



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



September 2017

Volume 9, Issue 2

## Special Interest:

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### Training

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## Quick Calendar:

- Sept 12 – Join Scouting Night
- Sept 13 – Roundtable
- Sept 23-24 – Webelos-o-ree
- Oct 11 – Roundtable
- Oct 20-22 – JOTA/JOTI
- Oct 18 – PowWow
- Nov 4 – SFF Bag Distribution
- Nov 4-5 – Siege of Mafeking
- Nov 11 – SFF Bag Pickup
- Nov 30 – Recharter Turn-In

## Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /  
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article



from ScoutmasterCG, <https://scoutmastercg.com/why-scouting/>

## Why Scouting?

Observe a community or classroom anywhere in the world and you will conclude that boys instinctively form groups, adopt uniforms, establish standards, develop a credo and create initiatory challenges. While most educational systems battle these instincts scouting gives them a means of positive expression. Boys yearn to belong, to gain acceptance and approval outside the confines of their family. Their imperfect search for guidance and understanding is often met with suspicion and misapprehension. In adolescence they try on lots of attitudes and poses paradoxically seeking approval from the adult world in their very rebellion against it. It can be a tough time for everybody.

We all more or less hammered our way through adolescence in whatever way we could. Some had it easier than others. There were some people who made the process more difficult for us and some who helped. That's part of the reason that I am a Scoutmaster – I'd like to help. I like to go camping, I like to teach, and I like to cook over a fire.

Scouting, for all the protestations otherwise, is not an ideology. It is a movement with a program that recognizes how to channel the unstable energies and excesses of adolescence. When scouting doesn't work as it should it is usually adults who have made a real mess of things; it is almost never the fault of boys.

Our volunteers in Scouting are a cross-section of American culture. We represent the a full spectrum of socioeconomic, religious and political views but Scouting possesses a great potential to be inclusive, resilient and to bring people together.

After beginning in Great Britain in 1907 the movement spread around the world. In 1910 Scouting arrived in United States. The Boy Scouts of America has had an illustrious, if sometimes troubled, history. We have yet to realize the full potential of Scouting for inclusion but change comes slowly.

Scouting is different from any other youth program and getting it right requires dedication and study. Scouting shares the paradoxical combination of simplicity and complexity found in a round of golf or a game of baseball. The basics take a few minutes to learn and a lifetime to master.

## District News

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



### Webelos-o-ree 2017



The annual Goose Creek's Webelos-o-ree is September 23-24 at Camp Snyder. This event is open to all Webelos and is designed as a camping event 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 this year will include:

- Fire building
- Cooking – two kinds, on the stove and Dutch oven
- Monkey bridge
- First aid
- BB shooting, archery, and sling shots
- Scout games (gaga pit and human foosball)
- Pioneering
- Orienteering
- Knife Safety

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 and their parents.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and that day with dinner and a campfire run by the Boy Scout Order of the Arrow. The campout wraps up Sunday after chapel services. For those who don't want to camp over there is a registration option for staying just for the activity periods and another one for joining us for dinner and the campfire before going home.

A full 2017 information packet about the event and a link on how to register is on the district website [www.ncacbsa.org/goose-creek/webelos-o-ree/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/goose-creek/webelos-o-ree/).

Registration is now open at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-14859?draftmode=1>

Note: Registration can be done either by the pack or by individuals. Regardless of how, or when, a Scout registers, all Scouts in the pack will be assigned to the same campsite.



### New District Logo



Those familiar with the design of the newsletter may have noticed that there is a new graphic in the top left corner of the first page. This is the new logo for Goose Creek that was approved by the District Committee. We are getting patches made up for it and will have them available at Roundtables soon for those that would like one. The cost has not been set yet but will be determined by what the patch maker charges us for them. If you can't make Roundtable but would still like one please contact [Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org).



## Siege of Mafeking 2017



Planning is now underway for Goose Creek District's annual reenactment of the Siege of Mafeking, sponsored by Troop 961. This year's event will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in Middleburg.

Mafeking is an overnight exercise designed to test Scouts on their ingenuity and scouting skills as they recreate the Siege of Mafeking. Staged and conducted after dark, individual Scout Patrols will deliver food and essential materials to Col Baden-Powell by way of an orienteering course, interspersed with intermediate Supply Stations, each with their own challenges and rewards. Scouts will have to draw on their individual and team skills to successfully navigate their way around Mafeking and deliver the supplies needed by Col Baden-Powell. And along the way, they will experience some of the excitement and history of Lord Baden-Powell and the origins of Scouting. Troop 961 invites all Troops within the Goose Creek District and selected others to join us in this exciting, entertaining, challenging, and historically relevant Scouting adventure.

The Mafeking Patrol Method: First Class Scouts and below are in Patrols, Star and Life Scouts man Stations, and Eagles are Boers. Your Star and Life Scouts (along with any Adults manning stations) must attend one of the training classes to be held during the first two Sundays in October.

Signup for Troops is on a first come first served basis. There are 24 Patrol slots and only five are still available. Contact Mafeking Adult Assistant to the Chairman Brent Raney ([braney3@msn.com](mailto:braney3@msn.com), 703-975-0923) immediately for details and registration.

A reservation payment of \$100 (non-refundable) must be received by September 16<sup>th</sup>; cost is \$25 per participant (all Scouts and Adults) which includes Saturday dinner, Midnight Cracker-barrel, Sunday Breakfast, and Station staff hoodies. A tremendous amount of logistics goes into planning and conducting Mafeking, which makes accurate Troop counts essential. Therefore, each Troop is asked to sign a Letter of Intent to commit your participation.



## Rechartering!!!



It may be the beginning of school and a new Scout program year and you are just now recruiting and welcoming new Scouts into your unit, but this is the time that the unit committee needs to start thinking about that dreaded word: RECHARTER!

You only have to the end of November to get it done and while it may be a bit earlier to start doing any of the actual paperwork, now is the time to start planning for it. Who will be in charge of it for the unit, what does he/she need to know about it, how much do we need to charge, and who is this mysterious head of the chartering organization that needs to sign off on the paperwork?



## Goose Creek Day Camp 2017 – Shooting Range Results



The Goose Creek Day Camp conducts a shooting sports competition to determine the Top Ten finalist in Archery, BBs or Sling Shots. Please join us in recognizing those that excelled for the 2017 Summer Camp competition.

