



Goose Creek District Newsletter



June 2023

Volume 14, Issue 11

Special Interest:

District

- District Court of Honor – pg 2
- Popcorn – pg 4
- Journey to Excellence – pg 8

Advancement

- Merit Badge Prerequisites – pg 13
- Cub Scout Conservation Adventures – pg 15

Council/National

- Summer Camp Anxiety – pg 19


Quick Calendar:

- Jun 14 – Roundtable
- Aug 9 – Roundtable
- Aug 19 – Life to Eagle

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article
/Updated
Information

From *Scouting Rediscovered.*, <http://scoutingrediscovered.com/scoutcraft/dreams-and-decisions/> (link no longer active)



Dreams and Decisions

I had a dream once.

It was to make my Troop the perfect Scout Troop. I just joined Scouting and I was excited about the whole thing. I knew if I worked hard enough, I could become a leader and iron out all the wrinkles that I observed around me.

Six crazy years later, I still have that dream, and it is still just a dream.

I've learned a lot through Scouting so far, but this is one thing that strikes me as particularly important and applicable to all other areas of life: no one can simply decide to make a dream a reality. No one can wake up in the morning and decide to have a good Scout Troop or a bad one. We cannot choose our destination – we can only choose the next place we're going to place our foot.

Think about a Troop you've seen that runs a very poor Scouting program. None of the youth leaders or Scoutmasters of that Troop got up in the morning and said to themselves, "I'm going to ditch all the traditional principles of Scouting." or "I'm going to drop expectations as low as I can.". They didn't choose their destination, but they did choose all those little steps which led up to it. Maybe it was just more convenient at the time or maybe someone gave them bad advice.

Dreams are wonderful things! They give us hope; they inspire us; they guide our decisions... but unless all the little decisions are made right, then we won't ever get closer to that dream.

When I was a Patrol Leader, I dreamed of having the perfect Patrol. Now, as an adult leader, I still dream of having the perfect Troop. I wouldn't trade that dream for anything! Sometimes, though, I got so caught up in the dream that I forgot how important the little decisions were.

I can now add another item to the long list of life lessons Scouting has helped teach me: the little things matter; they are the real decisions! When a sledgehammer comes down and shatters a dream into thousands of little pieces, we can look closer and see that it was only made up of thousands of little decisions.

Little decisions - Are they strong? Are they right? I try to make mine better every day!

The newsletter staff is taking the month of July off, the next district newsletter will be August 2023. Enjoy summer camp!

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



District Court of Honor



The District Court of Honor (CoH) was held to recognize and appreciate the dedicated volunteers in the Goose Creek District. The event honored exceptional leaders from our Units and those who serve our District. Several awards were presented, including the GCD Chapter Order of the Arrow Vigil Honorees, District Eagle Scout Awards, Unit Scouters of the Year, Commissioner Awards, and the 2023 District Key Three Award. The highlight of the event, which took place on the evening of May 24 at Belmont Ridge Middle School, was the presentation of the District Award of Merit to two deserving leaders.

2022 OA Vigil Honorees:

Rich Pender
Donna Stuck
Rob Shirley

District Commissioner's Award:

John Witek, CAPT Dise Commissioner College Dean's Award
Craig Reichow, CAPT Dise Commissioner College Dean's Award
Scott Bashore, 2022 & 2023 Commissioner College Teaching Award

2023 Unit Volunteer of the Year:

Mickie Joseph - Troop 997	Lynda Clarkson - Troop 1158
Jennifer Sikora - Troop 2970	Debrah Wintermute - Troop 2970
Sean Westberry - Crew 1430	Janelle Irrgang - Troop 1148
John Keffer - Troop 1430	Siddiq Qidwai - Troop 1576
Daniel Golding - Troop 761	Frank Levine - Troop 966

2023 GCD Key Three Award for Outstanding Contributions to District Service:

John Blackwell

District Award of Merit:

Rob Winter
Tim Ashley

Mr. Terry Kolb, GCD Program Chair, emceed the CoH, Mr. Rob Painter, GCD Chair, provided a 'State of the District' address, Mr. Thomas Prince, GCD Commission, shared a brief update of the accomplishments of the District Commissioner core, and Rev. William Wilson, GCD Chaplin, provided the opening and closing benedictions. The evening was concluded with cake and refreshments. Congratulations to all of our 2023 District awardees, and a special thanks to our GCD Scouts, Scouters, Parents, and Volunteers who make Scouting possible throughout our county and our Council!

But wait, there's more! Goose Creek's very own Scott Bashore (T2970) joined NCAC's 2023 Class of Silver Beavers and received recognition for his distinguished service during the Council Court of Honor held on May 13, 2023 at Camp Synder. Congrats Scott!



Goose Creek Day/Twilight Camp

Off to the Races



WWW.GOTODAYCAMP.ORG
FOR INFORMATION
AND REGISTRATION

GOOSE CREEK DISTRICT 2023 DAY & TWILIGHT CAMP

FOR RISING TIGERS THROUGH RISING ARROW OF LIGHT CUB SCOUTS
CAMP WILLIAM B. SNYDER 6100 ANTIOCH RD, HAYMARKET
QUESTIONS? SHANNON KLEE, GOOSECREEKCUBCAMP@GMAIL.COM OR 317-833-3138



DAY

JUNE 12-16

M-TH 8:30AM-4:30PM

F 8:30AM-2:00PM

OPENING FLAGS 8-45AM

TWILIGHT

JUNE 12-15

M-TH 6:00PM-DUSK

SCOUTS BSA MEMBERS
& ADULT VOLUNTEERS
[HTTPS://RB.GY/90P6](https://rb.gy/90p6)



REGISTRATION FEE
DAY
\$240 REGULAR THRU 5/31 |
\$270 LATE AFTER 6/1
TWILIGHT
\$140 REGULAR THRU 5/31 |
\$160 LATE AFTER 6/1




This just came in through the grapevine: registration has been extended through June 6.




Popcorn

POPCORN  =  POPCORN  = 

Hello dear Scouters! I am writing to you from the  BSA Camp at St.

Croix!   (article and pics to come)

This vacation has inspired me, there are endless opportunities for you and your Scouts! However, your Unit maybe in need of funds.

