



### Special Interest:

#### District

- District Court of Honor – pg 2
- Online Registration – pg 4

#### Advancement

- Eagle Scout Statement of Ambition & Life Purpose – pg 11
- Advancement Updates – pg 12

#### Council/National

- STEM University – pg 14
- Annual Physicals – pg 16

#### Training

- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Outdoor Skills for Webelos Leaders Training – pg 25

### Quick Calendar:

- Apr 12 – Roundtable
- May 10 – Program Launch
- May 12-14 – OA Ordeal
- May 20 – Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
- May 24 – District Court of Honor
- May 26-29 – Goshen@50 Camporee
- June 9 – Roundtable
- June 19-23 – Day Camp
- June 19-22 – Twilight Camp

### Newsletter Key:



Cub Scout Interest



Boy Scout /  
Venturing Interest



For Everyone

# Goose Creek District Newsletter



April 2017

Volume 8, Issue 9



from ScoutmasterCG, <https://scoutmastercg.com/leadership-power-and-service/>

## Leadership, Power, Responsibility, and Service

Anyone who takes on a position of responsibility as a leader will feel pretty self-important at first. After all, you have been chosen, or you stepped in when no one else did. It's a big ego boost to have a title, to have people follow your directions. That's a pretty heady feeling isn't it... all that power?

Power scratches an itch, and some leaders never quite lose their addiction to power. We can even convince ourselves that we are something special, someone who is deserving of respect and recognition. A lot of times we don't like to be challenged or questioned – after all we are the leader, right? We know better!

Hopefully somewhere along the way we learn being a leader isn't about power at all. It's not nearly as exciting and ego-boosting, it's really about responsibility.

We also discover that responsibility isn't anywhere near as fun as power. Maybe you've heard it said; "it's lonely at the top".

Giving orders is kind of fun! Being responsible for other people? That's serious business.

Leaders can become targets for other people's fears and uncertainties, their followers will say and do things that hurt their feelings. When that happens we are tempted to use the power of leadership to strike back at them. After all, a leader has to be strong, right? I can tell you from experience; using the power of leadership as a weapon never goes very well. You may feel vindicated in the short term, but the long term results are always bad.

We realize a leader's decisions actually effect people, and it's possible to get things very, very wrong, it really is serious business. That realization makes a lot of us back down and hide out, we don't want to make decisions or give directions anymore because we are afraid we'll be wrong. If leaders make bad decisions or give bad directions everybody knows, and that's just plain embarrassing.

Every good leader I have known reaches a point where they have serious doubts, when their self-confidence fades to the point they just want to hide from their responsibilities. No responsible leader, no matter how young or old, quite gets over the nagging feeling that someday everyone will see their fears and uncertainties, and they will be unmasked as a fraud.

Every responsible leader has felt like this at one time or another, you aren't that special.

If you hang in there, though, what you will realize is that leadership isn't about power or getting special treatment, it isn't about being appreciated; it's about service and devotion to the welfare of others. Once you realize this you will be happier, and a lot more effective as a leader.

You'll discover much of the time leaders lay aside their own interests, recognition, growth, and personal fulfillment for a greater reward; watching the ones they serve grow, seeing them happy and fulfilled, seeing their talents and efforts recognized.

Do leaders sacrifice some things? Sure! It may look like they give up a lot, but the true reward is so much bigger and better than the things we lay aside.

Stick with it, you'll see.

## District News

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)



### District Court of Honor



It's that time of year — time to recognize those amazing Scouters who've made a huge difference in the lives of young people here in Goose Creek District - NCAC.

All Goose Creek Volunteers of Crews, Troops, and Packs are invited to the Goose Creek District Annual Court of Honor on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30 PM at Leesburg United Methodist Church, 107 W Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20176. Special recipients include the District Award of Merit, District Key 3 Awardees, and the Robin L. Hayes Leadership Award.

In addition to recognizing our adult volunteers, we invite all 2016 Eagle Scouts to please come in Full Class A Uniform for a special recognition. We will open the ceremony at 7:00 and close with a dessert reception following.

Each unit is asked to contribute a dessert to share, preferably cut into single servings.

The BSA is a volunteer organization which relies on dedicated volunteers. 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 to [dtexasncac@gmail.com](mailto:dtexasncac@gmail.com):

- Your name,
- The Unit volunteer of the Year's name (one per unit),
- Unit type (Troop, Crew, Pack) and number (1154), along with
- A short description of how this leader upholds the ideals of scouting in your unit

Please put your unit, number and 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)

Unit Volunteer of the Year nominations are due May 10.



### Program Launch



What's a "Program Launch"? Are we sending Scouts into orbit? Not quite, but it is time to start planning your unit program for next year.

Program Launch is run by the District Committee and is when Council provides us the Council Planning Calendar for the next program year. At the event the various district committees will be on hand to discuss what resources/events they have for you, and local vendors are invited to show what they can do to enhance your program.

Program Launch will be held in place of the usual May Roundtable, same place (Leesburg United Methodist Church), same time (May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 - 9).

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](https://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Webelos-o-ree 2017



The date for the Goose Creek's annual Webelos-o-ree is set for September 23-24 at Camp Snyder. This event is open to all Webelos so mark the date down on your calendar now. Note: Those that are currently Bears will be Webelos this fall and are eligible to attend.

This camping event is designed to introduce Webelos and their parents to what being in a Boy Scout troop is all about. The activities will be run by our own Boy Scout troops and can include such things as: Fire building, cooking, monkey bridge, BB shooting and/or archery, a campfire run by the Boy Scout Order of the Arrow, and much more. For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining Boy Scouts, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for Arrow of Light Scouts and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for the new Webelos (this year's Bears) and their parents.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. For those who don't want to camp over there are also registration options for staying just for the activity periods and for joining us for dinner and the campfire before going home.



## Soda Bottle Rocket Launch



**When:** Saturday, May 20th. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Each pack will select their own 2-hour assembly/launch window for the day.

**Where:** George Washington University Exploration Hall (20101 Academic Way, Ashburn VA 20147)

**Who can Attend:** This event is open to all Cub Scouts, including Lions and siblings/friends.

**Cost:** \$12 per person, to be paid at the event. This covers the cost for all of the materials (except the 20 oz. soda bottle) needed to build the rockets. This cost also includes the patch which will be given out at the event.

**Goose Creek District (GCD) Den Championship!** Build a bottle rocket in your den meeting using one 2-liter Soda Bottle... be creative, even parachutes are allowed!. Fire it off once on derby day! There is no additional fee for the Den Championship.

**For more information:** Send an email to [saleen.arif@gmail.com](mailto:saleen.arif@gmail.com) or call 703-439-9600. Look for the information/registration packet that will soon be on the district website.

- Please email at above address to reserve your slot.
- Last slot will be from 2 PM to 4 PM.
- Please bring your empty, 20 oz. soda bottle.
- Refreshments / food will be available for purchase.