### BBs Top Ten

**Loan James** - Pack 572  
**John Carroll** - Pack 39  
**Colin Kirchner** - Pack 1666  
**Aaron Forgas** - Pack 572  
**Seth Noel** - Pack 1484

**Evan Atkins** - Pack 1500  
**Ninh Nguyen** - Pack 1157  
**Samantha Crusan** - Pack 982  
**Luke Heinze** - Pack 1152  
**Alexander Phipps** - Pack 910

### Archery Top Ten

**Anton Heck** - Pack 1156  
**Ryan Malley** - Pack 1165  
**Wyatt McNeil** - Pack 1666  
**Brayden Moran** - Pack 1168  
**Antonio Racanelli** - Pack 1871

**Andrew Durham** - Pack 1872  
**Travis Stevens** - Pack 1737  
**Ryan Buttner** - Pack 1737  
**Alexander Phipps** - Pack 910  
**Cameron Krein** - Pack 982

### Sling Shot Top Ten

**Evan Rosenlund** - Pack 1168  
**Tyler Hamblin** - Pack 1165  
**Wyatt** - Pack 1666  
**Chase Blanton** - Pack 1484  
**Samantha Crusan** - Pack 982

**Cameron** - Pack 1168  
**Brandon** - Pack 1168  
**Luke H.** - Pack 1152  
**Andrew Vaughan** - Pack 910  
**Shane Mann** - Pack 1151



## Scouting for Food - We CAN Do More



Scouting for Food (SFF) this year will be held on Nov 4 & Nov 11; the first two Saturdays in November. Many units in the district have contributed their time and energy (and sometime food) to this annual nation-wide Scouting event ... and we thank you! Some units simply help out at the food pantries, sorting and storing the TONS of food brought in. Some units distribute bags on the first Saturday, and then collect the food the following Sat, and deliver it to one of the pantries. And some units do what I call the "Trifecta"; distributing bags, collecting food, and then after arriving at a pantry to drop off their food, they hang around longer and help sort/store the food at the pantry. And some units - usually the smaller/younger ones - will team up with another unit to share the joy of knowing that they're directly contributing to those families that need a little more help to make ends meet - for whatever reason. Any and ALL help is so very much appreciated.

Unfortunately, due to units that have folded, or had to cease supporting our SFF efforts, there are literally hundreds - if not thousands - of homes in Loudoun County that have had bags dropped off for many years, and donated food accordingly ... but no one picked up the food last year. Those regions were never claimed by other units. So, please, if you're a new unit, or one wishing to return to supporting SFF, or perhaps one that has never been involved with SFF but can see the need and wishes to help, please reach out to Brad Scales and let him know, by sending an email to

[SFFGooseCreekDistrict@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:SFFGooseCreekDistrict@GooseCreekDistrict.org).





## No Hats in Loudoun Schools



School dress codes in Loudoun County Public Schools are nothing new, but certainly stricter now in Loudoun. In a recent School board meeting the dress code was amended so that students can wear hats to and from school but not once they enter the building.

School Board members decided to remove hats due to lack of respect by students and concerns of safety. Exceptions to rules on hats include any head covering worn for school sponsored events or for medical, religious, of safety reasons.

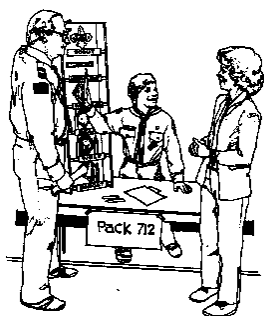


## High Adventure Treks Done this Summer



Eight scouts from Troop 1159, Leesburg, VA, paddled over 60 miles in canoes and kayaks during their week-long Lenhok'sin high adventure trek this June. Not only did they complete the trek, but they also helped with river cleanup by finding, carrying, and disposing of 38 tires that were littering the riverbanks.

## Join Scouting Night 2017



It is getting close to that time of year and summer will be coming to a close. That means back to school and JSN Night.

JSN night this year will be held Tuesday, September 12, 2017.

In order to prepare your unit for JSN please contact Stacy Noll, our District Membership Vice-Chair at: [Stacey.Noll@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:Stacey.Noll@GooseCreekDistrict.org).



## “Cheerful Service Chatter”

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

### 2018 NOAC



The next National OA Conference (NOAC) will be held July 30 – August 4, 2018 at Indiana University in Bloomington. Approximately 7,500 Arrowmen and staff are expected and details of participation will be available from our lodge leadership in the fall of 2017. Guidelines already issued indicate that lodges will have to maintain a ratio of 3 youth to 1 adult in their contingents to the event. The cost will be \$525 for the conference, plus whatever transportation expenses are determined by the lodge.

## “Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

**William Brown** – Troop 163  
**Christian Buskirk** – Troop 998  
**Logan Capell** – Troop 1430  
**Garrett Conklin** – Troop 663  
**John Farmer** – Troop 998  
**William Hoffman** – Troop 961  
**Spencer Hutchinson** – Crew 743  
**Jibreel Jaka** – Troop 163  
**Zachary N. Lipshultz** – Troop 956  
**Noah Mamula** – Troop 2950  
**Scott Meyers** – Troop 1159  
**Kevin Payne** – Troop 961  
**Kyle Singleton** – Troop 953  
**Jackson F. Steele** – Troop 966  
**Caleb Washington** – Team 663



### Wolf Elective Adventure: Finding Your Way



Finding Your Way is one of the Wolf Cub Scout elective adventures. For the Finding Your Way adventure, Wolves learn map and compass skills.

This short video from Leap Frog shows the different parts of a map including the compass rose, legend, and scale. It describes how these parts are used to read the map: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IwBe7e8d74Y>



## How to Easily Learn the Scout Oath and Law with Legos



Learning the Scout Oath and Law might seem intimidating when a Scout first joins Cub Scouts, but add Legos, and it becomes a super fun activity! There aren't many little boys who don't love building things with Legos. And there aren't many parents of little boys who haven't stepped on a Lego.

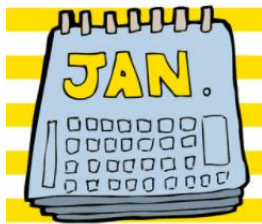
Putting the words of the Oath and Law onto Legos makes a cool puzzle that will challenge the Scouts. We don't expect the younger Scouts to memorize the Scout Oath and Law, but the more times they're exposed to it, the better. They are beginning to memorize the words, and more importantly, they will internalize the message so that they can live the Oath and Law.

It's easy to make these. All you need are Legos and a labeler. Print the words to the Oath and Law with the labeler. Cut them down, if necessary. Then pull the backing off and apply to the Lego.

For the older Scouts (Bear/Webelos), put one word of the Scout Oath on each of the Legos. Younger Scouts will do better with a phrase on each one. The Legos each have a corresponding number on the opposite side so the Scouts can find out if they have them in the correct order.



