



Goose Creek District Newsletter



April 2023

Volume 14, Issue 9

February 16, 2014 by Jerry Schleining Jr.

Special Interest:

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Quick Calendar:

- Apr 12 – Roundtable
- Apr 14-16 – Camporee
- Apr 22 – Life to Eagle Training
- May 5-7 – OA Ordeal
- May 10 Program Launch
- May 24 – District Court of Honor
- Jun 14 - Roundtable

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article
/Updated
Information



Why do we do this?

“Scouting is not an abstruse or difficult science: rather it is a jolly game if you take it in the right light. At the same time it is educative, and (like Mercy) it is apt to benefit him that giveth as well as him that receiveth.” Baden-Powell of Gilwell.

I have been digging into my copy of Aids to Scoutmastership once again. I find that the little book written by Baden-Powell in 1920 still holds water today. As BP makes clear in Aids to Scoutmastership, the book is not an instruction manual, rather it is a book outlining Why we do what we do in Scouting. And once we know why we are doing something it is easier to see the vision and achieve the goals or aims. I would encourage you to get a hard copy of this. Mine is full of notes and highlights; a must for every Scoutmaster.

Seeing the vision and understanding the goals are an important part of the Scoutmaster's job. I think that too many Scoutmasters get caught in the “game” that they lose focus on the goal. Now, “the game” may be different in each unit and dependent on the leader. Some pay particular attention to advancement, while others focus on the outings. In most cases there is a good balance, but there still is a missing piece. That piece is the Aims and the Why we are playing this game with a purpose.

It is nice to watch as a Scout becomes an Eagle Scout. As a Scoutmaster, I love to sit and talk with a young man who has earned the Eagle Award. Like the leader that misses the true goal of Scouting though a young man may only think that he has achieved the highest rank. He may think that he is at the end of the journey because he is now an Eagle Scout. But that is not the case, he is far from done, he is just beginning.

In becoming an Eagle Scout he is starting to realize the vision and starting to grow in his manhood lifelong habits of good decision-making, life skills, leadership, and of course being a good citizen.

The other night I sat with a Scout in my troop for his Scoutmaster Conference. He has completed all of the requirements to earn his Eagle Award. Yes, he has completed all of the requirements, but he has actually become an Eagle Scout. In our discussion we talked more about the future and why he is going to be successful. He looked back at all of the challenges that got him to this point and I was happy to hear that instead of making them a negative thing, he looked back on them as learning points along his Scouting trail.

We talked about leadership. It has taken this Scout a little longer to develop into a leader, but he is there now and we talked about the different ways in which he developed those skills. It was important for me to remind him that in becoming an Eagle Scout he has demonstrated that he has what it takes to lead. The American public may not know much about Scouting other than helping old ladies across the street, but they all know that being an Eagle Scout is special. They look to Eagle Scouts to lead.

Where am I going with this?

We often lose the forest for the trees as they say. We make sure to teach camping skills and encourage Scouts to earn all the merit badges they can... but what of the Aims? What about the purpose of Scouting? I think that is what BP was reminding those leaders back in 1920 and he continues to remind us today... Stay focused on why we play this game with a purpose. It is not about Eagle Scouts. It is about Citizens of Character that are fit. The BSA reminds us in the mission statement that we are to teach young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes. This is why we go camping, do service projects, earn merit badges and become Eagle Scouts.

I love digging in that old book. It gets me refocused on what is important.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



District Court of Honor



It's that time of year again - the Goose Creek District Annual Court of Honor is just around the corner! We would like to extend an invitation to all Goose Creek Packs, Troops, Posts, and Crews to join us on Wednesday, May 24, from 7:30pm - 9:00pm in the cafeteria at Belmont Ridge Middle School. This year's event will feature a number of special award recipients, including the District Award of Merit, Unit Volunteer of the Year Awards, Eagle Scout Class of 2022, OA Vigil Honorees and the District Key 3 Awardees.

[Goose Creek District Annual Court of Honor Invite](#) (PDF)

As we prepare for this special event, we want to take a moment to recognize the amazing Scouters who have made a significant impact on the lives of young people in the Goose Creek District. We want to recognize the exceptional contributions of individual leaders within each unit. That's why we need your help to identify the Unit Volunteer of the Year. This special award honors the hard work and dedication of a volunteer within each unit who upholds the ideals of scouting and makes a significant impact on the lives of our scouts.

If you haven't yet recognized that special volunteer from your unit as the Unit Volunteer of the Year, you still have time. Please submit your nominations to me by simply sending an email to terry.kolb@goosecreekdistrict.org by April 14, 2023 and include the following information:

- Your name
- The Unit volunteer of the Year's name (one per unit)
- Unit type (Troop, Crew, Pack or Post) and number (1154)
- A short description of how this leader upholds the ideals of scouting in your unit.
- include your unit number and the words "Unit Volunteer of the Year" in the subject field of the email. (i.e. Troop 43 Unit Volunteer of the Year or Crew 7070 Unit Volunteer of the Year)

Thank you for all you do for scouting and we look forward to seeing you at the Goose Creek District Court of Honor!

Bear and Webelos – Save the Date for Webelos-o-ree 2023



The date for the 2023 Webelos-o-ree has been set: Sept 30 – Oct 1. It will be held at Camp Snyder and will be open to all those who are currently Bear Scouts (who will be Webelos by then) and 1st year Webelos.

While this is listed as a camping event there are registration options available for those that just want to come out for the day. The stations will be run by our own Scouts BSA troops so the Webelos will get plenty of examples of what it would be like to join a troop.



Program Launch



Goose Creek's Program Launch is an annual showcase of scouting programs, resources, activities, and information from Goose Creek scouts, our Council, and exhibitors from outside of scouting. Together, they all offer your unit great ideas and resources to help provide your scouts a great scouting program!