Does your Unit need money?  , yes, well....

Let's get your Unit signed up to sell popcorn!

It has never been any easier!!!

Questions you may have.



Do we have to call and book locations to sell popcorn? NOPE, Trails End has called and booked dozens of sites for you! **DOZENS**, throughout Loudoun County.



Is it a pain to book dates when our Unit will sell? NOPE, share the dates with your Unit, families may sign up for specific times and dates that best fit their schedule or groups of Scouts may sign up on multiple different days, to sell popcorn. Whatever is easiest!



How do we split the money raised? EASY, those Scouts who participate at a selling location will divide the money between themselves. For example, five scouts sign up, and sell \$600.00 total, in one day. 5/\$600.00. \$120.00 goes towards each Scout's Account, within the Unit. That way, each Scout knows exactly how much to sell; to reach their budget needed for Summer Camp, Unit Camps/Activities, District Events or High Adventures.


-It also increases participation.-



What is a Unit Popcorn Kernel? A Unit Popcorn Kernel is an awesome volunteer, within your Unit, who graciously keeps the Unit on track of their progress, informs the Unit of selling availabilities and picks up popcorn products.



Does a Kernal have to take notes and prepare them for the Unit? NOPE, all communication the Kernal provides to the Unit is created by the District Popcorn


Kernal, just share.  And, most importantly cheer on your Unit!





Does every Unit have their own Popcorn Kernal? YES, **Who is your Kernal?** Please, email me their contact information. Melainie.leitert@scouting.com.





Can my District Executive help provide Popcorn products, so I do not have to drive to Bethesda all of the time? YES, absolutely, I sure can! Hit me up via text 517-990-4770 & I will take care of you! Always.


 What if my Unit prefers to raise money, as a whole; how can we determine our budget? EASY PEASY, use the budget sheet to find out exactly how much popcorn to sell. See attachment.

 Need *POPCORN SWAG*, want to *LEARN MORE*, would like to get *STARTED* or *PICK UP* fun items for your Unit?
Please, join us, **Tuesday JULY 25th, 6:30-8:30PM** at the Sterling Ruritan.
Address: 183 Ruritan Road, Sterling, VA 20164
I would absolutely LOVE to see a Unit Kernal or a representative from each Unit!


 Are there any upfront cost to the Unit to sell popcorn? NO


 Are there prizes? YES, there is a built-in prize program.

 Other than earning money, are there any other benefits for the Scouts? YES, selling popcorn contributes toward earning requirements for rank, advancements, and for multiple merit badges!

 Is there a link my Scouts can use to send to friends and family to place an order? YES


 Is the campaign supported by the community? YES


 May our Unit or friends & family of our Unit purchase popcorn to have it sent to the military or first responders? ABSOLUTELY

 What traits can our Scouts learn? Builds Public Speaking, Confidence, ability to Count Money, Balancing a budget, Customer Service, Feeling a sense of Pride by working hard to accomplish a goal, and a sense of Community ownership within the Unit.

 How can I easily keep up to date? www.facebook.com/NCACPopcorn

 How do I register for a Popcorn Training? www.NCACBSA.org/popcorn

 Is there a QR Code I can share with my Scouting Parents and Scouting Leaders to sign up for a Popcorn Training? YES

 If our Unit has a representative at the Popcorn Training, does that mean we have to sell? NO
Thank YOU for reading the little Q and A section!
Let's get popping!
Remember to please, email me your Kernal or Popcorn Representative from your

Unit    

Thank you for all that you do in Scouting!
Yours in Scouting,
Melainie

Friends of Scouting



Funds DOUBLED for Goose Creek District Scouts - Friends of Scouting Campaign



- DOUBLED through JUNE

Some of our Goose Creek District Units were unable to squeeze in their FOS Presentations before the end of May, therefore, we are going to have an

EMAIL/TELEPHONE THON to wrap up. 

This event will allow us to reach our 100% Unit District Participation Goal, and there is an extra incentive for those who have been wanting to give a gift and have not found the time to do so.

The extra incentive- our gifts will be matched up to \$100,000.00!

Shortly, you will be receiving an email from your Scouting Leaders encouraging you to participate, followed up with a tele call

You are also more than welcome to participate now by going to www.ncacbsa.org/give.

PLEASE, make sure you enter Goose Creek as your DISTRICT and enter your UNIT NUMBER to receive credit.

After going to www.ncacbsa.org/give click on: the ADDITIONAL INFORMATION drop-down, fill in DISTRICT and UNIT.



THANK YOU!



What does a Friends of Scouting investment provide? Your gift impacts the lives of Loudoun County youth.

Will my gift stay in our District? Yes, your investment will stay in Goose Creek District. You can even choose a Unit for your gift to go directly towards.

How much does each Scout annually cost by receiving a year of quality programs? \$240.00.

Will the company I work for match my charitable gift? They could! Please, be sure to enter your company's name and the system will find whether your workplace has a program. If so, you'll double your impact!

May I pledge an amount and pay in increments? Absolutely!

What does my gift specifically provide to the youth of Goose Creek District?

- Local programs and activities throughout Loudoun County
- 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
- Insurance coverage to protect volunteers, chartered organizations, staff members and properties
- Camp equipment: tents, cooking equipment, camp vehicles, building repairs, canoes, equipment replacement and repair, and general upkeep of council camps to keep facilities available for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events
- Professional staff who counsel, guide, and inspire volunteer leadership
- Volunteer and staff training
- A council website to keep everyone informed
- Reference publications and resources
- Opportunities to attend summer camp and high-adventure events
- Advancement programs where Scouts are recognized for learning and achievement of goals they set
- Each Eagle Scout receives the black velvet kit containing the prestigious Eagle medal on a ribbon, an Eagle Scout pin, an Eagle Scout embroidered emblem and three pins: for Mom, Dad and Mentor, a \$50.00 purchase that Units do not have to budget for
- Distribution and development of literature and training-materials
- Leadership training for young people who will become future community leaders

How will my gift specifically impact the youth of Goose Creek District?