## 7 Easy Steps to a Useful Cub Scout Adventures Schedule



One of the best things leaders can do for a great year is to create a Cub Scout adventures schedule. The Den Leader's Guide has a "Den Annual Adventure Plan" form in the advancement section of the guide:

<https://cubscouts.org/library/annual-planning-for-your-den/>

I'm sure some of you are wondering exactly how to decide which adventures should be done in which month. This post describes 7 simple steps that will help you create a useful Cub Scout adventures schedule:

<http://cubscoutideas.com/8142/cub-scout-adventures-schedule/>

## Sending Eagle Scout Rank Applications to Council for Verification



Important Items:

- All Eagle Scout Rank Applications (ESRA) must be checked and initialed by a District Eagle Scout Advisor before sending it into Council for verification. They will need a copy of the ESRA and the Internet Advancement report for the Scout to do the check.
- For youth protection purposes, Council (Margee) prefers that an adult send the ESRA in for verification.
- The ESRA is returned to only one email – unless the unit enters the email at the bottom of page two.
- If you haven't heard back from Council within three business days send in a reminder. (Currently, with the pre-District check, reviews are being done in a single day).

## Council / National News

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



### 2019 World Jamboree at Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia



The 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree will be held at the BSA's new permanent Jamboree home: the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. It's actually co-hosted by three Scout organizations: the Boy Scouts of America, Scouts Canada and Asociación de Scouts de México.

A World Jamboree in our country is a once-in-a-generation event. The 2019 World Scout Jamboree will be the first held in North America in 36 years and the first held in the United States in 52 years.

Some 50,000 Scouts and Scouters from 167 different countries are expected at the event, to be held July 22 to Aug. 2, 2019. They'll meet people from around the world while enjoying SBR's world-class adventure offerings.

The BSA contingent will include 10,000 people — the largest contingent the BSA has ever sent to a World Jamboree. The total will encompass Scouts/Venturers, adults and staff.

Even though the BSA's presence at the World Jamboree will be large, we'll make up only one out of every five people at the event. That means approximately 80 percent of Jamboree attendees will be from one of more than 160 other countries planning to attend.

#### How to be a youth participant or adult leader

**Max number:** 7,200 youth participants in 180 units. Each 40-person unit will have four adult leaders and 36 youth.

**Youth eligibility:** Ages 14 to 17 by the first day of the Jamboree. This date is set by the World Scout Jamboree hosts, not the U.S. contingent leadership. That means your birthday has to fall between July 22, 2001, and July 21, 2005. (Born before July 22, 2001? Try to attend as an adult or IST member.)

**Adult eligibility:** Like for National Jamborees, prospective World Scout Jamboree leaders will fill out an application. Approval and a final decision will from the U.S. contingent leadership.

**Cost:** To be announced, but will be similar to the cost of attending a National Scout Jamboree at SBR. The World Scout Jamboree cost will include transportation, and, to keep costs down, there will be no pre- or post-Jamboree tour.

**How to register:** Keep an eye on the U.S. contingent website:  
<https://wsj2019.us/>





## 2017 Jamboree-on-the-Air, Jamboree-on-the-Internet



This Oct. 20 to 22, Scouts from down the street, across the country and around the world will gather for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air and Jamboree-on-the-Internet.

The two events, held concurrently the third full weekend of October, use amateur radio and Internet-connected devices to unite Scouts from all over the Earth.

And I do mean all over the Earth. The 2016 Jamboree-on-the-Air had nearly 1.3 million Scout participants from more than 30,000 locations and reached 156 different countries.



In addition to being incredibly fun, JOTA and JOTI count toward Scouting requirements:

- For Tigers, this meets requirements for the elective adventure Family Stories.
- For Webelos, it counts toward the Arrow of Light adventure Building a Better World.
- Boy Scouts can check off a requirement for the Citizenship in the World merit badge and the Radio merit badge.
- All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers and adult leaders can count the event toward the requirements for the International Spirit Award.

### 2017 Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA)

**How:** Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically requires speaking into a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication can also take place, such as video communication, digital communication using typed words on the computer screen transmitted by radio, communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater), and many others.

**Learn more:** Get resources, quick-start guides, patch order forms and lots more at the JOTA website: <http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx>

### 2017 Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI)

**How:** Scouts can participate at home with the help of an adult (remember two-deep leadership!), or they can participate in a Scout group at a councilwide event. JOTI is an economical way of communicating with people from other corners of the globe. The event allows Scouts to “meet” other Scouts from around the world through the Internet and share more information than just “hi.”

**Learn more:** Get resources, quick-start guides, patch order forms and lots more at the JOTI website: <http://www.scouting.org/joti.aspx>



## National Eagle Scout Association Scholarships



College isn't cheap, but for more than 150 worthy Eagle Scouts, it's about to get a lot more affordable. The National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) will award nearly \$700,000 in scholarships to Eagle Scouts based on their academic performance, Scouting background, college plans and financial need. NESA offers two basic types of scholarships: academic scholarships and merit scholarships: [www.nesa.org/2017\\_scholarships.html](http://www.nesa.org/2017_scholarships.html)

The window for the latest round of National Eagle Scout Association scholarships opened Aug. 1, 2017. It will close for good on Oct. 31, 2017. Scholarship recipients will be notified by mail on July 15, 2018, and money will be disbursed to these deserving Eagle Scouts in fall 2018.

The scholarships are highly competitive. Less than 3 percent of the 5,000 expected applicants will receive a scholarship.

But if you are an Eagle Scout between your senior year of high school and junior year of college, you'll want to apply and give yourself a chance at earning some cash for college.

### What are the requirements?

You must be a National Eagle Scout Association member to receive a scholarship. However, you can apply for a NESA scholarship before you apply for a NESA membership.

Academic scholarship applicants must apply during their senior year in high school unless the Eagle Scout board of review was held after Oct. 31, 2017. In those cases, the applicant must apply during the Aug. 1 to Oct. 31, 2018, scholarship cycle, even if he is already attending college.

Academic scholarship applicants must have a minimum 1800 SAT (or 1290 if taken after March 2016), or 28 ACT score to apply. A "super score" may be used to meet this requirement.

Eagle Scouts may apply for NESA merit scholarships beginning in their senior year of high school and may continue applying every year until their junior year in college.

Applicants may receive a NESA scholarship one time only.

In the past, NESA scholarships were available only to Scouts attending four-year universities. Now Scouts attending vocational trade schools and other approved programs may apply. NESA scholarships are not payable to any of the U.S. military academies.

### How does an Eagle Scout apply?

All NESA scholarship applications must be submitted online. Paper copies from previous years are out of date and will not be accepted.