When: Wednesday, May 14 in place of the normal Roundtable, 7:30 pm

Where: the cafeteria at the Belmont Ridge Middle School.

Isn't Program Launch Just Another Roundtable?

No. Even though Program Launch takes place on Roundtable night. There are no chairs for you to sit in (unless you get worn out from all the excitement). There are no speakers or announcements.

Who Should Come to Program Launch?

Every unit should have at least one leader at Program Launch. But don't stop there! Scoutmasters and Venturing Advisors, bring your Senior Patrol Leaders and Crew Officers! Assistant Scoutmasters and Den Leaders should attend too! The more leaders that attend, the more you'll be able to bounce ideas around.



Cub Scout Day Camp/Twilight Camp 2023



Attention all adventure seekers! Save the date for Goose Creek District's Day Camp and Twilight Camp, happening from June 12-16 and June 12-15, respectively. We're thrilled to unveil the camp location in early April, followed by the opening of registration. Be on the lookout for our forthcoming email packed with all the essential information you'll need to book your place at camp. This year's theme, "Off to the Races!", promises a week filled with exhilarating activities and non-stop entertainment for campers of all ages. For any inquiries, please contact Shannon Klee at goosecreekcubcamp@gmail.com. Gear up for the ultimate adventure!

Volunteer for Goose Creek District Day/Twilight Camp -- We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make this year's camp a huge success! If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for one or both camps, please complete this form: <https://rb.gy/9op6>. We welcome volunteers of all ages, from teens to adults. Volunteering at camp is a fantastic opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of young campers and be a part of a wonderful community.



Philmont Trek Opening



Troop 1666 of Ashburn, VA has a Philmont trek date of June 20 through July 2; we are doing Trek 12-5. Looking for 1-2 adults or scouts to join us. Registration is \$1,490 plus airfare to and from Washington DC to Denver with departure on June 19 with 1 night stay in Colorado Springs (flight estimated at \$500) and using Blue Sky Adventures at \$525. Scouts & Adults can link up with us in Colorado or Philmont if that is easier.

If interested contact Dennis Kellen, Scoutmaster & Crew Lead, dennis.kellen@gmail.com or 571-422-7265.

Camporee Supplies



We are in need of some items to help us conduct camporees and other events. If you have an old steel wheelbarrow tray that you no longer need, we would be grateful to take it off your hands. These trays are used as fire pits and would be put to good use. If you are able to donate one, please contact Charles Thornton (571-420-1035, scouterchalis@gmail.com). He would be happy to arrange a pickup from you.

Additionally, we are in need of some new fire pit stands. If you are handy with tools and looking for a service project to help out the district, please consider offering your skills to help us build some new stands. Charles can provide you with more information and supplies.

Thank you for considering a donation to our community. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Spring Camporee



Get ready for a new adventure, Scouts! The 2023 Goose Creek District Spring Camporee is coming and it's going to be EPIC! Join us at Camp Highroad, Middleburg VA, from Friday, April 14th to Sunday, April 16th, 2023. This year's Camporee theme, "Outdoor Adventure Challenge" means the weekend will be packed with thrilling outdoor challenges, high-adventure activities and unforgettable memories.

The Camporee's two main events – Patrol Challenge and Adventure Choice – are followed by a Saturday evening campfire featuring your Patrol skits and songs, and of course, the AWARDS presentation! The Camporee cost per participant (for both Scouts and Adults) is \$34.

The Patrol Challenge is all about your Patrol working as a team to put your Scoutcraft skills to the test. Compete in these Challenges to earn the most points and come out on top: Tomahawk Throw, Flamin'Fast, Saw Mill, Sea Base Knot and Lash, Philmont Bear Bag Toss and Northern Tier Canoe Portage.

But wait, there's more! The Adventure Choice period lets you choose from a variety of high-adventure activities like Mountain Boarding, Rock Wall, Zip Line, Team Challenge Course and High Ropes Course. These activities are available for additional fees.

How do we pack all this fun into one day? We split all the Patrols into two groups (A & B). On Saturday morning while Group A competes in the Patrol Challenge, Group B explores the Adventure Choice activities. After lunch, the Groups switch so that Group B is up for Patrol Challenge and Group A enjoys Adventure Choice activities.

The Spring Camporee Leaders Guide has the latest information about all Camporee activities, schedules and requirements. Download it [HERE](#).

This event is designed for Scouts BSA Troops and Venturing Crews, so rally your Patrol and get ready to conquer the great outdoors! See you at Camp Highroad!

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-65533>



Shooting Sports Corner



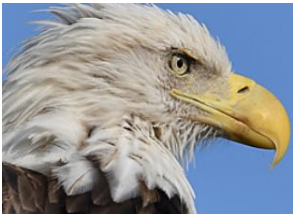
Cub Scout Summer Camps are just around the corner. Please help Goose Creek have a fun and safe shooting sports at Summer Camp. We need certified Rangemasters! Rangemaster training is being offered at Camp Snyder on 6 May and again on 3 June 2023. Registration is walk-in, no online registration. Goose Creek needs 2 rangemasters for every BB-Gun, Archery and Slingshot range. Please come and get certified!

GCD has a Shooting Sports information form if you are interested in serving Goose Creek in BB-guns, Archery, Tomahawks and Slingshots. Here is the [link](#).

NRA Training for month of April:

NRA Instructor Rifle Shooting Course	Ashburn, VA	4/2/
NRA Instructor Rifle Shooting Course	Charles Town, WV	4/22/2023
NRA Basic Rifle Shooting Course	Charles Town, WV	4/15/2023

Greenway Eagle Cams



The Dulles Greenway Wetlands has been home to two Bald Eagles since 2005. In 1995, TRIP II established a private 149-acre wetlands preserve in Leesburg, Virginia during the construction of the Dulles Greenway roadway to mitigate the loss of roughly 64 acres of federally protected wetlands. Today, the wetlands property is managed by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy and utilized for local wildlife education.