## Online Registration Begins



Scouting families and prospective Scouting families have asked for it, and now it is here! The Boy Scouts of America is offering online registration to select councils (NCAC is one of them) to meet the demand for completing the entire registration process for youth members and adult leaders. Online registration will go live this April.

Here are the first steps to take to make sure you are prepared:

### Create or Update Your My.Scouting Account

Ensure that you receive notifications from the online registration system showing what actions you have to take.

[http://www.scouting.org/filestore/idg/Create\\_Account.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/idg/Create_Account.pdf)

### Update your "Contact Us" pin in BeAScout.org

Verify that your BeAScout pin is turned on and that the contact information is current and displays the information you want shown for your unit.

<http://t.email.scouting.org/r/?id=h98d8e9,20fb756,20fb9bf>

If you need assistance, please contact the Member Care Contact Center at [myscouting@scouting.org](mailto:myscouting@scouting.org) or call 9725802489, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central time.

Paper applications will still be an option to use (and necessary in some cases, like Lions and Explorers for now). Also, the \$1 insurance will not be collected from those who apply online. All leaders need to worry about right now is updating their BeAScout pin and My.Scouting information.

Notes:

1. This is for new scouts only.
2. It does not work with transfers.
3. You can't register Lions.
4. You may use the new system or you may continue to use the paper applications.



## Registering Lions Now



All units can now accept Lions and Lions can be registered now. (Training will be coming soon)

Current Kindergartens can register now as Lions and work through the program. Then on June 1, 2017 when National pushes the button, they become Tigers for advancement. As a Tiger they can attend Day and Twilight (so sign up now to take advantage of the early bird price!!!). Tigers attending Day and Twilight Camp must have an adult partner with them. Remember a Tiger Adult Partner does not count as a Walking Den Leader.

Youth who will be going into Kindergarten in the fall can also register now as a Lion and participate in various activities with the Pack over the summer. They do not need to wait until the Fall to register. These Lions, however, are not eligible to attend Day or Twilight camp.





## Robin L. Hayes Leadership Award



In memory of Robin L. Hayes and her dedication to Scouting, the Goose Creek District Committee welcomes your nominations of outstanding Scouters for the Robin L. Hayes Leadership Award. Along with the award, a donation to the Goshen Campership Fund will be made in honor of the award recipient. An amazing woman, devoted wife to Tom Hayes and mother of Matt and John Hayes, and enthusiastic scouter, Robin embodied the ideals of Scouting. In celebration of her leadership and example of service, please submit your nominations to Steve Wolfson at [stevewolfson@verizon.net](mailto:stevewolfson@verizon.net) using the Subject line: Robin L. Hayes Leadership Award.

Please include the Scouter's name, unit, and they're amazing scouting qualities. Please list all positions held and their contribution to unit, district and/or council.

The deadline for submissions is April 19th. All adult Scouters from Packs, Troops, Crews, and Teams are eligible for this award.



## A Pinewood Derby Story



Our Den purchased Pinewood Derby blocks at Pack 1148's January meeting. We then started the process of teaching the Scouts what a derby was as this was their first. We showed them designs by searching the web to get them thinking about what they might like to create. Our Pack has a family category in the derby, so we encouraged the Scout's siblings to also participate in those lessons as well. That engaged my youngest son, Leo, almost 4, who really wanted to participate, and can't wait to be a Scout himself when he comes of age. For the second half of our derby introduction, we discussed design and prep. While deliberating, the derby block of wood was on the kitchen counter and the Scouts surrounded it while chatting about their various ideas. Nearby was one of our TiVo remotes. Leo went over, grabbed it, and brought it over to the block of wood. He compared the two items, then asked with enthusiasm and excitement if he could make his car look like a TiVo remote. That's how his car design came about...

Both boys did well in the event and they both were SUPER excited about designing and racing their cars. Leo in particular, is so proud of the hard work he put into his TiVo remote derby car. He is so excited about showing off both the car and his first-ever trophy that the car helped him achieve. So much so, I was moved to send a simple email to TiVo whom the remote is modeled after, thanking them for Leo's derby car design motivation.

To our amazement... a week later, a number of packages arrived at the house addressed to Leo. TiVo was impressed by his vision and shared their enthusiasm with loads of goodies for both him and his brother. We were at a loss for words to see such an unexpected personal response from a company, so we put together a short summary video with our thanks back to TiVo. Their generosity and unexpected participation in this has made our Pack derby project much more memorable than just placing in some of the events.

Words just didn't communicate our true appreciation for their participation. Here was our personal thanks back to TiVo... <https://youtu.be/4AwS7NZhATE>

*from Jason McWhirter, Den Leader, Pack 1148*



## Goshen at 50 Years by W. Alexander Williams



The Goshen Scout Reservation opened in 1967, and the National Capital Area Council is having a celebration of the 50th anniversary. For some people, it will just be an event to attend. For myself, it will be a little different. You see, I was on the camp staff that first year.

The previous Council camps, Camp Roosevelt and Camp Wilson, just could not accommodate the numbers of scouts who wanted to go to summer camp. The Council tried to remedy this by establishing a third camp, Camp Thunderbird, on leased property at Senger's Mountain Lake, but it was clear something more permanent was needed. The council acquired the Goshen property and, over several years, designed and built the reservation.

The first year was characterized by great unevenness. The staffs at individual camps did not know each other, and there were no traditions at the camps. Some of the camp directors had no scouting background. Now, there are numerous returning staff members at individual camps, year after year. Now, the camp directors are professional scout executives. And the nuts and bolts of how the camps operate are well established.

The lake was a problem the first year. The dam had had some construction problems fixed at the last minute, but the year was rather dry. When the staff arrived to set up camp, the lake was only up to the level of the bottom of the waterfront docks. This problem was solved by a torrential rainstorm just before the scouts arrived. The lake level rose overnight by three feet, and the continuing flow on the Little Calpasture River filled the lake in a few days. The dam has functioned well with high flows from Hurricanes Camille (1969) and Agnes (1972), and floods in 1973, 1978, 1985, 1992, 1995, 1996, and 1998.

Camp Roosevelt and Camp Wilson had had dining halls; at Camp Thunderbird, patrols cooked their own food with wood fires. At Goshen, all patrols cooked their own food on wood fires, and there was a learning curve for those who had not cooked food at summer camp. Some of the meals were very good and are in use today. Others were wretched and remain only in the nightmares of those eating them for 10 weeks. At Camp Olmsted, the cooking was especially difficult because much of the camp was a meadow. A provision of charcoal helped alleviate the lack of firewood. A reforestation project and the construction of a dining hall and ended the shade and firewood problem at Camp Olmsted.