- Scouts develop foundational values and strong morals.
- Scouting activities teach countless core values that build character.
- Scouting creates many opportunities to experience our natural world!
- Friendships are forged through shared experiences.
- Learning skills to become capable and dependable by continually learning and overcoming challenges.
- Scouts learn they are capable of accomplishing anything they set their mind to.
- They can trust that within themselves lies the strength and skills to overcome obstacles. With competence comes confidence!
- Scouts have hands-on experiences in a safe, risk-free environment, which helps leadership skills to flourish!
- Learning how to “Be Prepared” by distinguishing goals, creating checklists and learning time management.
- Scouting also teaches something much deeper: an understanding and trust in oneself.

All these factors prepare Scouts for continued success in life!

And, all Goose Creek District youth deserve to receive the BEST in Scouting Programs!

That is where you come in, and you play a vital role.

THANK YOU for making a difference!



All gifts to NCAC are tax deductible.

Please consult with your tax preparer for details.

www.NCACBSA.org/GIVE





Webelos-o-ree 2023



Save the date for GCD's Webelos-o-ree from September 30th to October 1st at Camp Snyder! All Bear and Webelos scouts are welcome to this annual scouting festival where Scouts BSA troops demonstrate their skills and encourage Cubs to join a troop. Cubs can expect to participate in shooting sports, build fires, learn knots, practice first aid skills, enjoy good food and much more! The Webelos-o-ree promises to complete several Arrow of Light requirements, so plan ahead for your Webelos and Bears.. This is a camping event, but options are available for those who only want to spend the day with us.

Scouts BSA troops looking to volunteer please contact Joe Kotch and Charles Thornton at joe.kotch11@gmail.com and scouterchalis@gmail.com respectively.



Congratulations on your Journey to Excellence



Congratulations to our Goose Creek Units that achieved their Journey to Excellence goals and ratings of gold, silver, and bronze level. In achieving your Journey to Excellence goals your unit demonstrated that you have a well planned and structured approach for the delivery of a quality Scouting program designed to ensure everyone in your unit has a great Scouting experience.

As a result of achieving your JTE goals your unit is entitled to purchase from the Scout Supply Store the Journey to Excellence patch (Gold, Silver, or Bronze) for your unit leaders and youth members to proudly wear on your Scout uniforms.

For those units that did not submit a JTE scorecard, contact your Unit Commissioner to see about setting your JTE goals for 2023 and participating in this important program for planning and delivering a quality Scouting program that is designed to ensure a great Scouting experience for all your members.

Gold:

Crew 1430 Pack 311F Pack 962F Pack 1148F Pack 1154F
 Pack 1158F Pack 1162F Pack 2013B Pack 2019F Troop 58B
 Troop 761B Troop 950B Troop 982B Troop 1158B Troop 1158G
 Troop 1159B Troop 1430B Troop 1941B Troop 2011B Troop 2012B
 Troop 2012G

Silver:

Pack 1483F Pack 1666F Troop 1907B

Bronze:

Troop 970B



Venturing an Opportunity for Adventure, Leadership, and Service



Many of our older Scouts and youth in our community are interested in being part of a program that empowers and gives them an opportunity to plan, lead and participate in adventures, opportunities, and interests of their choice. This includes such interests as high adventure, fun filled teen oriented activities, community service, and even international travel.

Venturing is a year-round program for young men and women ages 14-20 (or 13 and have completed 8th grade) that provides positive experiences through exciting and meaningful youth-run activities that help them pursue their special interests, grow by teaching others, and develop leadership skills.

Venturing uses four areas of emphasis to help the crew plan and carry out its program. ALPS stands for: Adventure, Leadership, Personal Growth, and Service. Venturing's areas of emphasis are the four pillars around which the crew will construct a fun and rewarding program to prepare for their future, regardless of if that may be in college, the workforce, or elsewhere.

The Venturing program compliments the traditional ScoutBSA program. It enables our older youth to extend their Scouting experience from their teen years to early adult years. Venturing empowers our youth and enables them to develop essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication, and responsibility while having a blast!

Youth who are part of the ScoutBSA program can be registered with both a Scout Troop and a Venture Crew. This enables them to participate and enjoy the opportunities and experiences offered through both the ScoutBSA and Venturing program. In addition, Venturing is a coed program that provides the opportunity for young men and women to learn to work together and share the Scouting experience in a structured environment.

For more information about joining or starting a Venturing Crew, contact our District Executive or Unit Commissioner for Venturing and Explorers, Brian Zabella.



Shooting Sports Corner



Last Reminder! This coming Saturday, 3 June 2023, is the last offering of NCAC Rangemaster training. Please attend if you're considering supervising Cub Scout Range events or assisting with Scouts BSA range events. Here is the registration link: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70751>

Please keep in mind that BSA registration and current YPT certification are required to serve on NCAC ranges.



Unit Growth Conference

With school ending soon, it is time to think about year-round recruiting and Join Scouting Nights when school begins again on August 14th.

The National Capital Area Council is planning a conference to help unit leaders prepare for recruiting. Here are the details on the conference:



National Capital Area Council's 2023 Unit Growth Conference

Unit Key-3 Leaders, New Member Coordinators, Commissioners, and anyone looking to grow their unit's membership are invited to NCAC's 2023 Unit Growth Conference!

Topics Covered:

How to market your Unit

Best Practices for Joining Events

NCAC's One-Stop-Shop for Membership

Recruitment & Marketing material pick-up

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
8304 Old Keene Mill Rd, Springfield, VA 22152
Saturday June 10, 2023
9:00am - 12:00pm

We hope to see you there.



Save the Date – Freeze-o-ree 2024



Save the Date - January 26-28 - Goose Creek District Freeze-O-Ree. Presented by the Goose Creek Chapter of the Order of the Arrow. This year - Yeti Mania!

LOL



Three Scouts were bragging about how tough they were.

"I wear out a pair of hiking boots in a month," the first Scout said.

"I wear out a pair of Scout pants in a week," the second Scout said.

"That's nothing," the last Scout said, "I wear out a leader in 20 minutes."