About The Cameras

Two new state-of-the-art high-definition cameras are available to view the nest. Each one is mounted on the nest tree and provides a different view of the nest. If you watch for a while, you may be lucky enough to see eagles flying to and from the tree. The cameras come equipped with low-power infrared (IR) illuminators. This technology allows us to discretely view the eagles at night, without disturbing them. The eagles cannot see this light; it is outside their visible spectrum of light. Neither can humans. If you were at the nest site, looking up at the tree at night, you would only see light from the moon or stars.



Goals and Glory: Loudoun United's 2nd Annual Scout Night!



Get ready for an unforgettable experience, Goose Creek District Scouts and families! Our 2nd Annual Loudoun United FC Scout Night is just around the corner on May 6th, and we have some exclusive discounted tickets just for you. Visit our special promotional link at <https://fevo.me/goosecreekscouts> to secure your spot at this fantastic event. Join fellow scouts for an exciting soccer match, halftime parade, and post-match Q&A with the team. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to celebrate scouting and soccer together!

For questions, contact Terry Kolb, terry.kolb@goosecreekdistrict.org.

Friends of Scouting



The annual Friends of Scouting giving campaign helps ensure that the National Capital Area Council can continue to provide quality programs for our youth. This campaign provides approximately 15 percent of the council's annual budget. What does your investment in Friends of Scouting provide?

- Local programs and activities throughout the council
- Camp scholarships, uniforms and registration fees for youths who otherwise could not participate
- Scout service center that coordinates Scouting activities and provide customer service to members
- Accident and liability insurance to protect both youth and adult members
- Camps and facilities available for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events
- Opportunities to attend summer camp and high-adventure events
- Advancement programs where Scouts are recognized for learning and achievement of goals they set
- Distribution and development of literature and training-materials
- Leadership training for young people who will become future community leaders

To make a donation to Friends of Scouting, please go to <https://rb.gy/hpsmei>



Please include Goose Creek District and your unit number with your donation. If you want to pledge and pay over time just follow the easy steps on the website.

If your unit has not scheduled a Friends of Scouting presentation this year please email development@goosecreekdistrict.org to get on the calendar. Thank you for investing in Scouting!



Cheerful Service Chatter™

Chapter News for our Arrowmen
Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA

OA Chatter



Unit Leaders - the annual Order of the Arrow elections cycle runs through May 31, 2023. We are currently scheduling. There are several options for you to consider:

- We can schedule an election, at which time we will also conduct a 10 minute presentation on the Order of the Arrow and the benefits it brings, plus a highlight of local camping venues.
- We can schedule just the OA/Camping presentation for this fall, and then schedule an election in the winter or spring.

If your unit won't have eligible candidates this year, we'd still like to schedule that OA/Camping presentation, at your convenience.

An email was sent to all unit leaders in November with links to requirements for qualifying candidates, and details about how to schedule elections or presentations.

If you have any questions, or already have a date in mind for either a presentation please don't hesitate to ask.

William Stehn, Chapter Chief (chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org)

Colin Sparrow, Vice Chief - Elections (OAElections@goosecreekdistrict.org)

Mike Sierra, Elections Adviser (OAElections@goosecreekdistrict.org)

Rich Pender, Chapter Adviser (Rich.Pender@goosecreekdistrict.org)



OA Induction Season – Spring Ordeal registration is open



Unit leaders – with OA election season nearing completion, it's time to get your candidates to an Induction event. The Goose Creek Chapter Spring Ordeal will be held May 5-7 at the Izaak Walton League property in Leesburg and should be the prime focus for Loudoun County candidates as it allows them to complete their induction with fellow Troop and area Scouts. But, if they can't make that weekend, there are a number of other Ordeals scheduled from mid-April to mid-May and beyond. Please refer your candidate to the Lodge's Ordeal registration portal: <https://wipit470.org/ordeal.html>

For those existing members who are already Ordeal members, Brotherhood ceremonies are held on Saturday afternoon during most Ordeal weekends – please encourage your Arrowmen to seal their ties to the OA by becoming a Brotherhood member.

Please direct any questions to Chapter Chief Will Stehn (chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org) or Chapter Adviser Rich Pender (rich.pender@goosecreekdistrict.org).

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

Andrew Joyner – Troop 950

Rohan Konanki – Troop 761

Emmanuel McKay – Troop 711

Ved Pande – Troop 761

Rohan Radadiya – Troop 761



The 2023 Scouts BSA Requirements Book



The 2023 edition of the Boy Scout Requirements books are in stores and Scout Shops. Pick up a copy of this small, highly useful volume that contains the requirements for the Scouts BSA ranks, merit badges, and special opportunities.

Requirements are updated frequently. This year there were minor updates to rank advancement requirements. 30 merit badges have revised requirements for 2023. The requirements book is an excellent resource for unit leaders; a new one is required each year to give your Scouts accurate information. Visit your local Scout shop or go [online](#) and get yours today!



Life-to-Eagle Seminar



The next L2E Seminar is tentatively scheduled for.

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Place: Brambleton Library in Mtg Rm B

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

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

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



Merit Badge Quiz—Test Yourself Today



"How well do you know your merit badge facts from myths? Take the following 12- question quiz and see just how well-informed you are. Answers are found on the next page.