Applications must be submitted at this site: <https://nesa.academicworks.com/>

NESA has posted this list of helpful FAQs: [http://nesa.org/scholarship\\_faq.html](http://nesa.org/scholarship_faq.html). Good luck!



## Top 10 links to share with New Cub Scout Families



New Cub Scout families might not know a den leader from a den chief or a Wolf from a Webelos. And you know what? That's perfectly fine.

But you can help them get them acquainted with this life-changing program for boys by sending them some or all of the links below.

Post them on your pack's Facebook page, email them to your pack parents (one a week or all at once), or repost them to your pack website.

The point is this: there are some great resources out there, and seasoned Scouters like you can share the wealth. The links may have you thinking, "I wish I had access to these resources when I was a newbie Cub Scout leader." And you know what? That's perfectly fine, too. Expert Scouters like you can help others learn what you've known for years — or, in some cases, decades. Why not share the wealth?

### 1. What are the basics to know before starting Cub Scouts this fall?

If a new Cub Scout parents reads just one post, make it this one that shares three Cub Scout must-knows. <https://cubscouts.org/you-need-to-know-these-three-things-when-you-start-cub-scouts-this-fall/>

### 2. Why do Cub Scouts meet with their packs and dens each week?

This post covers why Cub Scouts have meetings and what they do at them.

<https://cubscouts.org/this-is-why-cub-scouts-meet-with-their-packs-and-dens-each-week/>

### 3. What is a blue and gold banquet?

At some point this fall, the Cubmaster is going to start talking about the blue and gold banquet.

<https://cubscouts.org/this-is-why-cub-scouts-meet-with-their-packs-and-dens-each-week/>

### 4. Are Cub Scouts part of Boy Scouts?

Yes, Cub Scouts are part of the Boy Scouts of America, but they have their own awesome program. <https://cubscouts.org/are-cub-scouts-part-of-boy-scouts/>

### 5. What is the order of Cub Scout ranks?

Informed Cub Scout parents will want to know the definitive order of Cub Scout ranks.

<https://cubscouts.org/what-is-the-order-of-cub-scout-ranks/>

### 6. What is the Arrow of Light?

Short answer: the Arrow of Light is the pinnacle of Cub Scouting. For the longer answer.

<https://cubscouts.org/what-is-the-arrow-of-light/>

### 7. What is Boys' Life magazine?

Short answer: If it's in a boy's life, it's in Boys' Life magazine. Slightly longer answer: Boys' Life is a monthly magazine for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers. It includes Scouting stories, science facts, fun jokes and games, stories of Scouting heroism, previews of the latest books and movies for guys, and much more. For Scouts, the cost is just \$12 a year (\$1 an issue).

<http://boyslife.org/subscribe-now/>

### 8. What is the Pinewood Derby?

The Pinewood Derby, a racing event using cars Cub Scouts build with their parents or guardians, is a Cub Scouting tradition. Read tips for planning the best Pinewood Derby ever

(<https://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/12/20-tips-planning-hosting-best-pinewood-derby/>), and tips for helping your Cub Scout build a faster car (<https://cubscouts.org/putting-science-work-pinewood-derby/>).

### 9. How do I help my Cub Scout get ready to camp?

Read these four suggestions for getting your pack's camping program into high gear.

<https://scoutingmagazine.org/2017/08/four-tips-getting-new-cub-scouts-camp/>

### 10. How can I support a Scout with special needs?

There's room for everyone in a Cub Scout pack or den, especially Cub Scouts with special needs.

Here's how to help them feel welcome. <https://scoutingmagazine.org/2017/02/help-youth-special-needs-most-scouting/>



## Get Ready to Rocket into Scouting!



NCAC will again be presenting free model rocket kits to new Scouts of any age registered before October 31, 2017 as a part of our popular Rocket Into Scouting program. Please note the dates, times, and locations listed below are subject to change until registration officially opens.

Date	Time	Location
9/30	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA 20169
10/24	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM	One Loudoun 20626 Easthampton Plaza Ashburn, VA 20147
10/28	12:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Evergreen Sportsplex* 19623 Evergreen Mills Rd Leesburg, VA 20175
11/4	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA 20169

Don't forget that online applications are now available through BeAScout.org! This is a "giant step for Scoutkind" that gives new members a convenient, user-friendly experience.

\* The Adventure Park at Evergreen Sportsplex offers a variety of packages for both beginners and those that are looking for a more all-encompassing experience. They offer tours that include rock climbing, zip lining, traversing through the ropes course and bundled packages that include some or all of the activities. They can also facilitate team building challenges that are perfect for your Boy and Girl Scout troops, school functions, corporate outings, sports teams and year end celebrations!



## Selling Trail's End Popcorn



Many Units have been able to fund their entire program year by participating in the Trail's End Popcorn Sale. By selling Trail's End Popcorn your Unit can raise enough money for your program year with just one fundraiser. The Trail's End Popcorn sale is a turn-key program and 73% of the proceeds goes back to support our local programs. Scouts have the ability to earn their own way; learn life skills, get great prizes, earn a College Scholarship and so much more.

Join us for a short orientation and hear how you can fund your Ideal Year of Scouting. Last season Pack 1520 of Colonial District had sales of over \$70,000. We can show you how to do it. We have set up an informational session September 14, 2017 @6:30 PM at the Marriott Scout Service Center, refreshments will be served and you will be able to sample some delicious Trail's End Popcorn.

For registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-14879>





## What's New in Lions for 2017-2018?



Lions answers the call for fun, character-building after-school adventures for boys 5 or 6 years old or in kindergarten. Lions begins its second season as a nationwide pilot program in the 2017-2018 Scouting year.

Pilot is the operative word here. It means this program is evolving based on feedback from parents and BSA professionals. Based on that feedback, as well as surveys and focus groups, the BSA has some changes to announce for this fall.

- Pack meetings and activities will be open to Lion families who want to participate. Lion families said they wanted more pack involvement, and now they have the option of being included in program, skits, and more.
- Pinewood Derby open to Lions. Packs have three recommended options for implementing this:
  1. Integrate into the pack Derby with other Cub Scouts.
  2. Use the wedge car from the Scout Shop to eliminate cutting.
  3. Have Lions participate in a Veggie Car Derby, where potatoes and cucumbers replace wood blocks.
- Fundraising will be allowed as a family option. Although they don't want mandatory levels of funds to raise, Lion families indicated they do want to have the option to raise funds. Spring fundraising is encouraged. If popcorn is sold by Lions, a show-and-sell approach where older boys and parents are also present is preferred. Door-to-door selling would only be appropriate if the parent is by the youth's side.
- Uniform T-shirt won't change, but families can buy button-down if they want. Parents and boys love the required Lion T-shirt and optional cap. But this change allows families to buy official blue Cub Scout button-down shirts and blue pants as desired for special occasions and pack ceremonies.
- A Lion-specific page in Boys' Life. Parents can use this great resource to help unlock the world of reading for their child.