Cheerful Service Chatter”

Chapter News for our Arrowmen

Lodge Website: wipit470.org/



OA Chatter



Congratulations to new 2023-2024 Goose Creek Chapter Officers

Position	Scout	Unit
Chapter Chief:	Andrew Weitzel	Troop 58
Vice Chief - Elections	Allison Tay	Troop 1148
Vice Chief - West (Freeze-O-Ree)	Ian Pender	Troop 997
Vice Chief - Ceremonies	Brendan Callaghan	Troop 997
Vice Chief - Health & Safety	Sierra Price	Troop 2970
Vice Chief - Communications	John Moye	Troop 2012



Order of the Arrow Unit Representative (OAUR)



The OAUR is a youth leadership position (counts toward rank advancement) serving Troops and Crews across Scouting. Simply put, an OAUR serves as a communications conduit between an Arrowman’s unit, and his or her local OA Chapter. But there’s a lot more to it than that: The OAUR normally serves on their home unit PLC, providing activity and scheduling information during planning sessions. The OAUR also serves as an advocate for some of the primary focus points of the OA – promoting regular outdoor activities and camping, high adventure, and participation in service opportunities. Likewise, the OAUR attends OA chapter meetings, and provides information to the chapter regarding unit needs. Finally, the OAUR works with his or her home unit to facilitate annual OA elections, help elected candidates schedule and complete their induction, and in general encourages Arrowmen to take advantage of OA training, assume leadership positions in their home unit, and participate actively in chapter and/or lodge activities.

We strongly encourage use of this youth leadership position by all units. If an Arrowman is appointed (by the SPL with the approval of the unit leader), please let the Goose Creek Chapter Chief know, as we post the position in the Lodge’s leadership database, so we have a ready contact list of all OAURs for targeted communication of upcoming training and other opportunities. Likewise, please let us know who your unit has designated as the OA Unit Rep Adviser (typically an ASM or Committee Member).

Andrew Weitzel, Goose Creek Chapter Chief – chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org

Rich Pender, Goose Creek Chapter Adviser – rich.pender@goosecreekdistrict.org

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

Wyatt Adams – Troop 961

William Baggett – Troop 2950

James Butler – Troop 966

Joseph Foosaner – Troop 2950

Charles Hughes – Troop 961

Maxwell Humphrey – Troop 2950

Colin Lavery – Troop 572

Tristan Mackey – Troop 961

Zachary Pownall – Troop 163

Jacob Ridderhoff – Troop 962

Jacob Rigoli – Troop 572

Micheal Sierra – Troop 982



Merit Badge Counselors: Facts about Limits and Counseling Family Members



All answers are from the *Guide to Advancement*

Is there a limit to the number of merit badges an individual may counsel?

Answer: The National Council places no limit on the number of merit badges an individual may be approved to counsel, except to the extent a person lacks skills and education in a given subject. The intent is for Scouts to learn from those with an appropriate level of expertise.

Although it is permissible for councils to limit the number of badges that one person counsels, it must not do so to the point where Scouts’ choices, especially in small or remote units, are so limited as to serve as a barrier to advancement.

Is there a limit to the number of merit badges a Scout may earn from a single counselor?

Answer: (continued from previous answer) Neither does the National Council place a limit on the number of merit badges a youth may earn from one counselor.

However, in situations where a Scout is earning a large number of badges from just one counselor, the unit leader is permitted to place a limit on the number of merit badges that may be earned from one counselor, as long as the same limit applies to all Scouts in the unit.

Can someone counsel his or her own family member?

Answer: Approved counselors may work with and pass any member, including their own son, ward, or relative.

Nevertheless, we often teach young people the importance of broadening horizons. Scouts meeting with counselors beyond their families and beyond even their own 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.



Swimming and Advancement for All Scouts



Swimming is an integral part of the BSA, having rank requirements in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Sea Scouts. Getting Scouts into the water and having a safe fun time goes a long way to teaching them lifelong skills that may someday save their life. Early swim lessons can help Scouts become better swimmers and lead them to the successful completion of their rank requirements.

The Aquatics goals are not to further traumatize a Scout who cannot swim but to challenge them. Every willing Scout should have an opportunity to get into the water and have fun. Many swimming area hours get dedicated to advancement-related activities like merit badges, Cub adventures, and special award opportunities like snorkel, scuba, and mile swim. However, opportunities for recreational time in the water are especially important for Scouts with disabilities so they can try new things, have fun in the water, and cool off on hot days.

Some Scouts have disabilities that are obvious, like physical disabilities, blindness, deafness, or Down syndrome. Physical disabilities include people who need mobility equipment like wheelchairs and crutches, but also include people that have limited strength, endurance, or coordination. For every obvious disability you encounter, there will be several Scouts with less obvious special needs like learning disabilities, ADHD, autism, history of seizures, or anxiety disorders. Young swimmers may need extra support and consideration even though they are not disabled and do not have an identified special need.

If a Scout has a disability that would prevent them from completing their rank requirements then they and their unit should follow the procedures set forth in the Guide to Advancement Section 10,

<https://www.scouting.org/resources/guide-to-advancement/>.

Section BB-1 of the Inclusion Toolbox, with a link on the Scouting website, <https://www.scouting.org/resources/disabilities-awareness/> goes into details on many strategies covering Scout Swim areas at our camps.

Scouts time in the water should be a challenging, learning, and fun time – all in a safe environment.



Edit/Advance sub-units—now in Internet Advancement



Internet Advancement

We are arriving at the end of the school year when many Cub Scouts and Scouts are graduating to a new grade level. BSA policy is that on June 1, all Cub Scouts advance to the next level.

This function can now be completed in Internet Advancement and comes with the added function of being able to demote a den in case a mistake was made. (In Scoutbook, administrators are unable to demote dens once they have advanced to the next program level, which can be problematic.)

We also recommend advancing dens from the top down (Bears → Webelos, then Wolves → Bears, etc.). If done the other way, such as doing Wolves first and then Bears it can be a bit tricky trying to remember which Cubs were the Wolves now Bear and which are the Bears that you need to advance to Webelos.