In 1967, the trails around the camps were hand-drawn on an 8½ by 11 piece of paper. Now, the trails around the reservation are shown in great detail on US Geological Survey Maps. The first year, places like Jump Rock and Big Butte were "over the rainbow." Now, they are places that attract frequent visitors.

One unfortunate presence in the community around the camp was the activity of the Ku Klux Klan. One of the small towns had a general store with a rack of racist Klan brochures. One staff member brought a few brochures back to camp, where they were ruthlessly mocked out by the staff members over dinner. The camp program director had a memorable observation, "Keep in mind that there are people who actually believe this stuff." The best thing about the Klan is that they are gone. And good riddance. Because the Klan stood for nothing good.

The Scout Reservation is celebrating its 50th year. And, unlike the Klan, it stands for something good. I hope you will join me at the celebration.

## 2017 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp



We are happy to announce the 2017 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp with the theme of *Bug Hunters!* Cub Scouts in grades 1 through 5 are eligible to attend camp – including newly registered (starting June 1, 2017) Tigers. Camp will be at the Loudoun County Fairgrounds (17558 Dry Mill Rd, Leesburg) and the dates are:

**Day Camp**, June 19 - 23 (9 am - 4 pm M-Th, 9 am - 2 pm Friday)

- Early discount price \$190.00 (ends Sun 04-23-2017 11:59 PM)
- Regular price \$210.00
- Late registration price \$230.00 (starts Mon 05-22-2017 12:00 AM)

**Twilight Camp**, June 19 - 22 (Mon-Thur. 6:30 pm - dusk)

- Early discount price \$110.00 (ends Sun 04-23-2017 11:59 PM)
- Regular price \$120.00
- Late registration price \$130.00 (starts Mon 05-22-2017 12:00 AM)

Camp Coordinators, registration has just opened: [www.ncacbsa.org/program/cub-scouts/day-camp/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/program/cub-scouts/day-camp/)

### It's time to schedule your Pack's Summer camp presentation.

A camp presentation is an excellent way to get your Scouting families excited about the wide variety of summer camps available to Goose Creek Cub Scouts. Just send Rumsey Light ([rumsey.s.light@NAVIENT.com](mailto:rumsey.s.light@NAVIENT.com)), our Camp Director, a date, time, and location and he'll make sure your unit gets a great camp presentation.

The camp presenter arrives early and sets up display boards. He'll greet families as your unit gathers and discuss camp options. We then ask for 2-3 minutes, after your Pack opening, for the presenter to address the Pack. He'll not only talk about Day and Twilight camp, but the other excellent camps available – like Camp Snyder and Goshen Scout Reservations (Webelos Only.) After a quick Q&A session, the presenter will turn the meeting back over to the Cubmaster, but be available to answer specific family questions. The presenter will have handouts for your families and can tailor the presentation to your unit's desires. If you have already designed a Pack Camp Coordinator, the presenter would avail any time needed to address camp registration questions.

Remember – Female Siblings who are Cub Scout ages are welcomed and encouraged to participate in camp with their brothers.

We are also looking for camp staff – young and old, just drop Rumsey Light an e-mail. An adult volunteering for the week at (does not apply to Walking Den Leaders) camp gets to send up to two children to camp for the reduced fee of \$70 each (\$45 for Twilight).

Youths over the age of 14 are entitled to a \$75.00 credit that can be applied at any NCAC Goshen Reservation Summer Camp. Youth under the age of 14 receive service hours to be used for school or rank advancement. We also welcome girls on staff so get the word out to those Venturing crews.

Book your presentation early and help get those boys excited about Camp.

## Order of the Arrow - Unit Elections



The annual OA Unit Election season runs from November 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017. Troops and Teams may hold only one election per season and it is recommended that the election be held prior to April 1, 2017. This will allow all elected candidates to be able attend the Goose Creek Chapter Ordeal the weekend of May 12-14, 2017. If you wish to have Arrowmen visit your Troop prior to your election, to discuss the OA with your Scouts, please contact the Goose Creek Chapter Chief, Henry Baime ([chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org)).

If you would like to schedule an OA Election, Scoutmasters should send an email to the Vice-Chief for OA Elections ([gc\\_oa\\_election\\_request@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:gc_oa_election_request@goosecreekdistrict.org)) and provide the following information:

- Scoutmaster Name; email address; phone number
- Troop OA Representative Name
- Troop Number
- Troop Meeting Location & Time
- Requested Election Date
- Alternate Election Date (In case of inclement weather)

The Vice-Chief for OA Elections will confirm the receipt of your request and confirm your election date within one month after receiving your request.

## Honoring the Highest Scouting Awards



If you have recently earned the highest rank in Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts--and you live in Loudoun County, VA -- Sumser Photography would consider it an honor and privilege to symbolize your achievement with a free portrait in uniform. The cost of the session itself as well as one 8x10 print are our gifts to you in recognition of this outstanding accomplishment.

Chas Sumser writes: As an Eagle Scout myself, I know what it takes to reach this goal. Typically, not only are you working on the scouting requirements, but you're also juggling the demands of high school academics, sports, family, church, and other extra-curricular activities. The commitment you have made to yourself, to your life, and to your community is more than worthy of special recognition.

To arrange a session, please use our contact page (<http://sumserphotography.com/post-portraits/honoring-the-highest-scouting-awards/>) and put "Scout Award" in the subject. Include scout's name, troop number and date of award.

Please note that eligibility is limited to scouts who contact us within six months after their Eagle Court of Honor or Gold Award Ceremony.

Congratulations on your amazing achievement!





## "Cheerful Service Chatter"

Chapter News for our Arrowmen  
Lodge Website: [www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA](http://www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA)

### Chapter Spring Ordeal



Arrowmen this year's Spring Ordeal will be held at the Leesburg Izaak Walton League facility on May 12-14. In addition to the induction of our newly elected candidates we will also be holding a Brotherhood Conversion to allow Arrowmen who have been an Ordeal member for over 10 months to "seal" their membership in the Order of the Arrow.

Newly elected candidates will receive a Candidate Notification Letter in the mail during the month of April. The online registration for the Spring Ordeal will open in mid-April. Please check the NCAC OA web page and select the link for "Chapter Ordeal Schedules" to register. If you have any questions, please contact the Chapter Chief ([chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org)) or the Chapter Adviser Hal Raffensperger ([hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net)).

### NE-6A Conclave



This year's NE-6A Order of the Arrow Conclave will be held at the Broad Creek Scout Reservation the weekend of May 19-21. This year's theme is "Super Heros". The weekend will be filled with OA fellowship, training, shooting sports, ceremony team competition, and inter-Lodge sports competition.

On-line registration is now open at [www.ne6a.org](http://www.ne6a.org). Contact Hal Raffensperger ([hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net)) if you need additional information or transportation to the Conclave.



Hoping to provide healthier snacks, the  
Boy Scouts have introduced tofu s'mores.