## Does the National Jamboree count toward the National Outdoor Award?



Yes, attendance at the Jamboree can count toward requirement 3G of the National Outdoor Award for Adventure. The requirement states that Scouts or Venturers must "attend any national high-adventure base or any nationally recognized local high-adventure or specialty-adventure program." The Jamboree qualifies.

Bottom line: The Adventure segment of the National Outdoor Awards asks Scouts or Venturers to complete 10 adventure activities. The Jamboree can count as one of those 10.

If a Scout or Venturer is lucky enough to attend two or more Jamborees — perhaps the 2017 National Jamboree and 2019 World Scout Jamboree — he or she may count both toward the 10. That's confirmed by this sentence in the Adventure award requirements: "Items 3a–g may be repeated as desired."



## The USO's Tips for Sending a Care Package to Troops



It's easy to take the little things for granted. For most Americans, stocking up on snacks, baby wipes and Kleenex is as simple as heading to a convenience store.

But for troops stationed around the world — especially at overseas locations like the Mideast or Okinawa — stocking up on every day commodities can mean waiting on, or rationing from, care packages shipped from the United States. However, even the most thoughtful — and jam-packed — of care packages eventually runs empty.

Luckily, the USO is there to help.

Anyone who wants to create the ultimate box of goodies for the troops can do so. Remember, even just one package worth of supplies can brighten a service member's day.

### Step 1: Find a USO center

This is easy. A list of all our centers can be found here:

<http://www.uso.org/Centers/Locate-A-Center.aspx>.

### Step 2: Check in with that center before you buy

Before you gather supplies and seal that box, send your selected center an email to doublecheck that they're able to receive care packages and ask them what sort of items troops at their location need most. They'll help you get the right address to send your package to, too.

### Step 3: Fill up a box

We always defer to the individual centers' knowledge (see Step 2) when it comes to knowing what troops need. No one knows our troops like the USO staff and volunteers on the ground. Still, we took the liberty of compiling a list of some of our downrange troops' favorite things to receive in care packages:

- Healthy snacks: Jerky, trail mixes, granola bars and fruit snacks
- Drink mix packets: Gatorade, lemonade, iced tea and crystal light packets
- Microwavable food: Easy Mac, popcorn, Cup O'Noodles, Chef Boyardee, oatmeal and other snacks that come in their own bowl (dining ware is scarce in Afghanistan)
- Non-perishable food: Tuna cans or packets, fruit cups, peanut butter, Nutella, soups and other canned foods
- Chocolate: Wait until the winter months to send chocolate, as it will melt in the mail if sent now
- Toiletries: Travel-size shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash, wet wipes and hand sanitizer (Please send these in separate boxes from food — no one likes shampoo-flavored oatmeal!)

### Step 4: Don't have the time? We can do it for you ...

Everyone has something they're passionate about. And if you've read this far, helping our troops is probably one of those things for you. But time can get in the way, especially during the holidays. If you still want to help troops, but can't make it to the store to fill up a care package, the USO can take care of it for you through a donation to [USOWishbook.org](http://USOWishbook.org), where you can send items like comfort food packages, books, movies, video games and more.



## Come Back to Gilwell by Joining the American Wood Badge Alumni Group



It's time for Owls to unite as a parliament, Antelopes to join the herd and Bears to form a sloth. (Yes, I looked it up, and that's what a group of bears is called. I couldn't believe it either.)

It's time to remember, reconnect and rekindle. It's time to come back to Gilwell.

The American Wood Badge Alumni group ([www.americanwoodbadge.org](http://www.americanwoodbadge.org)) unites BSA volunteers across the country who have completed that transformative training experience called Wood Badge.

Think of American Wood Badge Alumni as a group within a group. In this case, the larger group is Scouting Alumni & Friends (formerly called the Scouting Alumni Association).

### How to join American Wood Badge Alumni

Joining is easy.

First, you become a member of Scouting Alumni & Friends ([www.scoutingalumni.org/site/c.ejIPK1NNLgJ0E/b.9309477/k.BF3E/Home.htm](http://www.scoutingalumni.org/site/c.ejIPK1NNLgJ0E/b.9309477/k.BF3E/Home.htm)) at the free (Hiker) or \$35 (Pathfinder) level.

Then you go under "My Scouting Information" and select your Wood Badge critter.

Then ... you're done! But those small steps go a long way.

### OK, I've joined. What next?

In short, American Wood Badge Alumni is about rekindling the fire for all Wood Badgers.

And I do mean all Wood Badgers. That includes those who just completed their ticket last week and those whose Wood Badge experience was on the "old course" — the one used before the 2002 introduction of Wood Badge for the 21st Century.

In long, American Wood Badge Alumni works through local councils to help them connect with Wood Badgers who might want to give back to Wood Badge or Scouting in general.

The association has these five areas of focus:

1. **Membership.** Assist and promote new courses and the recruitment of Scouters to experience Wood Badge training. The association will assist in the promotion of all Wood Badge courses in the council, the area and the region.
2. **Communications.** Promote Wood Badge, the association and the awarding of Wood Badge scholarships.
3. **Alumni Events.** Network through Gilwell reunions and other council alumni events.
4. **Service.** Gather Wood Badgers to promote, organize and support service projects within the council, at camp properties and within the community.
5. **Recruitment.** The association will assist in identifying and recruiting Scouters who have experienced Wood Badge training and are well suited for additional roles and responsibilities.



## How to Celebrate Boy Scouts of America Month with Bass Pro Shops



Bass Pro Shops is hosting Boy Scouts of America Month at all U.S. locations this September. Throughout the month, Bass Pro Shops will promote Boy Scouts of America, offer merit badge classes, and provide opportunities to raise funds for Scouting projects. This is the eighth year Bass Pro Shops has recognized the Scouts with a month-long celebration.

Bass Pro Shops will offer customers the opportunity to donate to the Boy Scouts of America by rounding up their purchase total to the nearest dollar. At the end of the promotion, 50 percent of the money collected will be donated to the Boy Scouts of America National Council and 50 percent will be given to designated local councils. In addition, Bass Pro Shops will make a contribution for each donation made.

