you may need to make! Can’t wait to see you there!!
* If you have any questions regarding the National Order of the Arrow Conference email [noac2024@wipit470.org](mailto:noac2024@wipit470.org)
* **Roundtable - Minutes and slides -** Available on the [GMD web site](https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/district-resources/roundtable/) (District Resources, Roundtable). Password is “GMDRT”
* **September** – Scout Expo is November 9, 2023, at 7:00pm at Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA. Roundtable to follow.