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](https://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)

## “Onward and Upward”

### On the Advancement Trail



#### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

**Russel Blackwell** – Troop 961

**James D Camp** – Troop 962

**Robert Candland** – Troop 1106

**Robert Scott Hill** – Troop 163

**Ryan Michon** – Crew 953

**Scott Mullen** – Troop 1910

**John Price** – Troop 1159

**Zach Silvacy** – Troop 1154

**Wahaj Syed** – Troop 1576

**Matthew Tranenkle** – Troop 572

**Seth Whitehurst** – Troop 961

#### Life to Eagle Seminars



The next installment of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek is coming soon. These training conferences are primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level – but are by no means limited to same. Life Scouts and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend. 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.

- First one in 2017:
  - Date: April 1
  - Time: 10:30-1:30
  - Place: Gum Spring Library; 24600 Millstream Drive, Stone Ridge
- Future ones in 2017 are being targeted for: July 1 and Oct 15. Dates, locations and times are TBD pending confirmation of library room availabilities.

Also, if you ARE a Life-to-Eagle Adviser or Advancement Chair for your Unit, and have not attended one of these within Goose Creek within the last 2 years, you really should make an attempt to do so. Lots of things have changed over the years, and even the long-standing and experienced L2E Advisers will learn something new.



## About the Eagle Scout Statement of Ambitions and Life Purpose



An important part of becoming an Eagle Scout is writing a personal statement of your ambitions and life purpose. Your statement has to be included with your application to the Eagle Scout Board of Review. This requirement gives you an opportunity to share with the Board of Review about your life. You can tell us what you want to do next and what your plans in life might be. Your values and ambitions indicate who you are and the impact Scouting has had on your life. Sharing your achievements helps the Board of Review see you outside Scouting and how well you are involved in other organizations, if any.

The Boy Scouts of America doesn't say how long a personal statement should be (most are about one page long) or how it should be written. There is no right or wrong way but it should be in your own words and reflect an honest effort. If you don't think something is important, you don't have to include it. If you want to write it by hand, make sure it's neat and legible. Read it over a couple of times to make sure it's your best work.

There is no 'template' or standardized format for the Statement of Ambitions and Life Purpose. In general, however, you should probably begin your personal statement by describing what your ambitions are for the future and what you believe your purpose in life is. If you already know what you want your life to be about, this may be easy. For others, it may seem like a difficult task. Get advice from friends, family and teachers but when it comes time to write it down, it should be your ideas. Find a quiet place and give it some serious thought. Try writing a rough copy just for yourself, jotting down what comes to mind, and exploring what you want and don't want your life to be about. Use the ideas you discover in the rough copy to create a good copy for submission.

After describing your life purpose and ambitions, list the positions you have had that demonstrate leadership skills. These may be positions you've had at school, church, summer camp or anywhere else. For example, if your teacher asked you to help a younger child with his reading, this could be something to include. If it's hard to remember, think about any time you did more than what was expected of you, when you took additional responsibilities or when you were able to help someone in need.

In addition to leadership positions, include any honors or awards you received. This doesn't have to be a separate section; add them when you describe your leadership positions. Like everything else in your personal statement, these should be the things that matter to you most. If you won first prize at the science fair, this may be something you want to include. If you spent an afternoon getting a lost dog to its rightful owner, you probably didn't get a trophy -- but perhaps the smile of gratitude was an honor to you just the same.



## 2017 Advancement Updates



While everyone should have been aware that the 2016 Advancement requirements becoming mandatory for all Scouts starting January 1, 2017, most of us probably didn't notice that there have been other requirement changes that took effect on the same day. Yes, there were a few – some you probably didn't hear about – but they are worth noting. Thankfully, just two rank requirements – Second Class and First Class – underwent only changes of an editorial nature involving rephrasing a couple items.

The bigger changes took place in the merit badge program.

- A new merit badge – **Exploration** – became available January 1. This badge was only announced with little fanfare in late 2016, and in fact the official press release just came out a couple weeks ago, so it's understandable if you didn't notice its appearance.
- Major changes were made to four merit badges: **Disabilities Awareness**, **Hiking**, **Pioneering** and **Radio**. Many of the changes involved rewording or reordering existing requirements. In some cases, new requirements were added, as well as new options. For example, Disabilities Awareness now allows Scouts to examine the impact of "invisible" disabilities as an option, and for Radio, the practicum requirement adds direction finding as an alternative to amateur, broadcast and shortwave listening.
- Minor revisions were made to thirty-two other merit badges. Most of these changes involve editorial revisions – rearranging or changing words, or adding more descriptive imperatives. Some outdated requirements were deleted or replaced with more contemporary ones. For example, the **Music** merit badge previously required a Scout to catalog his family's CD collection, but with physical media being overtaken by streaming and downloads, that requirement was replaced with one about intellectual property and file sharing.

The official requirements for ranks and merit badges can be found at the BSA's website, and a printed version, the Boy Scout Requirements booklet, should be out in the spring. A thorough detailing of the changes – what's been added, dropped and changed – is provided by the US Scouting Service Project:

<http://usscouts.org/advance/changes/advchanges17.asp>



## Council / National News

Council Website: [www.NCACBSA.org](http://www.NCACBSA.org)



### Partnership Between the National Park Service and Boy Scouts of America



The National Park Service and the Boy Scouts of America just celebrated the renewal of their longstanding partnership during a ceremony at the Boy Scout Commemorative Tribute Memorial in Washington, DC.

A centerpiece of the partnership is the Resource Stewardship Scout Ranger Program ([www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/scout-ranger.htm](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/scout-ranger.htm)). The program provides the framework for parks and local councils to work together to provide experiences for Scouts on public lands. It encourages Scouts to participate in educational and volunteer service projects in national parks to earn certificates and badges.

Acting National Park Service Director Michael T. Reynolds and Boy Scouts of America Chief Scout Executive Michael Surbaugh emphasized a shared goal to engage youth in the great outdoors.

"The National Park Service and the Boy Scouts of America have had a natural friendship for 100 years," said Reynolds. "Scouts hike, camp, and participate in other adventures in national parks where they learn not only outdoor skills but also life skills, respect for the environment, and the ethical use of natural resources. This partnership has created generations of conservation stewards and today we renew the commitment to carry this partnership into the future."

"Some of the best Scouting adventures and moments take place at National Park Service parks, monuments and sites," said Surbaugh. "These special places inspire youth with the wonder of nature and build an appreciation for the outdoors and our nation's history. That's why it's important that the Boy Scouts of America support and partner with the National Park Service as they work to protect and preserve our nation's natural spaces, a service that is of great value to me, Scouts and volunteers nationwide."

Each year, Scouts spend more than 60,000 hours on volunteer projects to restore or enhance national parks throughout the country.