TRUE or FALSE:

1. [T] [F] A merit badge counselor may be a counselor for only up to six merit badges.
2. [T] [F] A merit badge counselor may not coach their child or close relative (i.e, niece or nephew) unless they are part of a group of Scouts all working on the same merit badge.
3. [T] [F] A merit badge counselor who works only with a single unit needs only the unit committee's approval before being approved by the Scout Executive.
4. [T] [F] Persons serving as merit badge counselors must be registered as a merit badge counselor with Scout BSA.
5. [T] [F] A Scout may earn no more than five merit badges from the same merit badge counselor.
6. [T] [F] Once a Scouter is approved as a merit badge counselor, they are approved for life and never have to be reapproved.
7. [T] [F] A Scout must complete all the requirements for a merit badge within 12 months or they must start over.
8. [T] [F] A merit badge counselor may require the Scout to work beyond the specific requirements of the merit badge so the Scout may discover more about the subject and continue the learning process.
9. [T] [F] 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.
10. [T] [F] If the weather, locale, or some other condition makes meeting all of the conditions of the merit badge requirements impractical, the merit badge counselor may substitute requirements for those stated for the merit badge.
11. [T] [F] Merit badge counselors must be at least 18 years old.
12. [T] [F] 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.

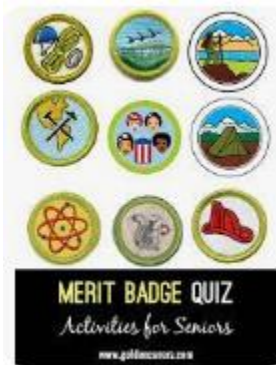
BSA Merit Badge Hub



The new [BSA Merit Badge Hub](#) offers a host of improved features. Site navigation now focuses on an A-Z Merit Badge Listing, a specialized Eagle-required merit badge grouping, integrations with Scout Shop merit badge pamphlets, and links to content from Scout Life magazine and On Scouting.



Merit Badge Quiz Answers



1. False. A counselor may be approved for as many badges as he or she is qualified to offer. Note that the National Council does not limit the number of merit badges an individual may be approved to counsel. It is permissible, however, for councils to do so—as long as Scouts' choices, especially in small or remote units, are not so limited as to serve as a barrier to advancement. (Guide to Advancement (GTA) 7.0.1.4)
2. False. Counselors may work with and pass any member, including their own children, wards, or relatives. Nevertheless, we often teach young people the importance of broadening their horizons. Scouts meeting with counselors beyond their families and beyond even their units are doing that. They will benefit from the perspectives of many “teachers” and will learn more as a result. They should be encouraged to reach out. (GTA Section 7.0.0.3)
3. False. Scoutmasters, or anyone else, wishing to counsel and sign off on merit badges must also qualify and register in the position of merit badge counselor and be approved for the badges they counsel according to council procedures. (GTA 7.0.1.4)
4. True. Even volunteers who serve in multiple positions must fill out another form and show registration as a merit badge counselor. (GTA 7.0.1.4)
5. False. 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)
6. False. Counselor approvals are for one year only. The council advancement committee annually coordinates counselor reregistration. (GTA 7.0.1.5)
7. False. Partials have no expiration except the Scout's 18th birthday. (GTA 7.0.3.3)
8. False. No additions or deletions are permitted. The requirements are to be completed exactly as written. However, a counselor may share additional information or resources in the hope of encouraging the Scout to challenge himself. (GTA 7.0.4.7)
9. True. 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.
10. False. No additions or deletions are permitted. The requirements are to be completed exactly as written. (GTA 7.0.4.7)
11. True. (GTA 7.0.1.3)
12. True. The Scouts BSA Requirements book is revised annually and reflects any changes that have been made, whereas the merit badge pamphlets are not revised annually and may be outdated.

Potential Eagle Projects



Here are some organizations that are looking for Eagle projects to help them..

Mobile Hope - Leesburg (<https://mobile-hope.org/>), provides support and emergency shelter to youth up to age 24 who are at-risk, precariously housed or homeless. If you are interested or have any questions you can contact Julie Culpepper at (703) 771-1400 or Julie@mobile-hope.org.

- Donation Drive (food, hygiene, diapers, etc)
- Building a shed for storage
- Building a donation drop off bin for weekend donations
- Building a drop off bin for UPS, Amazon, Fedex deliveries
- Building a compost bin
- Making furniture/games with Pallet Wood
- Build chunky shelving for food pantry
- Build bin for spoiled food to go to the farm
- Paint a Mural
- Plant bushes/trees along fence for privacy

St. James Episcopal, in Leesburg, is in need of a railing, beside the sidewalk, coming from the Nave to the Parking lot, to assist our elderly & handicap parishioners. Contact Raymond "Ray" Longo, cptray333@msn.com

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org



Special Needs Scouting



Since its founding, BSA has promoted full participation of members with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities. Providing the Scouting program to those with disabilities means having an ongoing process to educate unit leaders and parents how to adapt their methods and how to create a healthy, safe, empathetic environment for all Scouts, both with and without special needs.

The NCAC Committee for Special Needs Scouting has been charged with the communication and dissemination of information and updates to BSA policies, and to provide support to unit leaders and families with members with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities.

For additional information and guidance regarding the Special Needs Scouting program, consult the following resources:

- New Inclusion Toolbox at <https://ablescouts.org>
- Abilities Digest Newsletter
- BSA Advancement Guide
- Monthly Special Needs Scouting Office hours open to parents and unit leaders. Office hours will be 7-8:30pm and held on Apr 4, Jun 6, Aug 1, Oct 3, and Dec 5. The Meeting ID is 826 3765 9138 and the Passcode 513043.
- District Executive or the Goose Creek Special Needs Scouting Coordinator

Note: Information at www.Scouting.org and NCAC website regarding supporting Special Needs and Scouts with disabilities is being updated. Please consult the Inclusion Toolbox for the most current information and guidance.



Acoustic Music Camp



Got an ear for string music? Or maybe you can barely carry a tune, but want to learn how to play?

Beginners and advanced players alike are invited to the Summit Bechtel Reserve this August for Acoustic Music Camp. The weeklong event will focus on instruments like the banjo, guitar, fiddle, mandolin and bass. Attendees will get to enjoy classroom lessons, improv sessions and nightly jams with talented instructors.