Scouts can work toward earning their fishing and rifle shooting merit badges by attending workshops\* at participating Bass Pro Shops locations. Classes are taught Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning at 6 p.m. according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday, Sept. 5 – Fishing merit badge class
- Wednesday, Sept. 6 – Rifle Shooting merit badge class
- Thursday, Sept. 7 – Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge class
- Tuesday, Sept. 12 – Rifle Shooting merit badge class
- Wednesday, Sept. 13 – Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge class
- Thursday, Sept. 14 – Fishing merit badge class
- Tuesday, Sept. 19 – Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge class
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Fishing merit badge class
- Thursday, Sept. 21 – Rifle Shooting merit badge class
- Tuesday, Sept. 26 – Fishing merit badge class
- Wednesday, Sept. 27 – Rifle Shooting merit badge class
- Thursday, Sept. 28 – Fish and Wildlife Management merit badge class

Class size is limited, so it is recommended that students call their nearest Bass Pro Shops and register over the phone.

\*Merit badge classes and donations available at all U.S. locations except Islamorada, Florida, Branson, Missouri and the Outlet store in Springfield, Missouri. Not available in Canada.

For more information visit <http://www.basspro.com/boyscouts> .





## 'SOS: How to Survive' on The Weather Channel



It started with the Wilderness Survival merit badge, earned at Maumee Scout Reservation in Indiana. Then there was the 2-inch ad in the back of Boys' Life magazine promising "amazing hidden secrets about rugged wilderness survival" to anyone who sent \$1 for postage and handling.

Beginning Sunday, Eagle Scout Creek Stewart's quest to become the ultimate survivalist takes him back to prime-time television.

In *SOS: How to Survive* on The Weather Channel, Creek recaps real-life survival situations and gives his take on what the individuals did right or wrong when fighting for their lives.

Some of his coolest tips include ways to repurpose everyday objects — using a camera lens to start a fire, for example — when survival is at stake.

"There's so much to learn, not only from what they went through but also, maybe, what they could've done," Creek says in a promo for the show:

<https://www.facebook.com/WeatherChannelOriginals/videos/1585326581487842/>

*SOS: How to Survive* premieres at 8 p.m. ET Sunday on The Weather Channel.



## How to Accept Credit Cards for Popcorn, Dues and Pretty Much Anything Else



Don't let a cashless customer walk away that easily. By adding a cheap credit card reader, your pack, troop or crew will be equipped to accept plastic for popcorn sales and other in-person, show-and-sell-type fundraisers. With a few taps, the money can be deposited into your unit's bank account in a day or two.

Units that add these readers see an instant increase in sales, often by 10 to 20%. Plus once you have the reader it can be used to pay dues, registration fees, and pretty much everything else your unit charges for.

For more on the pluses and minuses of card readers see:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2017/08/28/how-to-accept-credit-cards-for-popcorn-pack-dues-and-pretty-much-anything-else/>



## Safer Driving

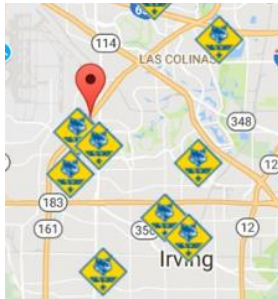


It's a sad fact that, in Scouting, motor vehicle accidents rank No. 1 both in frequency and severity (i.e., cost) of claim. In other words, the BSA sees more claims in getting Scouts to and from camps than it does from the programs and activities they pursue there.

What can leaders do to reduce these accidents? A good place to start is the BSA's fact-filled Risk Zone: Transporting Scouts Safely program at [www.scouting.org/Home/HealthandSafety/Safety\\_Moments.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Home/HealthandSafety/Safety_Moments.aspx)



## Update your BeAScout Pin Today



Today's parents can do it all online. With a few taps on their tablet, they can buy school supplies, sign up for soccer or hire a babysitter.

And, more and more these days, they're finding out about Scouting online, too. Today's parents want, and expect, to learn more about the BSA through a simple-to-use, nicely designed website.

BeAScout.org is that website. It is the first thing many prospective Scouting families see about the BSA, and it tells them what Scouting is, why it's a good fit for their family and where they can find a pack, troop, crew or ship near them.

That last part — the where — is where you come in. It's time to update your unit's listing on BeAScout.org.

You see, when moms and dads visit BeAScout.org, they can enter their ZIP code to find all the Scout units near them. These results show up as pins, with each representing a pack, troop or crew nearby. If your unit is one of those pins, you want that prospective Scout parent to have a direct line of communication to you. That way you can tell them all about how awesome Pack 123 is or what makes Troop 456 so great.

There's just one problem: some units haven't updated their pins, meaning there's an extra obstacle between you and a new member of your unit.

But don't worry. Updating your pin is easy, and it's well worth your time.

### How to update your BeAScout.org pin and who can do it

This Scouting Wire post outlines the steps for updating your BeAScout.org pin:

<http://scoutingwire.org/one-easy-thing-you-need-to-do-that-will-grow-membership/>

It's simple, and it's a good way to make sure your information is current — that it doesn't list last year's Cubmaster or meeting time, for example.

Not all adult volunteers can manage the unit's pin. The capability is restricted to the primary unit leader, unit committee chair and chartered organization representative who do it by logging into their my.Scouting Tools account:

<https://my.scouting.org/>

award requirements: "Items 3a–g may be repeated as desired."

LOL

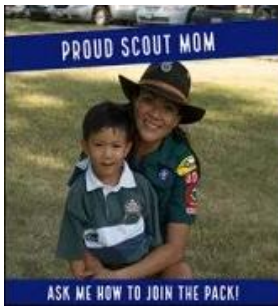


### Assembling Your Tent

1. Lay out all your pieces. Realize that some are missing.
2. Shove each rod through as many loops as you can.
3. Store the inexplicable extra pieces somewhere safe.
4. Clear out the dirt, bugs, and water that have somehow already filled your tent.
5. Crawl out of the tent as soon as it collapses on you.
6. Sleep in the car.



## This is the Best Way to Show your Cub Scouting Pride on Facebook



Share your Cub Scouting pride with friends, family members and that classmate from high school you've been meaning to get back in touch with.

With these new Facebook profile picture frames, you can show that you're a proud Cub Scout mom or Cub Scout dad or part of a proud Cub Scout family.

The fine folks on the BSA's Cub Scouts team created these frames, and you can add them to your Facebook profile photo in seconds.

The frames serve two equally awesome purposes: one, they tell the world that you're a big part of this incredible movement called Scouting, and two, they invite your Facebook friends to ask you for more information about joining your Cub Scout pack.