### 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Sakkura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival



The 57th Annual Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival. April 8th 2017. 10AM-5PM. Every year the Japan-America Society of Washington DC hosts the annual Japanese Street Festival ("Sakura Matsuri") to celebrate Japanese culture, music, food and the long fruitful connection between our two great nations.

Scouts of the National Capital Area Council may elect to serve as "Scout Ambassadors" during a portion of the event and provide direction to visitors. It's a great way to provide service to an international forum, put Scouting's best foot forward and obtain free admission to the festival. Scouts will hand out programs or provide directions from the Metro stations to the festival. Scouts work a shift helping out and then attend the event themselves. It's a great experience!

Units may register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-12227>.

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](https://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## STEM University 2017



The NCAC STEM Committee is hosting STEM University on June 18, 2016, 11:30 AM to 4:00 PM, at Camp Snyder!

### Who should attend?

All Scouting leaders!

- Do you want to learn about the Nova Awards?
- Do you want to know how to get your unit started with the STEM program? Send the parents and unit leaders!
- Would you like to know where to go for STEM info? How to find out about STEM events around Council?
- Are you looking for guidance on how to organize a STEM event on the unit or district level?
- Would you like to learn about STEM activity kits?

All youth!

- Bring a display of your science project - we are hosting NCAC's first science fair! This can count for many of your Nova requirements - to participate in a local science fair.
- Join the activities at the Snyder STEM Shack - NCAC's new makerspace with CAD machines, CNC mills, a laser engraver, 3D printer, soldering and electronics stations, etc.

**Cost:** \$10

**Registration:** Everyone is welcome! We have structured the agenda so that you can walk in only having heard the acronym STEM, but will leave prepared to bring this program to your district. To register go to:

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

If you have already taken the Supernova Mentor & Nova Counselor training, and wish only to attend the Activities session, that is great too! Just let us know in the Comments section when you register.

Questions? Email us! [stem@ncacbsa.org](mailto:stem@ncacbsa.org)

## Updated Youth Protection Contact List



NCAC has an updated Youth Protection Contact list. It contains local government and staff contacts for use by anyone who observes a potentially abusive situation. As always, this is posted online as well at [www.ncacbsa.org/youthprotectioncontacts](http://www.ncacbsa.org/youthprotectioncontacts). Please share with your volunteers.



## With AmazonSmile, your Amazon Purchases can Support Scouting



Now every purchase you make from the Earth's biggest online store can support the charity of your choice, including the Boy Scouts of America and its many local councils.

Through its AmazonSmile program (<https://smile.amazon.com/>), introduced in 2014, Amazon donates 0.5 percent of the price of your eligible purchase to the public charitable organization of your choice.

The BSA and its more than 270 local councils are eligible charities. (Individual packs, troops, teams, posts, ships and crews aren't eligible.) So far, purchases supporting Scouting have added up in a big way. As of November 2016, AmazonSmile has generated \$3,806.42 for the BSA's National Council. That's basically free money to support the future of Scouting.

Sure, half a percent isn't much and won't replace your Friends of Scouting contributions that help Scouting function in your community. But it adds up, costs you nothing and is a great additional way to support Scouting.

The one-time setup takes just a couple of seconds (instructions below), and you get the same prices, products and service you're used to when shopping at Amazon. It doesn't cost you any extra; the only difference is now you're helping Scouting every time you buy.

### How to set up AmazonSmile

**Step 1:** Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). You'll use this link to register and for all your future Amazon shopping.

Even after you've signed up for AmazonSmile and selected a charity, shopping through the regular [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) won't benefit that charity. You need to use the [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) link from now on. So you don't forget, use a browser extension that will redirect you automatically.

**Step 2:** Sign in using your normal Amazon login

**Step 3:** Search for the "Boy Scouts of America"

**Step 4:** Find your local council, or select the national council

Some are listed by council name and others by headquarters city. That information comes from a national charity database, so any listing you find in there is legitimate.

**Step 5:** Check the top-left corner and start shopping. If you see AmazonSmile in the top left corner and the correct charity in the "Supporting: [Your charity here]" line, you've done it right.

**Step 6:** Double-check that the product you're buying is eligible

Most items sold by Amazon qualify, but confirm that on the product page. It'll say "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation." And this is a good time to triple-check that you see AmazonSmile and the proper charity at the top-left corner.

**Step 7:** Check out! This part you should be used to. Purchase the item(s), and smile. You've just done a Good Turn for your local council!

**Step 8:** Check your impact. Hover over the name of your charity at the top of the screen, and click "Your AmazonSmile Impact" to see how much you have generated for Scouting.



## Summer Camp Season's Almost Here, So it's Time for that Annual Physical



We're mere months away from the summer, aka the Greatest Scouting Season. And while it's too early to pack your bags and load the trailer, the time is right for one essential step in summer Scouting preparation.

It's time to get your physical.

As noted on the Annual Health and Medical Record website, a pre-participation physical is needed for resident campers (at summer or winter camps) and for Scouts and adult leaders attending events that last 72 hours or more. That means it's required for every participant at Boy Scout summer camp, any of the four BSA high-adventure bases and the 2017 National Jamboree.

### Which are the different parts of the Annual Health and Medical Record?

- Part A is an informed consent, release agreement and authorization that needs to be signed by every participant (or a parent and/or legal guardian for all youth under 18).
- Part B is general information and a health history.
- Part C is your pre-participation physical certification completed by a certified and licensed physician.

### Which part of the AHMR must I (or my Scout) complete?

- For all Scouting events: Part A and B. Give the completed forms to your unit leader. This applies to all activities, day camps, local tours and weekend camping trips less than 72 hours.
- For camp: Part A, B and C. A pre-participation physical is needed for resident, tour, or trek camps or for a Scouting event of more than 72 hours, such as Wood Badge and NYLT. The exam needs to be completed by a certified and licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant. If your camp has provided you with any supplemental risk information, or if your plans include attending one of the four national high-adventure bases, share the venue's risk advisory with your medical provider when you are having your physical exam.
- For high-adventure trips: Part A, B and C. Plus, each of the four national high-adventure bases (Florida Sea Base, Northern Tier, Philmont and the Summit Bechtel Reserve) has provided a supplemental risk advisory that explains in greater detail some of the risks inherent in that program. Some Scouts arrive at a high-adventure base without discussing that base's risk factors with their health care provider, meaning they have missing info at check-in that can slow down the process.
- For the 2017 National Jamboree: Part A, B and C. For additional jamboree-specific instructions: [www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/jamboree-medical-process/](http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/jamboree-medical-process/)

### What is meant by "annual"?

Your AHMR is valid through the end of the 12th month after the date it was administered by your medical provider. For example, if you got your physical on April 3, 2016, it's valid until April 30, 2017.

### Where can I find the proper, most up-to-date form?

[www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx)

### What about digitizing records?

Please don't, the BSA says. These records must be secure, and so "records are NOT to be digitized, scanned, sent by email, or stored electronically by unit leaders."