Instrument class sizes are limited, so register soon through the [Acoustic Music Camp page](#). The camp is open to everyone, so you don't have to be registered in Scouting to attend.

Let's jam

You will get first-class instruction at the music camp, slated for Aug. 6-11. The music instructors will feature 2018 Banjo Player of the Year Ned Luberecki; Grand Ole Opry regular and flatpicking guitarist Tim May; Musical Heritage Center of Middle Tennessee owner and fiddler Gretchen Priest; Bluegrass Heritage Foundation president and bassist Alan Tompkins; and Acoustic Music Camp founder and guitarist Gerald Jones.

Jones, who has been playing music for almost 50 years, has hosted similar camps around the country for more than two decades.

At this camp, attendees will learn different musical styles and techniques. Moreover, it'll be a great time to not only enhance your musical skills but also make new friends and hang out with fellow music lovers.

The hills are alive...with fun

This year's music camp will be set in the beautiful, lush West Virginia wilderness. But you won't have to rough it at the Summit. Attendees can choose to stay on the property with the all-inclusive options at the bunkhouses, glamping tents or Yamagata lodging. You can also go with the base registration, which includes meals and the music program but not lodging.

While you're at the Summit, you can sign up for one of three different adventure packages to enjoy on one afternoon. Activities in the packages include zip lining, rock-climbing, BMX and skateboarding, virtual shooting, hatchet and knife throwing, fishing, stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking.

For more on the Acoustic Music Camp, including registration, you can check out the camp's page.

CLIMBOREE 2023



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

- Climbing and rappelling on natural rock
- 60-foot climbing tower
- Bouldering on abundant gritstone walls
- Guided challenge course sessions
- Big Zip quarter-mile zipline
- Rifle, shotgun, and archery ranges
- Full-day, hands-on Dutch oven cooking class

\$30 per participant for a weekend of tent camping and adventure. Additional fees for shooting and cooking programs. We will not provide meals. Email NCAC.Climboree@gmail.com to join our contact list.

You can register for CLIMBOREE 2023 at Camp Mountaineer near Morgantown, WV by visiting the National Capital Area Council website and following the registration instructions. You can also contact the council office at 301-530-9360 for more information.



High Adventure Crew Vacancies



Still interested in a High Adventure trek in 2023? At this time of year, existing crews may find themselves short of participants due to medical or family issues, or scheduling conflicts may arise. These crews welcome additional members to help mitigate trip costs and meet minimum crew sizes.

Vacancies Listings: The NCAC High Adventure Committee maintains a [HA Vacancies List](#) (with instructions on how to sign up) for crews with openings or individuals looking to sign on with an existing crew.

Finally, here is a table with vacancies listings online for each of the National HA Bases:

High Adventure Base	Vacancies Webpage
Philmont	https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/register/
Northern Tier (summer)	https://www.ntier.org/provisional-scout-connections/
Northern Tier (Okpik)	https://www.ntier.org/expeditions/winter-adventures/winter-individual-programs/
Sea Base	https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/scout-connections/
Summit	https://www.summitbsa.org/registration/scoutconnections/

18th Annual NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet



Test out your troop or crew member's navigation skills at this **exciting map and compass competition** to be held on May 6 at Kings Landing Regional Park, 3255 Kings Landing Rd, Huntingtown, MD 20639. Scouts and Crew members with compete in age groups and different course levels in the morning as individuals. The afternoon event is designed around competing as a unit (Troop or Crew) to gather the greatest score than the other scouting units. This event is open to all Scouts BSA Troops, Venturing Crews, and other appropriately aged Scouting groups; minimum age for this event is 10 and a half years old.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED -- Please be aware that your unit must register online to take part in this event. There is no walk in registration for any unit or scout. Adjustments to the number of members from a unit can be made on the day of the event, but refunds may not be given. A unit is defined as at least two scouts and two registered adult leaders.

Summary: This event is open to all Scouts BSA Troops, GSUSA units (ages 10 and up) and Venturing Crews. Scouts will be paired up (buddy system applies) and compete for awards to be presented to the first 10 places in each event. The morning sessions will include: instruction Orienteering course for Scouts new to the sport, competitions in one of four levels of orienteering courses, and other skill-building competitive events. Each Scout pair will have an opportunity to choose two events in the morning. We strongly recommend instruction take place at a unit level prior to your arrival. The instructional Orienteering course is a "no compete, no awards" hands on teaching course that your scouts can learn by using the Teaching EDGE method to learn the art of Orienteering. To ensure fairness, competition will also be broken into two age groups for most events in the morning, under 14 years of age and Scouts 14 years of age or older. Venturing Crews with members over 18 years old may be scored as a third grouping based on judging decision on the day of the event. After a brief break at 1pm, the afternoon event will be a 90-minute Orienteering score course. The afternoon event is a unit based competition with youth leadership taking charge of their units in planning and directing their teams. The event will be completed with awards from the morning events at 5:00 pm.

Cost is \$10 per youth and includes an event patch for all youth participants. Adults may purchase patches at cost on the day of the event pending availability.

This event is run with volunteers from and supported by the NCAC and has the added experienced of help from the Quantico Orienteering Club.



Buddy system is strictly enforced with all events and adults are not permitted "in the woods" during the competitions.* The morning competition will be on the individual (scout) pair level and on the unit level. Each troop or crew unit will have a unit score from this event based on the average of the unit's top five pairs from that unit.

Camping will be available on both Friday and Saturday nights. The cost is \$2 per person per night and can be completed as part of your unit registration. We will assign locations for your troop or crew to camp in the open area within walking distance of the event start and registration area. Please be aware that participant's cars may need to be relocated to the main park area to allow enough space for other scouting units to set up their camp site.