### How to add a Cub Scout profile picture frame on Facebook

1. Head to <https://www.facebook.com/profilepicframes>
2. Search for one of the following depending on the type of frame you'd like to add:
  - "Scout Fam Profile Picture Frame"
  - "Scout Mom Profile Picture Frame"
  - "Scout Dad Profile Picture Frame"
3. Select your desired frame and scale your profile photo as needed. This way you can avoid blocking key parts of your photo with the additional graphics. You also have the option to swap in another photo by selecting "Change Picture."
4. Select "Use as Profile Picture," at the bottom of the page to make your changes final. You can set a timeline for how long you'd like to keep this frame on your profile, as well.
5. Be Prepared for your friends and family to be in awe of your photo's cool, new look.

## Great Outdoors Webelos and Boy Scout EXPO



When: Nov 18, 10 am – 3 pm

Activities include Air Gun Shooting ranges, Archery, Tomahawk throwing, rock wall climbing and elements from the COPE Challenge Course.

We plan to have vendors from around the area showcasing recreational activities of all kinds. Learn about kayaking, canoeing, skiing, white water rafting, rock climbing, shooting, archery, hiking, and backpacking option in the area. Meet staff from area stores that carry equipment to meet your outdoor adventure needs.

Units are encouraged to camp with us Friday and Saturday night to take full advantage of all that the Great Outdoors event has to offer.

Registration at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-GreatOutdoors>, fee is \$10.

## Cub Scout EXPO & Family Camping Event



On Oct 21-22, come for the Expo, stay for the night! Cubs can enjoy camping with family and scouting friends in crisp fall air. The event fee includes full access to the Cub Scout Fall Expo! There will be vendors, shooting sports, games and activities for Cubs and Cub aged siblings. We will cap off the day with a group campfire!

Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-13689>. Early Bird registration ends September 30, 2017 so register early and save! Registration closes Friday October 7, 2017

All participants must bring a complete BSA health form parts A & B with them to check-in.

If you have food allergies, a medical condition or you require a special diet for religious reasons and plan to purchase the meal plan please complete the Special Dietary Request form and submit it to [Camp.Snyder@Scouting.org](mailto:Camp.Snyder@Scouting.org) no later than October 1, 2017.

Cost is \$30 per Scout or Cub Scout age sibling, \$10 for adults or Boy Scout age siblings, and free for those 5 and under.

## Maryland Orienteering Day



The 41<sup>st</sup> annual Maryland Scout Orienteering Day is on Saturday, Nov 4, 2017. Virginia troops (and Venturing Crews) are also eligible, and a large number always attend and do well. Self-guided instruction and courses are designed for beginners to this forest navigation map sport, plus intermediate and advanced levels, all on clear, professional color orienteering maps (two per Scout.) Last year a new morning instructional activity was a big hit.

Cost is \$4.00 per participant, plus, if camping, an extra \$2 per person per night. Over 100 awards (unique patches) will be presented.

Some of the tougher orienteering merit badge requirements can be met; this event does not focus on GPS or on the Geocaching or Search & Rescue merit badges.

On-line or surface mail registration, Oct. 23 deadline:

[www.BaltimoreBSA.org/orienteering](http://www.BaltimoreBSA.org/orienteering) , or the contact event chair [DaveLinthicum@earthlink.net](mailto:DaveLinthicum@earthlink.net) .

Small troops can combine with other small troops to be eligible for the "premier" troop category (10+ youth.) Venture units, Girl Scouts (age 10.5 or above) also welcome; no Cubs, no Webelos. A minimum of two Scouts from every unit is required.



## Philmont Advisor Skills School



Hiking around your neighborhood wearing a brick-filled backpack is a good way to get your body in shape for Philmont. But what about your mind? That's where the Philmont Advisor Skills School and Philmont Advisor Workshop really shine.

These courses — offered both at Philmont and in a city near you — are designed for adult advisors signed up to take a Philmont trek in 2018 or 2019. But, really, anyone interested in learning more about Philmont is invited. Last year, more than 1,100 people attended. This year, that number will be even higher.

If you're committed to making your Philmont trek a great experience for the guys and girls in your troop or crew, you really should make plans to attend. Successful Philmont crews begin regular planning meetings and practice hikes more than a year before their trek, and these courses focus your efforts with information straight from the source.

### **Philmont Advisor Workshop (PAW):**

<http://philmontscoutranch.org/TrekPreparation/PASS/PAW.aspx>

PAW courses will be two hour evening workshops (typically 7:00pm-9:00pm) and will cover skills such as what kind of gear to take on your trek, tips and tricks for getting into the proper physical condition for a Philmont trek, and a rundown of the different leadership positions within your crew and how you can better prepare the youth for their leadership role.

Cost: \$10 and covers PAW materials including the PAW Patch.

When (in Washington area):

- Tuesday, October 17 – NCAC Headquarters, Bethesda, MD
- Thursday, October 19 – Richmond, VA

### **Philmont Advisor Skills School in the Field (Field-PASS):**

<http://philmontscoutranch.org/TrekPreparation/PASS/Field.aspx>

Field-PASS courses will begin at 9:00am and usually take place in council scout offices. Experienced members from the Ranger and Backcountry Departments will lead you in the backcountry and logistical fundamentals of Philmont over the course of the day. Participants will enjoy a trail lunch and dinner in between training sessions. At the conclusion of the course, advisors will receive PASS materials to share with crew members. Courses end around 5:00pm.

Cost: \$40 and covers a Philmont-style trail meal lunch, dinner, and PASS materials including the PASS Patch.

When (in Washington area):

- Saturday, October 14 – Whiteford, ME
- Sunday, October 15 – Bethesda, MD..

### **Philmont Advisor Skills School at Philmont (PSR-PASS):**

<http://philmontscoutranch.org/TrekPreparation/PASS/PSR.aspx>

Four-day, three-night courses offering the ultimate guide to a Philmont trek. Because people learn best by doing, participants at PSR-PASS head into the Philmont backcountry for an overnight experience that will prepare them for their actual trek.

### **PASS and PAW video**

Prefer your information in video form? Philmont has you covered:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=npgVVI9kr4Y&feature=youtu.be>

### V3 Hike-o-ree 2017



The 28th Annual V3 (Venturing, Varsity, and Venture) Hike-o-ree will be held October 27-29, 2017, 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 Scout units including Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, Varsity Teams, Boy Scout Troops, and Girl Scout Troops.

Units are encouraged to form trail crews consisting of no more than twelve members, including at least two adults. Participation minimum age for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts is 13 years old as of January 1, 2018.

Registration on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS begins on September 1, 2017, on the BSA National Capital Area Council website.

An initial unit deposit is required to reserve a particular hike not later than October 6, 2017. 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.

The cost of the Hike-o-ree is \$18.00 (\$20.00 for XXL shirts) per participant.