### What if I have more questions?

Consult these FAQs:

[www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/Resources/MedicalFormFAQs.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/Resources/MedicalFormFAQs.aspx)



## Kids to Parks Day 2017



Add up all the protected areas of the United States — national, state and local parks and more — and you get an area larger than France and Spain combined. Join the seventh annual Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 20, 2017. Spend the day doing something Scouts love to do anyway: having fun in a park.

There are a number of registered Kids to Park Day events ([www.parktrust.org/view/kids-to-parks-day-events/](http://www.parktrust.org/view/kids-to-parks-day-events/)), perhaps including one near you. At these events, you and your Scouts can do things like fly a kite, clean up a creek or learn to fish.

If none of those existing events will work, plan and register your own.

### About Kids to Parks Day

The Boy Scouts of America — along with the National Park Service, the Sierra Club, the American Hiking Society and others — is a prominent collaborator in the Kids to Parks Day effort, organized by the National Park Trust.

More than 730,000 people participated in the 2016 event. That's a 21.7 percent increase over the 600,000 participants in 2015. Here's hoping Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers can send that number even higher in 2017.

The National Park Trust has set its 2017 goal: 900,000 people enjoying Kids to Parks Day across the country.

Five ways to celebrate Kids to Parks Day 2017

1. Pledge to participate – If you'll take Scouts to a park on May 20, click here to make it official: [www.parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day/kids-to-parks-day-event-registration-form/](http://www.parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day/kids-to-parks-day-event-registration-form/)

Register any event of any size — from two Scouts to 200 or more.

2. Get your free park pass for fourth-graders – They call it Every Kid in a Park. Fourth-grade students and their families get free access to hundreds of parks, lands and waters for a whole year.

Learn more and get your family's pass at [www.everykidinapark.gov/](http://www.everykidinapark.gov/).

3. Try some hiking or camping games – Maybe you're at a park with some time to spare? Or your Scouts are lagging mid-hike? The National Park Trust has some games to help ramp up energy.
4. Learn from the experts – How do you prepare for a hike with kids? What are the best outdoor snacks for kids? Can you recommend any kid-appropriate park books?

Two experts — Ken Keffer and Stacy Tornio, creators of DestinationNature.net — weigh in on these topics and more.

5. Say hey to Buddy Bison – The National Park Trust's lovable mascot is Buddy Bison, and he shares a bunch of tips aimed at showing kids how to have fun at parks.

They're compact, making them easy for kids to digest. Go to [www.parktrust.org/buddy-bison-program/](http://www.parktrust.org/buddy-bison-program/) for more from Buddy Bison.

## VenturingFest 2018



As you may know, VenturingFest 2018 will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) from July 1st-6th, 2018 to celebrate Venturing's 20th birthday! Join us for quick access to the latest activities at the Summit, social events with Venturers from across the nation, an incredible birthday celebration, and the opportunity of a lifetime!

VenturingFest 2018 is a special Scouting event at SBR that's open to registered Venturers, Scouts and adult leaders across the U.S. This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the SBR has to offer. We're talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, and so much more!

### Registration & Payment

YOUTH REGISTRATION FEE: \$500\*

ADULT REGISTRATION FEE: \$400\*

Fees include meals (Sunday dinner through Friday breakfast), campsite (w/tents, showers, dining flies, tables & Wi-Fi), and all program equipment, with exception of the optional ½-day whitewater rafting trip. (Fee for this is TBD)

For more information go to: [www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/](http://www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/)

## Goshen Specialty Camps



Goshen's Specialty Week for 2017 will be held during the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle and The Marriott Project are the featured programs for this year. Specialty Week is traditionally attended by provisional Scouts (attending individually instead of with a unit), but is also open to units. Specialty week is open to Scouts ages 13 and up as well as Venturers, Varsity Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Explorers.

### The Marriott Project (STEM Program)

Back for a second year! Explore the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields outdoors! The program includes a mix of Merit Badges, STEM NOVA Venturing Explorations, and activities. Use forensic science to solve an at-camp mystery, explore energy and forces on the COPE course, put your engineering skills to the test building catapults, examine the natural world, and much more! Participants will have the opportunity to earn one of BSA's NOVA Awards.

### Trail to Eagle

Trail to Eagle is our most popular provisional program, which offers older scouts the opportunity to enjoy a week of fun, advancement, and growth towards becoming an Eagle Scout. Our camp staff is joined by additional volunteer merit badge counselors who are experts specializing in a particular merit badge. Trail to Eagle gives each scout the opportunity to earn up to 6 Eagle-required Merit Badges and learn valuable leadership skills to bring home to their home troops and communities. This program is designed with a focus on both advancement and development as a leader. We emphasize quality instruction and activities to help the scouts truly become Eagle Scouts.

## NYLT Training



NYLT (Impeesa) is the National Capital Area Council's presentation of the National Youth Leadership Training. The objective of our NYLT program is to equip our young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their scouting program and in LIFE. NYLT brings together scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice the leadership techniques in a risk free, scout friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.

While it remains the responsibility of the unit leaders to train the youth leaders, this course is designed to supplement the adult leaders' role in the training process. NYLT skills build on the fundamental leadership skills presented in the unit basic leadership training in their home unit. This training conference has six specific objectives:-

To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run their unit.

- To give participants the most contemporary, successful, and useful leadership tools available and allow them to "experiment" with them to help them better relate these skills to their unit responsibilities.
- To give participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with Scouts from other scouting programs.
- To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience Scouting at its best.
- To enhance the relationship between the participant and their adult leaders. • To have fun!

In order to attend the course each participant must certify that they have now (or will have by June 1st ) met the following qualifications to attend NYLT:

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Unit Leader Training
- At least 13 years of age (With the Course Directors approval), Youth 12 years of age and younger will not be able to attend
- Home Unit Leader approval

### 2017 Course Dates

**WINTER NYLT** - Camp Snyder

**SUMMER NYLT** – American Legion Youth Camp, Cheltenham, MD (3 separate courses are available)

18 - 23 June 2017

25 - 30 June 2017

1 - 5 August 2017 (Sunday Friendly)



Early Bird cost for the Course will be \$225 until 1 June 2017 then the cost is \$270.

To register go to: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-NCACNYLT>

## 2017 Goshen Summer Camp Availability



Key:  Available  Almost Full  Full

Camp (as of 03/25/2015)		Week					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>Bowman</b> (opens one day sooner than other camps) (Patrol Cooking)						
	<b>Marriot</b> (Patrol Cooking & Heater Stack)	LDS Week					
	<b>Olmsted</b> (BS Dining Hall)						
	<b>Lenhok'sin High Adventure</b>	LDS Week					
	<b>PMI</b> (Dining Hall)						
	<b>Ross</b> (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/18 to 6/24

Week 4 – 7/9 to 7/15

Week 2 – 6/25 to 7/1

Week 5 – 7/16 to 7/22

Week 3 – 7/2 to 7/8

Week 6 – 7/23 to 7/29

### Fees:

If paid by April 14: Youth \$360, Adults \$225\*

If paid by May 19: Youth \$400, Adults \$265\*

After May 19: Youth \$440, Adults \$305\*

All units will receive two free adult leaders!