2023 Goshen Summer Camp Availability



Key: Available Almost Full Full

Camp		Week					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	Bowman (Patrol Cooking)						
	Marriott (Patrol Cooking & Heater Stack)						
	Olmsted (BS Dining Hall)						
	Lenhok'sin High Adventure						
	Ross (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/25 to 7/1
Week 2 – 7/2 to 7/8

Week 3 – 7/9 to 7/15
Week 4 – 7/16 to 7/22

Week 5 – 7/23 to 7/29
Week 6 – 7/30 to 8/5

Fees:

If paid by April 14: Youth \$455, Adults \$225
After April 14: Youth \$485, Adults \$265

- All units will receive two free adult leaders!

Registration: www.gotogoshen.org/registration/

Note: There may be additional fees for bus transportation, Shotgun MB, etc.

Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Cub Scout Day Camp is a great means for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their siblings to experience Camp Snyder without the overnight sleeping. Each day will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 4:00 pm with lunch included in the cost of camp.

Sessions run from Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Session 1: June 26-30
Session 2: July 10-14

Early Bird Registration (up to Apr 15): \$230 – Scout, \$50 – Adult
On Time Registration (up to May 13) \$250 – Scout, \$55 – Adult
Late Registration (after May 13) \$270 – Scout, \$60 – Adult

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/day-camp/>

Lenhok'sin High Adventure



WHO CAN GO?

Youth participants must be 13 years of age by September 1, 2023.

LENHOK'SIN TRAIL TREK

Choose from a selection of outposts and scenic views to create your very own trek. Spend four nights on the trail and have a chance to earn awards, including the challenging Moore Five Peaks Award.

LENHOK'SIN TRAIL OUTPOSTS

Take on adventure, travel through time, and experience the backcountry of western Virginia. Explore the past and learn frontier skills at our historical outposts. Visit the 1910s Appalachian blacksmithing forge at Foxfire and make your own steel creation. Shoot black powder rifles and barter at the 1830s Mountain Man encampment. Shoot archery and throw daggers at the Wood's Edge 9th century homestead. Navigate Lake Merriweather in kayaks and stand-up paddle boards at Aquatics, and test your wilderness first aid skills at Search and Rescue. Soar through the air and grow as a team at the COPE Course. Go Caving in a natural limestone cave and explore new depths. Can't get enough wilderness? Do one or more Primitive nights and see how far you can explore! Will you get to all five peaks?

JAMES RIVER CANOE TREK

Looking for something with more water? Paddle 61 miles of the historic Upper James River while you experience over 120 Class I and II rapids and the infamous Balcony Falls.

For more information: <https://www.gotogoshen.org/camps-programs/lenhoksin-high-adventure/>

Goshen Spring Service Weekends



Staff Alumni Service Weekend: April 28-30, 2023 - Run by the Goshen Staff Alumni Association, this service weekend is open to staff alumni from any Goshen camp and their friends and family, ages 18 and up. Meet other staff alumni new and old, spend some time at Goshen, and help us prepare for the next season of summer camp.

Info & Registration: www.gotogoshen.org/gsaasw

Volunteer Work Weekend: May 12-14, 2023 - Open to members of the scouting community – youth and adults. Units and volunteers are invited to assist in camp beautification! Participants should bring their own tents.

Info & Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-65026>



You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You always cook enough food for twelve
- Your favorite cologne is "Deep Woods Off!"
- You don't mind losing power to your house for three days.

2024 High Adventure Base Reservations!



Registration for the four National High Adventure Bases (HAB) has already begun for the Summer 2024 season. However, there is still some availability remaining at all four bases. Use the links below to find an opening for your crew now – but don't wait too long!

Philmont: <https://registerphilmont.org/entry/2024>

Sea Base: <https://events.scouting.org/form/CA03518863024475>

Northern Tier: <https://events.scouting.org/form/A42475C269ED4153>

Summit: <https://events.scouting.org/form/E96F8B2785444D13>

All these iconic bases offer a broad swath of challenging High Adventure programs, but a few opportunities are worth pointing out:

Philmont: An expanded schedule of 7- and 9-day treks are now available in addition to the traditional 12-day length. The Ranch also offers programs in the Spring, Fall and Winter and several individual treks that take you above and beyond the full crew experience.

Sea Base: "I wanna go where it's warm!" Sea Base has the widest variety of Adventures, from snorkeling and fishing in the FL Keys to sailing and SCUBA in the Caribbean. Many of these have Spring and Winter offerings over and above the exquisite Summer ones. Shorter, more affordable trips are also available.

Northern Tier: The longest- and wildest-operating National HAB, NT has new offerings including longer Okpik (winter) and extended autumn treks, exclusive treks for Scouts BSA Girls Troops and the opportunity to paddle as a Voyageur Brigade if you have completed an NT trek in the last 3 years.

Summit: High Adventure at the Summit goes beyond the adrenaline and wow factor. It's digging deep within yourself to immerse your body and mind in the experience. Come discover the latest lineup of Experiences: New River, Summit, Bikepacking, Polaris ATV, Marksman and Pack n' Paddle.

Contact John Blackwell, NCAC High Adventure Committee Chair, for answers to your questions!

john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org or 301.346.0551

Michael's Woodshop



Conveniently located at Camp William B. Snyder, Michael's Woodshop is an incredible resource which may be reserved for use by all NCAC Units & Scouts.

Michael's Woodshop operates year-round with opportunities for youth of all ages to participate in a variety of shop activities. Holding a Den project session is just one way to use the shop. Michael's Woodshop also offers great Baloo the Builder and Webelos Build It workshops, Woodwork Merit Badge classes and has recently added several new Woodshop Specialty Classes. In addition, the shop is a great venue for hosting Eagle Scout and Summit Award projects as well as conservation projects and other unit activities.

Here is the link to their latest quarterly newsletter [Michael's Woodshop News Winter 2022-23](#) which was just posted to their webpage.