Why Most Merit Badge 'Prerequisites' Really Aren't Prerequisites



Often merit badge fairs/days/nights and summer camps will list the merit badges being offered and next to each the prerequisites. Looking up the definition of prerequisite from Merriam-Webster finds:

noun | pre·req·ui·site | something that you officially must have or do before you can have or do something else

The key words here are 'officially' and 'before.' If you go through the requirements for all 136 merit badges looking for that you'll find that in reality only nine merit badges actually have prerequisites that need to be done before the event:

- Scuba Diving – requirement #2 states that Swimming MB must be earned before doing requirements 3 through 6,
- Whitewater – requirement #3 states that either Canoeing MB or Kayaking MB must be earned before doing requirements 4 through 12, and
- Personal Fitness – requirement #1 states that your health-care practitioner must give you a physical examination before doing requirements 2 through 9.
- All of the aquatic merit badges (Canoeing, Kayaking, Lifesaving, Motorboating, Rowing, Small Boat Sailing, Swimming, and Water Sports) require the Scout to pass the BSA Swimmer Test before doing the other requirements. Lifesaving also requires some of the 2nd Class and 1st Class swimming requirements be done. These requirements, however, are usually covered at the beginning of the session or camp.
- Sustainability – requirement #1 states that a Scout must write in their own words the meaning of sustainability before doing any of the other requirements. Like the aquatic badges, this requirement is usually covered as part of the session.

Notes:

- Emergency Preparedness – requirement #1 states the Scout must earn the First Aid MB, but it does not have that key word 'before' in it, so it's just another requirement that needs to be done, sometime. A Scout can do all of the other requirements for this merit badge but it cannot be completed until the First Aid merit badge is earned.

So what do the organizers of these events mean when they say prerequisite? What they are actually saying is these are the requirements that won't/can't be covered during the course and that need to be done by the Scout beforehand if he wants to **complete** the merit badge by the end of the course, otherwise all he'll receive is a partial. A Scout who doesn't do the prerequisites can still take the class and complete the offered requirements. Once they complete the class and do other requirements on their own, another merit badge counselor will be able to check them out and complete the blue card.

We do urge the Scouts, however, to do the 'prerequisites' and complete the merit badge and avoid partials because they are often set aside and only completed later (in some cases years later) when needed for a rank advancement.

★ Cub Scout Conservation Adventures and Awards Make the World a Better Place

Conservation Advancement Adventures is a wonderful way to learn about our environment and take care of the places we will visit over the summer break, potentially including a locally held day camp. There are even three awards Scouts can earn by accomplishing this with a few extra steps – the Cub Scout World Conservation Award, the Conservation Good Turn Award, and the Messenger of Peace Award.



World Conservation Award

World Conservation Award provides another opportunity for individual youth members to “think globally” and “act locally” to preserve and improve our environment. This program is designed to make youth aware that all nations are closely related through natural resources and that we are interdependent with our world environment. Applications for this award are available at the council service center.

The World Conservation Award can be found here:

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/world-conservation/>

It has many of the required Adventures and a few more steps that Scouts may be able to complete at Cub Scout day camp, such as constructing a bird feeder if they are a Bear.



Messenger of Peace Award

There is even an international award Cub Scouts and other Scouts across the globe can earn called the Messenger of Peace Award and it has a patch that can be purchased for completing the Inspire, Learn & Decide,

<https://www.scouting.org/international/messengers-of-peace/>

Do, and Share process and followed by the unit leader logging in the project. This can be earned at all levels of Scouting for conservation efforts in your community through projects and then sharing about those projects.

Conservation Good Turn

Ideas beyond the Adventures and Awards can be found in many places and Scouts can earn a Conservation Good Turn Certificate for participating.

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-good-turn/>

A Conservation Good Turn certificate is available at the council service center for units that participate and report on their efforts. A Conservation Good Turn patch is also available for purchase at the council service center to recognize individual youth and adult members who participate in a meaningful conservation project.





Life-to-Eagle Seminar



The next L2E Seminar is tentatively scheduled for.

Date: 3rd Saturday in either July or August (vacation-dependent)

Time: 10:00 – 2:00

Place: <a Loudoun County Public Library 'near you'>

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.

Updated YPT Requirement for Merit Badge Sessions



BSA has recently updated YPT requirements for merit badge sessions. If one Scout is working with a Merit Badge Counselor, YPT compliance may be achieved by having one of the Scout's parents present (unchanged). However, if more than one Scout is involved, YPT requires that both adults be registered adult volunteers (this is a new, strengthened requirement).



Be Prepared to Earn Awards this Summer



You and your Scout might already be looking forward to summertime fun. It's a great time to get outdoors, earn some awards a little more conducive to the season and make lifelong memories. But to ensure maximum enjoyment, you should make sure you're in shape to accomplish your goals.

As Scouting magazine columnist Jeff Csatri points out in the latest issue, now is the time to get physically fit for the summer. [His column on the Mile Swim BSA award](#) breaks down how you can gradually train for the challenging award. The Boy Scouts of America offers many awards, some perfect to do during the summer, like hiking, conservation and, especially, aquatics.

To see a list of most of the awards that can be worked on over the summer by Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, Venturers, and adults go to this [Aaron on Scouting's post](#).



Planning and Safely Conducting Service Projects



The National Safety and Health Committee has issued two documents that work together to assist youth and adult leaders in planning and safely conducting service projects: [SAFE Service Planning Checklist](#), and its companion, [SAFE Project Tool Use](#)

National Capital Area Council Policy on Group Merit Badge Instruction



The NCAC Advancement & Recognition Committee has adopted a new policy clarifying when Council or District permission is required for merit badge classes or event that involve Scouts from multiple units. Please review the policy and let District Advancement Chair Alan Steiner know if you have any questions.

This policy shall apply to all Group Merit Badge Instruction events occurring within the geographic boundaries of the NCAC and employing NCAC registered and approved Merit Badge Counselors. All merit badge instruction within the Council must comply with BSA Youth Protection, the Guide to Safe Scouting and the Guide to Advancement.