Registration is now live for Goshen Scout Reservation's 2017 program:

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/goshen-camps/register/>

## Council Cub Scout Day Camp



Council Cub Scout Day Camp is a great means for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their families 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 – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Day Only / Lunch Included.

Session 1: July 17-20

Session 2: July 31-Aug 3

Cost: \$210 – register by April 16

\$230 – register by May 21

\$250 – register after May 21

\$40 – one adult for a week

(may be a different adult each day)

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](https://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Cub Scout Resident Camp



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 overnight camping. Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast.

Session 1: July 14-16

Session 2: July 21-23

Session 3: July 28-30

Session 4: Aug 4-6

Cost: \$220 – register by April 16

\$240 – register by May 21

\$260 – register after May 21

\$75 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## Webelos Camp



Webelos camp is a big step for the Webelos I or II working on rank adventures. Scouts will camp overnight just like when they become Boy Scouts to get the full summer camp experience in a shorter setting. Most of your time will be spent working towards advancing in your Webelos trail on the way to becoming a Boy Scout. There's plenty of other fun activities to fill your week including trips to the pool and more.

Monday 9:00am – Friday 9:00 am, Overnight / Meals are provided from Monday lunch – Friday continental breakfast

Session 1: July 10-14

Session 2: Aug 7-11

Cost: \$260 – register by April 16

\$280 – register by May 21

\$300 – register after May 21

\$110 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## Cub Scout STEM Day Camp



The NCAC STEM Program is coming to Camp Snyder for one week only (July 24-27). Spaces are limited so sign up early for this unique blend of BBs, Archery, Swimming and STEM! Each day will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 4:00 pm with lunch included in the cost of camp.

Cost: \$300 – register by April 16  
 \$320 – register by May 21  
 \$340 – register after May 21  
 \$40 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## On-Line Resource of the Month



Here is a great coding website Scouts can use to develop their coding skills in support of STEM and SUPERNOVA awards.

Code.org® is a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science, and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. Their vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science, just like biology, chemistry or algebra. Code.org organizes the annual Hour of Code campaign which has engaged 10% of all students in the world, and provides the leading curriculum for K-12 computer science in the largest school districts in the United States. Code.org is supported by generous donors including Microsoft, Facebook, the Infosys Foundation, Google, Omidyar Network, and many more.

All curriculum resources and tutorials they author are free to use and openly licensed under a Creative Commons license, allowing others to make derivative education resources for noncommercial purposes.



A Scoutmaster is walking down the street one day when he notices a very small boy trying to press a doorbell on a house across the street. However, the boy is very small and the doorbell is too high for him to reach.

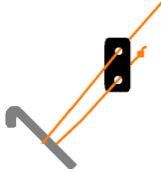
After watching the boy's efforts for some time, the Scoutmaster moves closer to the boy's position. He steps smartly across the street, walks up behind the little fellow and, giving him a smile leans over and rings the doorbell.

Crouching down to the child's level, the Scoutmaster smiles benevolently and asks, "And now what, young man?" To which the boy turns and yells, "NOW WE RUN!"

## Equipment / Gear / Tips



### Avoid Guyline Falls



Tents and tarps should be equipped with brightly colored cords or ribbons that can be seen in dim light. But even bright colors aren't visible when flashlights rule the night. The solution? A yellow reflection cord that glows in the beam of a headlamp. It is more expensive than a military-spec parachute cord, but the falls it prevents are worth the price. You'll find it at high-end camping stores and on the internet.



### Flip Your Lid



Many hikers use Nalgene bottles. Open one and the leashed cap will snap back against the bottle (or the bridge of your nose). An easy fix is to remove the cap with its leash and retaining ring. And install it on the bottle upside down. The flipped leash will make the cap spring away when you open the bottle.



### Dry Your Socks



An old woodsman's trick: Heat some rocks at the edge of your campfire and stuff them into wet socks. Roll up the socks. They'll dry in about an hour.

(Remember: Don't take rocks from a lake or stream. Trapped moisture could cause them to explode when heated.)



### Fix Tent and Tarp Seams



Not all tents and tarps have factory-sealed (waterproof) seams — and with enough use, those that do often leak. Special seam sealants — available at outdoor gear retailers — do a good job, but they are expensive and might become brittle when it's cold or sticky when it's hot. Eventually, they peel.

Thompson's Water Seal (available at hardware stores) never becomes brittle or sticky. Apply it to seams with a foam varnish brush and wipe off the excess with a cotton rag or paper towel. The fabric will slightly discolor, but one application lasts almost forever. It's great for paper maps and journals, too, as you can write over it. (This will not stick to the seams of silicone-treated tent flies and tarps, however.)

## Books/Apps



### Birding Apps for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad and Android



With spring here and birds moving through the area it a good time to go out bird watching. Here are some of the latest and greatest 2017 birding apps for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad and Android.

iBird Pro (iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad): <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ibird-pro-guide-to-birds/id308018823?mt=8&uo=4&at=10l6cP>

- Interactive field guide for every species (924) found in North America, Canada, Hawaii, and all coasts and islands, even extinct birds!
- Audubon-quality full sized color illustrations, with perching and flight views
- Full color range maps for every species
- Search by song, conservation status, genus, species, shape, size, color, flight pattern, bill shape and length, wing shape and more

BirdsEye icon (iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad):

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/birdseye-north-america/id624830265?mt=8&uo=4&at=10l6cP>

- Powered by eBird, a joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon
- New observations are downloaded from eBird over the network
- Over one million bird observations each month reviewed by local birding experts.
- Map of 25,000 birding hotspots
- Can show you where any one of 847 North American species has been seen recently ??? and even give you directions
- Keeps a record of your life list
- For the 470 most observed North American birds (377 additional bird content can be purchased separately) there are photographs, songs and calls and Kenn Kaufman's notes about the species.

Audubon Birds App - A Field Guide to North American Birds (iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad): <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/audubon-birds/id333227386?mt=8&uo=4&at=10l6cP>

- Detailed descriptions for 760+ birds
- 2,300+ bird songs
- 3,500+ high-quality color photos
- Unique search function for identifying bird by song type or pattern, wing shape, time of year, by state/province, locomotion and more
- Up-to-date range maps with wintering maps for 125+ migrating birds



## Training Opportunities



### Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Outdoor Skills for Webelos Leaders



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders Training will be presented by Goose Creek District, co-hosted by Powhatan District, at Camp Highroad on April 29-30, 2017.