#TroopTalkLive



Maybe you're a veteran Scouts BSA leader or parent who knows the program from top to bottom. Or maybe you're a newbie with tons of questions. Either way, #TroopTalkLive is for you.

On the second Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Central, the BSA's official monthly Scouts BSA-focused Facebook livestream features expert guests and insiders who share their experiences, advice and the occasional behind-the-scenes look at the Scouts BSA program.

The same team that brings you #CubChatLive will bring in the experts who can answer your questions ... live! We'll share useful tips, tricks and ideas to help your Scouts BSA troop.

Cub Scout Weekend Resident Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Cub Resident Camp is your bite sized introduction to a Boy Scout summer camp program. All registered Cubs, Tigers – Webelos and their adult leaders/parents sleep on cots in 4-person BSA wall tents that sit on raised platforms, eat in the camp dining hall, and experience a whole day into the night program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Adventure Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a registered Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or dens' self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well-being.

Sessions run from Friday at 9:00am to Sunday at 9:00am, and feature 2 nights of overnight camping. Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast. A Thursday night check in for all weekend programs! Come in on Thursday night, get your campsite set up and your swim tests out of the way to make more time for Friday fun!

Session 1: June 22-25

Session 2: June 29 – July 2

Session 3: July 6-9

Session 4: July 13-16

Early Bird Registration (up to Apr 15):	\$235 – Scout, \$80 – Adult
On Time Registration (up to May 13)	\$255 – Scout, \$105 – Adult
Late Registration (after May 13)	\$255 – Scout, \$130 - Adult

2 Leaders FREE per Pack with your unit's Resident Weekend registration

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/resident-weekends/>

Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week at Camp Snyder



Camp Snyder has some amazing facilities. Among those are our Woodshop and our STEM facility. We have created a Scouts BSA Specialty week designed to showcase the activities we can provide for all our Scouts. Want to earn your Woodworking or Woodcarving Merit Badge? Want to learn about Drones and spend some time in our STEM lab. Come out and spend a week of your summer with us.

Combine your interest in merit badges with camping, dining, swimming, boating, and many other summer camp favorites.

There are two attendance options: 1) You can stay at Camp Snyder all week and camp overnight or 2) You can choose to be a day-only participant and just stay for the merit badges.

When: July 16 - 22

Early Bird Resident Scout Registration (up to Apr 16):	\$455
Early Bird Day Scout Camper Registration:	\$355
Early Bird Adult Registration:	\$225
On Time Resident Scout Registration (up to May 14)	\$485
On Time Day Scout Registration:	\$385
On Time Adult Registration	\$265
Late Resident Scout Registration (after May 14)	\$505
Late Day Scout Registration:	\$405

1 Leader is FREE with your Troop registration of 5 or more Scouts. Units who plan to send 5 or more scouts must provide a minimum of 1 adult leader per 5 scouts.

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/specialty-week/>

Oregon Trail Council's Video on Scouting Safely



A safety related incident in 2018 prompted the Oregon Trail Council to reemphasize their efforts to communicate the BSA's safety rules to its adult volunteers.

One of the results of that initiative is their Scout S.A.F.E. Video, in which the council's Scout Executive, commissioner, vice president of district operations, and two youth members of the BSA walk viewers through the BSA's S.A.F.E. Scouting checklist and other elements of safe Scouting.

"We decided our goal was to make sure all our leaders were educated on those elements of Scouting," says Scout Executive Scott Impecover. "We felt the need to get word out sooner to our leaders, rather than waiting until they took leader specific training."

The [8-minute video](#) is brief and direct, and does a great job of emphasizing the importance of following the BSA's safety rules — and the possible consequences if you don't — without coming across as overly somber or preachy.

It's well worth taking the time to watch it.



National/International Recognition Days/Weeks/Months Calendar

2023						
APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

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

- Apr 1 – [National Play Outside Day](#)
- Apr 2 – [National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day](#)
- Apr 3 – [National Find a Rainbow Day](#)
- Apr 4 – [National School Librarian Day](#)
- Apr 6 – [National Burrito Day](#)
- Apr 8 – [National Zoo Lovers Day](#)
- Apr 10 – [National Encourage a Young Writer Day](#)
- Apr 11 – [National Pet Day](#)
- Apr 12 – [National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day](#)
- Apr 13 – [National Scrabble Day](#)
- Apr 14 – [National Gardening Day](#)
- Apr 15 – [National Take a Wild Guess Day](#)
- Apr 17 – [National Haiku Day](#)
- Apr 18 – [National Animal Cracker Day](#)
- Apr 19 – [National Banana Day](#)
- Apr 20 – [National High Five Day](#)
- Apr 21 – [National Chocolate Covered Cashews Day](#)
- Apr 22 – [National Earth Day](#)
- Apr 23 – [National Picnic Day](#)
- Apr 24 – [National Pigs-in-a-Blanket Day](#)
- Apr 25 – [National Telephone Day](#)
- Apr 26 – [National Pretzel Day](#)
- Apr 27 – [National Tell a Story Day](#)
- Apr 28 – [National Arbor Day](#)
- Apr 29 – [National Zipper Day](#)
- Apr 30 – [National Honesty Day](#)

Training Opportunities



What Is a Fully Trained Scout Leader?



The leadership training philosophy of the BSA is to provide all adult leaders with the fundamental information about the aims and methods of the movement and the specifics about their particular role in Scouting. A trained leader is knowledgeable and confident in the role they serve. The knowledge and confidence of a trained leader are quickly sensed by Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA Troop Members, Sea Scouts, Explorers and Venturing Scouts. Trained leaders and are a positive influence on the lives of the scouts they serve.

The Adult Scout Leader training program is designed to meet the needs of leaders by providing learning opportunities related to each of the adult unit positions. The plan allows for both individual online and in-person group training experiences. It also incorporates a recognition program that motivates and rewards those who progress in the leadership training programs of the BSA.