- A troop, crew or ship can use group instruction of merit badges within their unit without seeking approval from the council or district.
- Citizenship in Society merit badge counselors may accept Scouts from outside their unit without obtaining district approval if doing so will promote discussion. Consideration should be given to having participating Scouts within 2 years of age.
- With the exception of units sponsored by NCAC, units with the same chartering organization may offer group merit badge instruction solely to the members of the linked units. Units sponsored by NCAC will need to seek district or council approval to offer group merit badge instruction to youth outside their unit.
- If a unit decides to sponsor a merit badge event featuring multiple merit badges and solicits Scouts from outside their unit to participate, or an individual counselor solicits scouts from multiple units, or the district sponsors such an event, they must get district advancement committee approval to conduct the event. This affords the district advancement committee the opportunity to ensure compliance with the Guide To Advancement guidance on group instruction.
- Council level groups such as Aquatics, Shooting Sports, any religious committee, and STEM must get approval from either the Council Advancement Chair, Council Merit Badge Dean, or NCAC Advancement Committee Staff Advisor.
- Outside organizations to the BSA must always receive council approval from one of the aforementioned positions.
- To expedite council/district advancement committee approval of an event, sponsoring organizations should submit, at a minimum, the information described in Appendix A (next article in newsletter) 30 days prior to the event. Districts, with the approval of their Key Three, may request additional information if they choose.

Appendix A - Group Merit Badge Instruction Plan



The following policy regarding merit badge group instruction is established by the council advancement and recognition committee.

1. Provide the names of participating counselors along with the badges they propose to counsel to the district merit badge dean. This allows the district to ensure the counselors are currently registered, approved to counsel the badge they propose to counsel and have current Youth Protection Training.
2. Describe how the sponsoring organization will comply with the Guide to Advancement, BSA Youth Protection and the Guide to Safe Scouting. If there will be Co-ed classes, the sponsor should describe how it will comply with BSA requirements in this area.
3. Group Merit Badge events providing Aquatics or Shooting Sports merit badges must explain how the event will deal with safety concerns related to these activities.
4. Confirm the sponsoring organization informed Scouts, parents, and leaders that an event with limited time frequently results in a partial merit badge.
5. The sponsoring organization must tell scouts, parents and leaders how to report concerns about merit badge counseling issues.

★ Innovation Academy - Scouts BSA Merit Badge & Nova Stem Award Summer Camps



Welcome to scouts and non-scouts! Students may earn four BSA badges and awards: Model Design and Building, Electronics, Welding merit badges and The Next Big Thing Nova Award, all in one week! Students will get hands-on experience working with:

- CAD
- 3D printing
- Laser cutting
- Soldering
- Welding

Students will get the real-world experience of time management while completing several hands-on projects throughout the week. This is a fast-paced camp best for students who are eager to learn and put in the hard work.

Rising grades 7-12 June 26 - June 30 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Rising grades 7-12 August 7 - August 11 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Military and Family Discounts 10% Off. Our merit badge counselors are trained and registered with NCAC BSA for the badges we teach.

Cost: \$500

Register at: <https://buildmo.com/offerings/innovation-academy-scouts-bsa>

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org



How To Help Scouts Who Have Anxiety About Attending Summer Camp



Anxiety is a perfectly natural emotion for some Scouts to feel in the weeks and months leading up to summer camp. The good news is, we – the adults – are the perfect people to help.

Summer camp is great, not just for Scouts, but also for parents and leaders. That doesn't mean, however, that everything is going to go 100% smoothly. In fact, overcoming those obstacles is a big part of what makes it so great.

Your child could very well leave for camp a nervous wreck and return home a stronger, confident young person. That doesn't mean they can't use some support in the meantime.

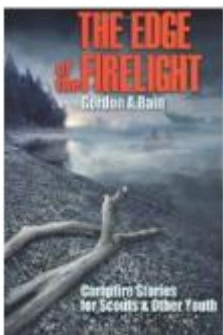
The key to helping your child get over pre-camp nerves is to acknowledge their feelings and give them tools to help them tame them, according to the Child Mind Institute, one of the leading nonprofits specializing in children's mental health.

Don't tell them simply, "Don't worry about it — you'll be fine," for example. Instead, tell them that you understand their concerns, and you're ready to have a conversation about it whenever they are.

Here are [some ways you can discuss this topic with your nervous Scout](#).



Book – The Edge of the Firelight – Campfire Stories



Wisconsin Scoutmaster Gordon Bain authored this collection of eleven campfire stories for his Scouts. Imagine hunkering around the fire and hearing a very credible account of someone you know, or a place you have been. Just enough factual information to draw you in, but with an eerie twist that raises the hair on the back of your neck.

Titles like *The Missing Bugler*, and *The Demon Troop* are evidence that Bain has woven plenty of Scouting into his writing making *The Edge of the Firelight* much more than just another collection of generic ghost stories.

The Edge of the Firelight will give you plenty of material for introducing your Scouts to the grand old tradition of storytelling around the campfire. (Of course everyone knows if you point the toes of your shoes to the north at night you'll never have a bad dream, now – where did I put my compass?)

Available from Amazon in paperback (\$9) and Kindle (\$8). Only one review so far but the customer did give it 5 stars.



Parental Tips for Preventing Homesickness at Summer Camp



It is not at all uncommon for kids to get homesick at camp, especially their first time. Parents can do a lot to help with the situation. These recommended steps may seem counter-intuitive in some cases, but they're based on many years of summer camp experience. The key is helping the Scout to live in the moment – to stay focused on the activities they are involved in at camp rather than dwelling on what they are missing back home.

- It helps if your Scout attends Webelos resident camp with a parent along, before they first goes off to camp on their own for a week. Although they may still get homesick their first time at camp without you, they will get over it more quickly because camp is not a totally unfamiliar experience.
- Your attitude before camp makes a huge difference. As much as you might want to tell your Scout how much you (and their siblings, Grandma, the dog, etc.) will miss them ... don't. We are not suggesting you lie to them about it or act as if you're glad to get rid of them, but focus your conversations on the things they will be doing at camp, rather than what they will be missing at home.
- Do not make promises that you will come get them early if.... Instead, help them to focus on how they can use the resources available to them at camp – their fellow campers, unit leaders, and the camp staff – to deal with any problems or concerns they have while away.
- Send letters or even care packages. Make sure you mail them early enough to get to camp while they are still there. If you send them early, mark on the envelope what day you want us to give it to them. Keep the letters positive, and again focus on what a good time they must be having at camp, rather than what they are missing at home. And whatever you do, don't say that you miss them (even though you do). This can often trigger a major case of homesickness.
- Don't plan on phone calls to or from camp. Do not ask your Scout to call you and do not promise to call them. Most camps have limited phone service that might make it impossible for them to call or for you to reach them. More importantly, experience shows that Scouts often become more homesick, not less, after a call home. Talking to Mom or Dad makes them focus on what's happening at home rather than what's going on at camp.
- For the same reason, do not allow your Scout to take a cell phone to camp, even if there is cell service available.