Outdoor skills are critical to the success of any Scouting program. IOLS provides leaders with the basic outdoor skills needed to start a program right and keep it going.

IOLS is the required outdoor training for all Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Varsity Scout coaches. The course is also ideal for Venturing leaders because it focuses on building confidence and competence in Leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences. OLSWL prepares the WEBELOS Leaders for the camping experience.

All Leaders should wear their Class A Scout Leader Uniform. Please bring a chair and a water bottle for class sessions. Also bring full camping gear for an overnight stay; camping overnight is part of the course.

Meals will be provided. Please provide any dietary restrictions

There is a \$35 fee for this class.

Please Register online at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-12472>

If you need additional information, please email  
[walt.johnson@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:walt.johnson@goosecreekdistrict.org)



### Boy Scout leaders can now get Trained Anywhere at any Time



It's midnight, you're in pajamas and you're sitting on the couch scrolling Facebook on your tablet. Sounds like the perfect time to get trained.

With the launch of Scouting U's eLearning content for Boy Scout leaders, Scouters now can get trained on their own schedule — anywhere, any time.

The courses are conveniently organized by role — Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, Varsity coach, assistant Varsity coach, leader of 11-year-old Scouts, troop/team committee chairman, troop/team committee member and merit badge counselor — meaning you'll know exactly which training courses you need to be "Trained."

Modules range from five to 15 minutes in length. They're designed to be completed at your own pace — all at once or one at a time. The modules stay put once you're done, so you can return to review any section at any time.

The modules are grouped into three learning plans:

- Complete before the first meeting
- Complete within the first 30 days in your volunteer role
- Complete to become "position trained"

Ready to get started? Log in to <https://my.scouting.org/> and click on "BSA Learn Center."

District Website: [www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek](http://www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek)

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](https://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)

## Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)



This course is aimed at all adults working with older youth regardless of program (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Explorer). This training IS NOT recommended for Cub Scout leaders. All participants must have completed Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the position-specific training for their program area (Venturing, Varsity or, Boy Scout) prior to attending this course, and be able to meet physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record.

The target audience are leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, inasmuch as unit shakedowns will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure. Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills is offered by the Council Training Committee as an optional follow-on to the basic course, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills.

Part 1 – Addresses ways to effectively work with older youth and covers the detailed preparation and planning that must be done before you go out including risk management. Summarizes the personal and crew equipment used for lightweight camping. Plans are also made for the weekend overnight session.

Part 2 – Participants will practice core leader skills for the outdoor program — Leave No Trace, navigation (map & compass plus GPS), terrain awareness, expedition menu planning and food preparation, stove and stove maintenance, wilderness first aid issues, expedition health and hygiene, team building.

### **2017 Fall Course**

**Classroom:** Sat. 23 September, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Aldersgate United Methodist Church 1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA

**Overnite:** Sat. 21 October, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 22 October, 1:30 PM. Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA

## Wood Badge 2017



Wood Badge is advanced Scout leader training that began in 1919 by Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Scouting and Wood Badge's first director. It came to America in 1948 and has been updated to reflect current BSA policies and programs. Incorporating the best techniques available, Wood Badge has become the most advanced leadership training course in Scouting!

Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training and provides you with the tools to be a superior leader. The leadership skills taught are for leaders from all Scouting areas including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing and the district and council. The 1st half of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercises to teach the essentials of leadership. You'll learn what makes leadership work for you in Scouting and your personal life. The 2nd half offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help you learn the application of leadership skills. Finally, you will write and complete a "Ticket". The "Ticket" consists of five written goals. These goals connect your new leadership knowledge to your role in Scouting.

Any Scouter who has attended basic training for their registered position and serves in a leadership role in Scouting or in a position that directly supports a unit can attend.

NCAC has two classes, at Camp Snyder, scheduled for 2017 (each class involves two camping weekends):

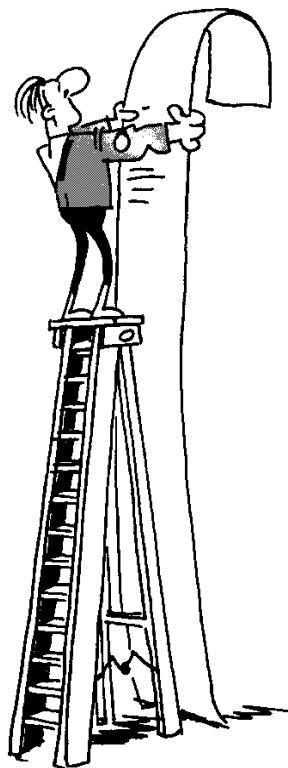
- April 28-30 and June 2-4 (registration is now open, slots are still available)
- September 8-10 and October 7-9

Cost is \$300 and additional information, forms, and registration can be found at: [www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/)

### B.C. by Mastroianni and Hart



## District Calendar



### APRIL 2017

7 Student Holiday  
10-14 Spring Break  
12 Roundtable  
12 OA Chapter Meeting  
15 Student Holiday  
26 District Committee  
29-30 **IOLS Training**

### MAY 2017

10 **Program Launch**  
10 OA Chapter Meeting  
12-14 **OA Spring Ordeal**  
20 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**  
24 **District Court of Honor**  
26-29 Goshen @50 Camporee  
29 Memorial Day

### June 2017

7 Roundtable  
7 OA Chapter Meeting  
9 Last Day of School  
19-23 **Goose Creek Cub Scout Day Camp**  
21 District Committee

### JULY 2017

4 Independence Day  
19-28 National Jamboree

### AUGUST 2017

9 Roundtable  
9 OA Chapter Meeting  
24 District Committee  
24 First Day of School

### September 2017

4 Labor Day  
13 Roundtable  
13 OA Chapter Meeting  
23-24 **Webelos-o-ree**  
27 District Committee

### October 2017

9 Columbus Day  
11 Roundtable  
11 OA Chapter Meeting  
20-22 JOTA/JOTI  
23 School Holiday  
25 District Committee

### November 2017

4 **SFF Bag Distribution**  
6-7 School Holiday  
8 Roundtable  
8 OA Chapter Meeting  
11 **SFF Food Pickup**  
15 District Committee  
22-24 School Holiday  
30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

### December 2017

13 Roundtable  
13 OA Chapter Meeting  
14 **Annual District Business Meeting**  
18-31 School Holiday

### JANUARY 2018

1 Holiday  
10 Roundtable  
10 OA Chapter Meeting  
15 MLK Jr. Day  
24 District Committee  
29 Moveable School Holiday

### FEBRUARY 2018

10 Scout Sabbath  
11 Scout Sunday  
14 Roundtable  
14 OA Chapter Meeting  
19 President's Day  
28 District Committee

### MARCH 2018

1 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**  
7 Roundtable  
7 OA Chapter Meeting  
21 District Committee