How can I get fully trained to best serve the scouts I work with?

1. Check out the requirements for your position [here](#).
2. Take the [online courses](#).
3. Check out the [NCAC Training Calendar](#) for In-Person courses

My.Scouting.org



[My.Scouting.org](#) is a portal for adults and leaders providing access to their account data, online training. If you are an adult member of Scouting, you ought to have a My.Scouting.org account. Why? Maybe the two biggest reasons are a) you can update your contact information directly in the BSA national database, and b) you can take online versions of almost all BSA training courses you need to understand the Scouting program and to be considered “trained” in your position (an exception is Scouts BSA’s Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills training course).

For additional information go to <https://www.bsacac.org/resources/my-scouting-org/>.

Climbing Instructor Training 2023



Learn how to help Scouts climb on nearby natural rock and become a resource for your unit. This year the NCAC Climbing Committee offers four Climbing Level I Instructor class sections:

- April 15-16 at [Great Falls Park](#), 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. [Logistics memo](#)
- May 6-7 at [Sugarloaf Mountain](#), 8:15 am to 6:00 pm. [Logistics memo](#)
- Sept 16-17 at [Sugarloaf Mountain](#), 8:15 am to 6:00 pm. [Logistics memo](#)
- Sept 23-24 at [Great Falls Park](#), 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. [Logistics memo](#)

Contact the course director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com to register. Register in and attend only one weekend section. \$40 fee

Wood Badge 2023



Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. 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.

Reflecting the best of nearly a century of Scouting experience, Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles and successful organizations throughout the country. Participants can expect to develop skills in many areas, including leadership theory, team building, problem-solving, communication, project planning and more. These skills can be taken back to packs, troops, crews and ships to help leaders guide youth in dynamic Scouting programs. Scouters will find these skills invaluable in their business and personal lives as well.

Wood Badge consists of two parts:

- The first five full days is the initial group training, usually held over two weekends – the first weekend Friday through Sunday, and the second Saturday and Sunday (Both weekends must be attended).
- The second part requires participants to apply the skills they learned by completing a 5-part plan (called a "ticket") over the following 18 months, leading towards the individual participant's vision of a better Scouting future.

Requirements for attending Wood Badge:

1. Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
2. Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
3. Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Parts A, B, and C are required which includes a physical. Part C is required for everyone, including people who are not present for more than 72 hours.

Summer Course: May 5-7 and June 3-4. Registration closes 5/5/2023

Cost: \$300

Note: **Wood Badge could be postponed or delayed based on covid restrictions**

Spring Wilderness First Aid Courses at Camp Snyder



Get Wilderness First Aid certified! Through our Outdoor Preparedness Initiative (OPI), NCAC offers Wilderness First Aid training (WFA) once a month at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, VA. Be prepared for a BSA national or local high adventure, a unit trip, or just outdoor adventure in general. If you are attending NCAC's Lenhok'sin High Adventure – whether you are backpacking on the Trail Trek or whitewater canoeing on the River Trek – you need at least one crew member with Wilderness First Aid training.

OPI's spring course dates are on the calendar! Courses fill up fast, so be sure to sign up soon.

April 22-23, 2023

or

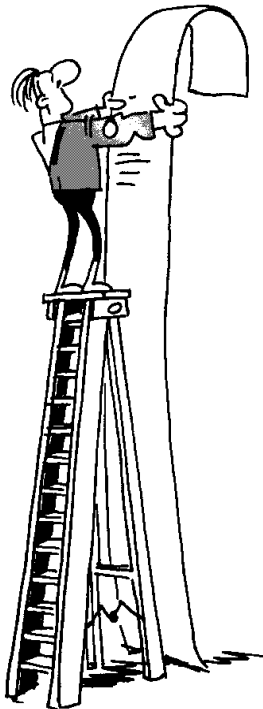
May 20-21, 2023

Visit www.ncacbsa.org/opi-wfa to learn more and select your course.

OPI provides certification through the American Red Cross. The training is for adults and youth ages 14 and up.



District Calendar



April 2023	
12	Roundtable
12	OA Chapter Meeting
13	Commissioner Mtg
14-16	Spring Camporee
22	Life to Eagle Training
26	District Committee

May 2023	
5-7	Goose Creek Chapter OA Spring Ordeal
10	Program Launch
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
24	District Committee
24	District Court of Honor
29	Memorial Day

June 2023	
14	Roundtable
14	OA Chapter Meeting
15	Commissioner Mtg
21	District Committee

July 2023	
4	Fourth of July

August 2023	
9	Roundtable
9	OA Chapter Meeting
10	Commissioner Mtg
19	Life to Eagle Training
23	District Committee
24	First Day of School

September 2023	
4	Labor Day
13	Roundtable
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
25	School Holiday
27	District Committee
30	Webelos-o-ree

October 2023	
9	School Holiday
11	Roundtable
11	OA Chapter Meeting
12	Commissioner Mtg
21-22	JOTA/JOTI
25	District Committee
30-31	School Holiday

November 2023	
1	OA Election Cycle Begins
4	Scouting for Food (SFF) Notices out
7	School Holiday
8	Roundtable
8	OA Chapter Meeting
9	Commissioner Mtg
11	SFF Food Pickup
18	Life to Eagle Training

December 2023	
13	Roundtable
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
27	District Committee

January 2024	
10	Roundtable
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
15	MLK Jr. Day
22	School Holiday
23	District Committee

February 2024	
9-10	Scout Jumuah
9	Scout Shabbat
11	Scout Sunday
14	Roundtable
14	OA Chapter Meeting
15	Commissioner Mtg
19	President's Day
21	District Committee

March 2024	
5	Student Holiday
13	Roundtable
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
25-20	Student Holiday
27	District Committee