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.

\$30 per participant for a weekend of tent camping and adventure. Additional fees for shooting and cooking programs. We will not provide meals.

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



Two Things You (probably) Didn't Think About Taking to Summer Camp

Excerpted from Scoutmaster Clarke Green, May 28 2014.

Two humble things find a number of uses at summer camp; clothespins and index cards.

I usually have a pocket full of index cards, and use them all day long to take notes, leave messages, and post reminders or notices for youth leaders. With clothespins or thumbtacks I can clip them to a tent flap, a branch, or pin them to our bulletin board.



Here are some ideas that you may find useful and fun:

1. Simple “where is” board.

Someone is usually trying to find me at camp, or I am looking for someone else. A simple “where is” note can help folks figure out where to look first.

2. Summer Camp Chore Chart

Here's one idea your Senior Patrol Leader can use to assign patrol tasks for the day.



3. Notes and Notices

I can be reasonably sure a Scout will find a note clipped to their tent flap. I can use the same method to distribute mail from home or other information a particular Scout or youth leader needs.

4. Clothespin Obstacle Course

Two Scouts use 5 clothespins to attach themselves together and follow an obstacle course. The team who completes the course with the most pins still attached wins.

5. Clothespin Endurance Champion

Each Scout holds a clothespin pinched open between two fingers with their arm fully extended and elbow straight at shoulder level. The last Scout to hold this position wins.

6. Clothespin Hunt

A number of marked or colored clothespins are hidden around the campsite. The patrol who finds the most in a given time wins.

7. Clothespin Challenge

Which Scout or Patrol, in the opinion of their fellow Scouts, can create the best animal, gadget, or inventive use for clothespins by the end of the week? Whittling, a couple of Popsicle sticks from the trading post, some glue, lashings or the addition of other found objects – amazing things can be made from clothespins.

8. Hanging Clothes

Goes without saying, but I'll say it anyway.



V3 HIKE-O-REE 2023



The 32nd Annual V3 (originally named for Venturing, Varsity, and Venture) Hike-o-ree will be held October 28-30, 2023, at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, Front Royal, VA. Registration is limited to trail capacities of the fifteen trails. The Hike-o-ree is open to all Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Scouts BSA Troops. Units must form trail crews consisting of no more than 12 members, including at least two adults. If a unit has more than 12 simply form another crew (with proper adult leadership). The minimum age to participate is 13.

BSA units will need to comply with the Guide to Safe Scouting, etc., and meet the safety requirements therein. All BSA Scouts and Scouters that hike must bring a current BSA Annual Health and Medical Record, parts A, and B, and meet the weight limits on part C.

Trail crews will be assigned a hike based on the preferences indicated in their registration. All hikes are approximately ten miles in length and range in difficulty from moderate (1500 foot change in elevation) to super strenuous (2600 foot change in elevation). Other Hike-o-ree activities include a Friday night opening rally, a Saturday night High Adventure Rally, and a service project on Sunday morning. Crews receive their Hike-o-ree t-shirts Saturday night.

The Hike-o-ree is intended to be an introduction to backpacking and shakedown. Therefore, camping at the 4-H Center is BACKPACKING style using ONLY backpacking equipment. Bring ONLY what you can carry in your backpack. Come prepared to cook outdoors; bring a trail tarp. Do not bring chuck boxes, coolers, Dutch ovens, propane tanks, camp lanterns, etc.!!

Registration on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS begins on August 1, 2023, on the BSA National Capital Area Council website.

Unit deposit is required to reserve a particular hike not later than October 7, 2023. After you register for a hike and pay your deposit, you will be sent a confirmation email with the leader's package and detailed information about the hike you have selected.

Because of the lead-time required to produce the t-shirts, the final date to provide shirt numbers and sizes (S, M, L, XL, 2XL) is October 14. No additional orders can be taken after that date. Submit payment and final shirt orders online on BSA National Capital Area Council website.

The cost of the Hike-o-ree is \$30.00 per participant.

For additional information contact:

Joe Flaig, (703) 250-9791 (H), jwflaig@aol.com

Dominick Caridi, (703) 625-4196, dscscouting@aol.com



How to Make a Camp Washing Machine using a Paint Bucket and Plunger



Showers are a regular amenity at most Scout summer camps. Washing machines are not.

So why not create your own camp washing machine? With just five minutes and a couple of items available at your local hardware store, you can make a device that'll leave your clothes smelling gloriously fresh. You'll gain confidence, respect and the undying gratitude of your parents (and your tentmate).

What you need

- A clean 5-gallon plastic paint bucket with lid
- A new, clean plunger
- Drill with properly sized drill bit OR sharp knife
- Laundry detergent
- Dirty clothes

Step 1: Drill or cut hole in the lid

The hole should be centered in the lid. Make it just big enough for the plunger to fit through. The goal: Some wiggle room but not so much that water splashes out at you.

Start small and gradually widen if needed. It's much easier to make the hole larger than to make it smaller.

To cut the hole, use a hole saw bit, spade bit or a sharp knife.

Step 2: Drill or cut holes in the plunger

It's an important and often overlooked step when making a DIY washing machine: Cut holes in the top of the plunger.

By drilling or cutting six to 12 holes, agitation — the plunging process that gets your clothes clean — becomes much easier. That's because the holes allow water to flow freely and keep the plunger from buckling. The holes only need to be a ½ inch in width.

Step 3: Add water, clothes, laundry detergent

Fill the bucket with water, toss in those dirty clothes and add some laundry detergent. Powdered detergent works best, and with such a small washing machine you won't need much.

Step 4: Close the lid, and plunge

Agitate — plunge up and down — for several minutes.

Step 5: Rinse clothes and hang to dry

Be sure to wash out that detergent. Then find a place for your clothes to air dry — clothesline, tree branch, tent line.

