**December Roundtable Minutes**

* **Announcements**
* **12/17/23 –** [**Citizenship in the Nation MB**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-dec23_citinnation), Ft Belvoir, VA
* **12/23/23 -** [**GMU Geology MB Workshop**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-geology), Fairfax, VA
* **01/06/24 –** [**Trainer’s Edge, St. Thomas a’ Becket**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-78053), Reston, VA
* **Jan-Apr ‘24 –** [**Wilderness First Aid, Camp Snyder**](https://scoutingevent.com/082-WFASpring2024), Haymarket, VA
* **Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:**
* [Rifle/Shotgun - 02/24/24, 04/27/24, 07/20/24, 08/24/24](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/) – 02/24/24, 03/18/24
* **01/30/24** – Troop 1539 Join Scouting Night (7:00pm; Vienna Community Center). Phil Reilly is an Eagle Scout and a decorated CIA senior Operations Officer who retired after a 29-year career. Mr. Reilly held numerous foreign and domestic assignments including Chief of Station positions in Afghanistan, Europe and in the Far East and served as the CIA’s senior paramilitary officer as Chief of Special Activities Division. Mr. Reilly was the deputy commander of “Operation Jawbreaker”, the first US Govt team to enter Afghanistan two  
  weeks after the 9/11 attacks, which is highlighted in the first episode of the new Netflix Series “Spy Ops”. He holds numerous awards including the CIA Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal, the Intelligence Star, and the Director of National Intelligence Personal Medallion. He was awarded the National Eagle Scout Association’s Outstanding Eagle Scout Award in 2021**.**
* **GMD Merit Badge Day –** Will be 03/09/24. [Registration](https://site.corsizio.com/a/5bf2f8e8e6dfc6f1ca7cbd64) will open tomorrow at noon. Present Merit Badges being offered (more can be offered depending on the availability of merit badge counselors): American Heritage, Citizenship in the Community (Eagle), Citizenship in the Nation (Eagle), Citizenship in the World (Eagle), Disabilities Awareness, Emergency Preparedness (Eagle), Engineering, Family Life, Fire Safety, Genealogy, Geology, and Personal Management (Eagle).
* **Big Rock (Joint Session)**
* **District Realignment** – NCAC previously announced that they were conducting a process to determine the best way to realign districts and allocate resources. As part of this effort, they conducted:
* **Listening Session**
* [**Survey to Unit Leadership**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/jCjyqoBNf6BKFWnkSjv8cDp9)(Sent to ~2,700 people; 411 responses)
* As part of this effort the Council working group were identifying methods to improve membership. Membership questions asked at the Council-wide Key 3 meeting.
* *Do you receive relevant and timely information from council; what council resources or council committee support do you need to grow scouting?*
* *What are some audacious ideas for exponential growth of scouting?*
* *How do we package and demonstrate the scout benefit? Is the benefit leadership, patriotism, preparation for life, or something else?*
* *Who are the influencers within your communities and how do we reach them?*
* *What changes to your district would facilitate exponential growth?*
* There were many responses to these questions. There were many suggestions including:
  + Needing an information landing page
  + Put information parents need on the BeAScout.org website (including bankruptcy)
  + Need an overall marketing strategy and a timeline to execute
  + Need to get permissions to be in the schools (from the School Boards or Superintendents (not the individual principles)
  + NCAC needs a comprehensive marketing campaign that goes year round
  + Need additional District Executives to work to improve relationships with schools and possible Chartering Organization.
* **Marketing Opportunities for GMD**
* Do something like the Scout Expo, but at a public venue (e.g., mall, Merrifield, farmers market, etc.)
* Get into school events
* Put items into Patch, neighborhood lists, newsletters, etc.
* Business Card – There used to be a business-size card with 10 facts about scouting in NCAC. Had items such as # youth, # eagle scouts, # trained adults, etc.
* National Coordination –Need national policies with large organizations (e.g., PTA, VFW, AL, Optimist, etc.)
* We ask that you provide ideas we could use going forward.
* **District Annual Business Meeting /John K**
* Meeting was successful. Elected the new officers. Added 12 new people to the District Committee.
* John Kilduff will continue to be the District Chair through March/April 2024. Traci Yate, currently the VP Admin, will be the new District Chair in 2024.
* Joel Cline is the new Membership Chair
* Lee Wilkinson is the new Marketing and Communications Chair