For more information and to register: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-Hikeoree2017>

### 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/)

## CPR/AED Pro and First Aid Training



This is the training required for, but usually not included with, BSA Lifeguard. (BSA Lifeguard requirement #6).

The course will use the blended learning method. This combines online sessions done at your convenience with the scheduled hands-on in-classroom skills session.

You will have a 2 week window to complete the 3 hr 20 min online components. The in-person skills session will be 16 September from 9am-Noon at Fairfax Presbyterian Church.

In order to attend the in-person session, students must pass the assessment at the end of the online session and print a copy of their online completion certification to submit to the instructor at the in-person session.

Certifications that will be issued upon successful completion:

1. American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers
2. American Red Cross First Aid

**Course materials:** Participant Handbooks for both courses will be furnished in digital form to the students.

**Where:** Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main St., Fairfax VA 22030

**When:** Sept 16, 2017

**Registration:** To register, contact Mike Meenehan (703-400-2176) [mmmeenehan@cox.net](mailto:mmmeenehan@cox.net). You will be given a link to the American Red Cross to register and complete the online training portion. Registration deadline is 11 Sept.

**Cost:** \$25 to American Red Cross plus \$10 for CPR mask, if you don't have one)

**Maximum registrations:** 6

## On-Line Resource of the Month



TakeMeFishing.org has an interactive map ([www.TakeMeFishing.org/where-to-fish-and-boat/](http://www.TakeMeFishing.org/where-to-fish-and-boat/)) which will help you to locate the places to fish closest to you. Just enter your zip code and then look at the map. If there is nothing available in your immediate area then zoom out to find the closest fishing spot. You might be amazed to find local parks that allow fishing!

There is also a "State Info" link at the top which will help you find out about licensing in your state and other local information.

## Equipment / Gear / Tips



### Choosing a Knife



What's the most important tool to take on a camping trip? If you said a good, sharp knife, you agree with the experts. But few of today's knives are good for camping. A camp knife should be thin-bladed, lightweight, and compact. Edge retention is a factor only if you seldom sharpen your knife.

#### Knife Advice

- Three to four inches is an ideal blade length. Shorter won't reach to the bottom of the peanut butter jar; longer is necessary only for tasks such as filleting fish.
- Maximum blade thickness is one-eighth inch, and thinner is better. Try cutting paper-thin slices from a tomato with a thick-bladed knife and you'll see why.
- Knives with serrated edges are good only for cutting seat belts and rope. And you need a special tool to sharpen them.
- Carbon steel is easier to sharpen than stainless steel, and it tends to take a keener edge.
- A narrow, straight blade with a central point is best for peeling spuds and whittling kindling.
- Avoid knives that have a long, unsharpened area near the handle; a dull spot here shortens the cutting edge and reduces cutting leverage near your hand.

You can buy a good knife for under \$25. Best buys include American-made pocketknives (with one or two blades), genuine Swiss Army knives (Victorinox and Wenger), and the Official Boy Scout pocketknife. If you want a sheath knife, Canadian survival expert Mors Kochanski recommends the carbon-steel Swedish Mora knife. It comes with a rugged Scandinavian-style sheath and costs under \$15.

Choose a knife as you would a friend. Learn to sharpen it, treat it well, and it will last a lifetime.

## Books/Apps



### Best STEM



Best STEM Books is a joint project of the American Society for ASEE logoEngineering Education, the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, the National Science Teachers Association, the Society of Elementary Presidential Awardees, and the Children's Book Council. This list of 31 books (<http://www.cbcbbooks.org/2017-best-stem-books/>) aims to provide recommendations to educators, librarians, parents, and guardians for the best children's books with STEM content.



## Training Opportunities



### BALOO



Are you a Pack parent? Does your family like to go camping? Do you want your unit to be in compliance with BSA policies AND benefit for liability coverage in case of accident for approved activities? Then Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) is the course for you!

The Boy Scouts of America offers a day long course in all things camping, from site selection, to program, menu, campfire and more. BALOO certification of at least one adult is required for every Pack campout, and BALOO never expires. The ADAMS Center (46903 Sugarland Road, Sterling, VA 20164) is hosting BALOO training on September 30<sup>th</sup> for any parent who wishes to attend.

Save the date of September 30<sup>th</sup> and look to the Goose Creek District calendar for registration. For additional information, contact [Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org](mailto:Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org).

### IOLS and OLSWL



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders (OLSWL) Training will be presented by Goose Creek District, co-hosted by Powhatan District, at Blue Ridge Regional Park on August 11-12. Another IOLS class is planned for Oct 21-22, also at the Blue Ridge Regional Park. Registration for this has not opened up yet.

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.

Fee: \$35

Register for Aug 11-12 at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-13729>

### Save the Dates: PowWow and University of Scouting



#### POW WOW

When: October 28, 2017

Where: Annandale High School 4700 Medford Dr. Annandale, VA 22003

#### University of Scouting

When: February 24, 2018

Where: Hayfield Secondary School 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA

## 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 also find this course useful

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.

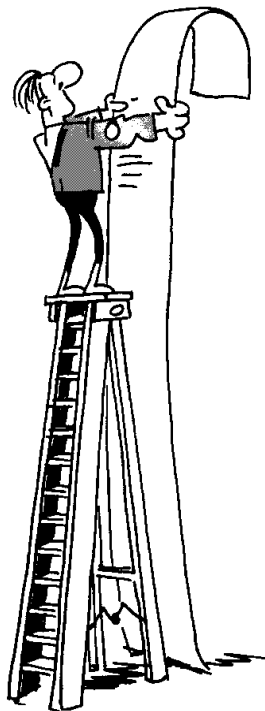
### 2017 Fall Course

**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



## District Calendar



### September 2017

4 Labor Day  
12 Join Scouting Night  
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  
28 **PowWow**

### November 2017

4 **SFF Bag Distribution**  
4-5 **Siege of Mafeking**  
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  
24 **University of Scouting**  
28 District Committee

### MARCH 2018

1 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**  
14 Roundtable  
14 OA Chapter Meeting  
21 District Committee  
26-30 Spring Break

### APRIL 2018

2 Student Holiday  
9 Student Holiday  
11 Roundtable  
11 OA Chapter Meeting  
25 District Committee

### MAY 2018

9 **Program Launch**  
9 OA Chapter Meeting  
23 District Committee  
28 Memorial Day

### June 2018

11 Roundtable  
11 OA Chapter Meeting  
13 Last Day of School  
27 District Committee

### July 2018

4 Independence Day

### August 2018

8 Roundtable  
8 OA Chapter Meeting  
22 District Committee