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





National/International Recognition Days/Weeks/Months Calendar

2023						
JUNE						
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](#)

- June 1 – [World Milk Day](#)
- June 2 – [National Doughnut Day](#)
- June 3 – [National Trails Day](#)
- June 4 – [National Cheese Day](#)
- June 5 – [World Environment Day](#)
- June 6 – [D-Day](#)
- June 7 – [National Chocolate Ice Cream Day](#)
- June 8 – [World Oceans Day](#)
- June 9 – [National Movie Night](#)
- June 10 – [National Black Cow Day](#)
- June 11 – [National Corn on the Cob Day](#)
- June 12 – [National Peanut Butter Cookie Day](#)
- June 13 – [World Softball Day](#)
- June 14 – [National Flag Day](#)
- June 15 – [Nature Photography Day](#)
- June 16 – [World Sea Turtle Day](#)
- June 17 – [National Eat Your Vegetables Day](#)
- June 20 – [National American Eagle Day](#)
- June 21 – [National Seashell Day](#)
- June 22 – [National Onion Rings Day](#)
- June 23 – [National Hydration Day](#)
- June 24 – [Summersgiving](#)
- June 25 – [Global Smurf Day](#)
- June 26 – [National Coconut Day](#)
- June 27 – [National Ice Cream Cake Day](#)
- June 28 – [National Paul Bunyan Day](#)
- June 29 – [National Handshake Day](#)
- June 30 – [National Meteor Watch Day](#)

Training Opportunities

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**

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) is an optional course offered to adult leaders who have completed the required training in their Scouting program. This course assists Scouters working with youth in the backcountry by providing the skills necessary to conduct a safe and risk-managed high adventure program in venues outside those supported by BSA infrastructure. It has been continuously designed to address new and emerging issues, techniques, and gear.

BCOLS has three key goals:

- Provide adult leaders with an understanding of safety and risk management issues in the back country environment.
- Expose adult leaders to interpersonal, small group dynamics, and leadership models consistent with National syllabi and curricula.
- Familiarize adult leaders with the planning processes, skills, and equipment necessary to a successful back country adventure.

BCOLS consists of two parts:

- One day-long classroom session
 - Working Together — covers needs and characteristics of the age group; discusses group dynamics and the interpersonal skills needed to build and maintain a high-performance team.
 - Trek Planning and Preparation — covers the detailed preparation and planning that is necessary to a successful Trek and includes risk management, Leave No Trace principles, and discussion and displays of the personal and crew equipment used for Trekking, as well as other Trek tools.
- Two-day weekend outdoor session provides a mix of skill presentations and hands-on practice. Activities include Leave No Trace camping skills, problem solving through initiative games, the use of bear bags/canisters, equipment maintenance, stove maintenance, water treatment, menu planning and trail cooking (and clean-up), terrain awareness, health and safety and personal hygiene issues, hands-on land navigation, and trail meditations.

Requirements for attending BCOLS:

- Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
- Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
- 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.

Both Session Must be Attended to get credit for the Course.

Class Room Session: Saturday September 23, 2023 at Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Weekend Session : Saturday October 21 thru Sunday October 22, 2023 at Camp Big Mac 12647 Moss Hollow Road Markham, VA 22643

QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact Course Coordinator, Shawn Carroll at Shawn.carroll@yahoo.com

Registration opens May 12: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-70527> .

My.Scouting.org



The My.Scouting.org portal is a critical resource for registered adults and unit leaders. It provides access to individual and unit account information, training records, reports, and metrics. If you are an adult member of Scouting, you should have an a My.Scouting.org account to enable you to perform the following:

For individuals: a.) access and update your contact and personal information directly in the BSA national database. b.) take the required online Youth Protection Training course and print a certificate. c.) take online BSA training courses you need to understand the Scouting program and position specific training required to be considered fully “Trained”. (Refer to the NCAC event calendar for additional in person training and outdoor training such as BALOO, Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills, BCOLS, and Powder Horn training).

For Units: a.) access and download the official unit roster maintained in the BSA national database. b.) monitor and track completion of YPT position specific training at a unit level. c.) respond to and track leads from BeAScout.org inquiries using “Invitation Manager” and processing online applications using “Application Manager”.

Note: Adding individuals to Scout Book does not officially register an individual in Scouting, this must be done through processing an online application using “Invitation Manager” and “Application Manager”.

For additional information regarding My.Scouting.org contact your District Executive or Unit Commissioner.

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:

- 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

Powder Horn 2023

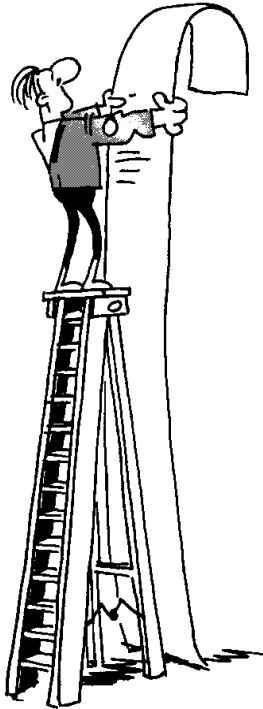


Purpose. Powder Horn is a resource course designed to introduce Scouting’s leaders to the exciting high-adventure program possibilities for their unit. The course supports the mission of strengthening units so they can achieve the mission of Scouts BSA. Not a personal development course or team-building experience, the ultimate goal is for the participants to leave the course with a list of ideas, contacts, and resources needed to implement a more exciting and robust program. Powder Horn teaches Scouters about specific high-adventure skills, to connect them to resources to deliver those skills in an exciting, challenging way to youth.

18 – 20 August 2023 [Friday – Sunday] (can arrive on 08/17/23) at Camp St Charles, 15375 Stella Maris Dr, Newberg, MD 20664

Registration is located at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-65171> .

District Calendar



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
20	Life to Eagle Training
22	School Holiday
23	District Committee
26-28	Freeze-o-ree

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
8-9	District Derby
13	Roundtable
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
25-20	Student Holiday
27	District Committee

April 2024	
5	Student Holiday
10	Roundtable
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
12-14	Spring Camporee
20	Life to Eagle Training
24	District Committee

May 2024	
8	Program Launch
8	OA Chapter Meeting
9	Commissioner Mtg
22	District Committee
27	Memorial Day