**George Mason Program**

* **Current GM Calendar**
* February 03, 2024 – [Life to Eagle Seminar](https://scoutingevent.com/082-77316), Virtual
* February 24, 2024 – [University of Scouting,](https://scoutingevent.com/082-76291) Alexandria, VA
* March 09, 2024 – [GMD Merit Badge Day](https://site.corsizio.com/a/5bf2f8e8e6dfc6f1ca7cbd64), Fairfax, VA
* April 13, 2024 – GMD Pinewood Derby, Fairfax, VA
* May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day Flags In, Falls Church, VA
* **STEM /John D**
* 02/03/24 - [Akela Chess Classic Cub Scout Tournament](https://scoutingevent.com/082-chess), MSSC, Bethesda, MD
* 02/10/24 - [Akela Chess Classic Scouts BSA Tournament](https://scoutingevent.com/082-ChessClassic), MSSC, Bethesda, MD
* 03/23/24 – [Maryland Science Center Camp-In](https://www.mdsci.org/learn/programs-for-scouts/camp-in/), Baltimore, MD
* 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
* **Message from Liz (our District Executive) -** "I'm so sorry I wasn't able to make it tonight due to a prior engagement. I hope everyone has happy and safe holidays with your families and friends. Because of everyone here, George Mason is seen as one of the most successful districts of this year. That is because of all of your leadership. Thank you all for your continued support and I look forward to celebrating my first full year of scouting with you all next year!"
* [**Goshen**](https://gotogoshen.org)**/**[**Snyder**](https://gotosnyder.org) **Programs for 2024 –**
* [**Join the Camp Staff** –](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/uPgPdJSZyrw9yc1BGmvuJd67) Job interviews start January 2024
* [**Camp Snyder Family Camping**](https://gotosnyder.org)– April 19-21, 2024, May 10-12, 2024 & July 5-7
* [Camp Snyder Day Camping](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/SfbtxGT6N41AXnzUhsfcnA1e) – June 24-28 and July 8-12.
* [Camp Snyder Resident Weekends](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/SfbtxGT6N41AXnzUhsfcnA1e) – June 20-23, June 27-30, July 11-14
* [**Camp Snyder Specialty Week**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/BjipkwYCtuoivFD8vNhYBPK3) – Two Merit Badge Weeks July 14-July 20 & July 21-July 27
* [**Goshen Summer Camping 2024**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/rBAD2VaBfJDgDScALTCaUiiE) – Five sessions starting June 23rd. A sixth week for Camp Ross. Registration is now open.
* [**Goshen Provisional Camping**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/BjipkwYCtuoivFD8vNhYBPK3) – Camping for individual scouts (June 23-July 27).
* [**Goshen OA Trail Crew**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/BjipkwYCtuoivFD8vNhYBPK3) **–** June 16 – June 29
* [**Lenhok’sin High Adventure**](https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/MevsKmbLhmCrj39FHQaiUMzX) – Five sessions during summer 2024. Including paddling 61 miles of the historic Upper James River with 120 Class I and II rapids.
* **Cub Scout Program Updates –**
* The Cub Scout Adventure program changes are coming June 1, 2024.  The initial information about the Cub Scout Program Updates was officially released this afternoon.  The [Cub Scout Program Updates Announced | Boy Scouts of America (scouting.org)](https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/) page on the National website provides an overview of the changes coming next June 1st.  
    
  The NCAC Advancement & recognition Committee will have a representative at the December Presenters training mentioned in the chart below.  We are developing a plan to get the word out and will be able to share that after the start of the year.    
    
  Today's [#CubChatLive! (scoutingmagazine.org)](https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/) session provided a 40-minute discussion to go along with today's announcement. Here is a chart of future shows that will focus on specific update topics.  Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, please provide time each month for your district Advancement & Recognition Chair to announce the next upcoming Cub Scout Update related show.

Timeline of Cub Scout Update related shows on #CubChatLive and other related events.

* **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 input 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.
* **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/)**):**
* **01/28/24 –** [**Weather-Ready Nation Scout Event (Patch)**](https://wrnscoutevent.wixsite.com/wrnscoutevent)
* **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**
* **Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)**
* 03/23/24 & 04/27/24-04/28/24
* 10/05/24 & 11/02/24-11/03/24
* **Climbing Level 1 Instructor**
* April 20-21 at [Great Falls Park](https://www.google.com/maps/place/38%C2%B059'38.2%22N+77%C2%B015'18.4%22W/@38.9900418,-77.2608296,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x8d90ecb88e83f477!8m2!3d38.99395!4d-77.2551?hl=en), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M4dRigvijvGzelYlPn89YVOb0YMX735e/view?usp=drive_link)
* April 27-28 at[Carderock Rec Area](https://www.google.com/maps/place/38%C2%B058'33.8%22N+77%C2%B012'19.9%22W/@38.9760556,-77.2055278,144m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m4!3m3!8m2!3d38.9760556!4d-77.2055278?hl=en&entry=ttu), 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ScjaVdMtoV9MKApCww7XRCEPsZ8QBfW5/view?usp=drive_link)
* June 15-16 at [Great Falls Park](https://www.google.com/maps/place/38%C2%B059'38.2%22N+77%C2%B015'18.4%22W/@38.9900418,-77.2608296,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x8d90ecb88e83f477!8m2!3d38.99395!4d-77.2551?hl=en), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](https://drive.google.com/file/d/185J6vmz_3PzhymcYA3naBvxZ15mO4sFI/view?usp=drive_link)
* Sept 7-8 at [Great Falls Park](https://www.google.com/maps/place/38%C2%B059'38.2%22N+77%C2%B015'18.4%22W/@38.9900418,-77.2608296,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x8d90ecb88e83f477!8m2!3d38.99395!4d-77.2551?hl=en), 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iHw2RTNIG7CH_KGprjxPYr4cOf3XYsmr/view?usp=drive_link)
* Sept 21-22 at [Sugarloaf Mountain](https://www.google.com/maps/place/39%C2%B015'36.7%22N+77%C2%B023'29.1%22W/@39.25918,-77.3995313,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x11c2b45d9db7b071!8m2!3d39.260206!4d-77.391415?hl=en), 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM. [Logistics memo](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yA31KOSFdIahj8BFt46xE-lq0g8GSKYY/view?usp=drive_link)
* **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**
  + 09/10/24
  + 12/07/24
* **Wilderness First Aid (N02) -** [<https://scoutingevent.com/082-WFASpring2024>](https://scoutingevent.com/082-WFASpring2024)
* 01/27/24 0 01/28/24 – Camp Snyder
* 02/24/24 – 02/25/24 – Camp Snyder
* 03/23/24 – 03/24/24 – Camp Snyder
* 04/27/24 – 04/28/24 – Camp Snyder
* **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
* **Outdoor Ethics Orientation Courses (Scouts and Cubs)**
* **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
  + Wilderness First Aid Training – Holiday sales going on now!
    - See PDF’s attached to the notes
  + Registration dates for 2025 trips
    - NORTHERN TIER & OPIK: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
    - SEA BASE: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
    - SUMMIT: Reservations open Jan 18, 2024
    - Philmont: Lottery registration has closed, but treks are still available
  + **2024 National High Adventure Base Scholarships**
    - NORTHERN TIER:Submit by Jan 31st, 2024. Go [here](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/NorthernTier/pdf/CampershipApp.pdf) for the application.
    - PHILMONT: Up to $400. Submit by Feb 1st, 2024. Go [here](https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/scholarship-application/) for the application.
    - SUMMIT: Submit by Mar 31st, 2024. Go [here](https://www.summitbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/INSTRUCTIONS-TO-APPLY-FOR-CAMPERSHIP.pdf) for the application.
    - SEA BASE: The deadline has already passed
  + 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 - $475 per participant
    - Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-75664>
    - For more information, e-mail [highadventure@ncacbsa.org](mailto:highadventure@ncacbsa.org)
  + Wind River Range, WY: 06/22 to 06/30/24
    - Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-77027>
    - Booking up fast! Space for 4 Scouts - $1,430 per participant
    - Mandatory Practice/Training for Everyone
      * HAC Philmont Training Sessions
  + NCAC-sponsored trips for Philmont, Northern Tier & Sea Base are already full
* Training - Open to all NCAC Scouts & adults that are participating in HA trips in the next few years
  + Philmont 2024 Sessions: I – passed; 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
  + [BCOLS](https://www.ncacbsa.org/bcols/): Spring 2024 (MD): 03/02/24 (classroom), 04/27 & 28 (overnight)
  + 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 – Contact [Brian Heath](mailto:brian@bkheath.com) for more information
* NCAC High Adventure Committee is Planning for More Big High Adventure Trips
  + Backpacking in Wyoming – Summer of 2024
  + Climbing Trip to Zion National Park – Planning Underway
  + Looking for more ideas and volunteers to plan the 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**
  + 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”
* **December Roundtable** – January 11, 2023, at 7:30pm at Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA. This meeting will have Cub and Scouts BSA breakout sessions. Topics will include Cub Program Changes in 2024 and Order of the Arrow Elections.