



Special Interest:

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Advancement

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Training

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Quick Calendar:

- Dec 13 – Roundtable
- Dec 14 – Annual District Business Meeting
- Jan 10 – Roundtable
- Jan 20 – Life to Eagle Seminar
- Jan 26-28 – Freeze-o-ree
- Feb 10 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 11 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 14 – Roundtable
- Feb 24 – Univ. Scouting

Newsletter Key:



Cub Scout Interest



Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest



For Everyone



New Article

Goose Creek District Newsletter



December 2017

Volume 9, Issue 5



from Bobwhite Blather <https://bobwhiteblather.com/democracy-in-the-committee/>

Democracy in the Committee

"All in favor, say Aye."

How often do you hear that in your committee meetings?

If you're doing things right, you shouldn't.

That's because the troop committee isn't a legislative body and doesn't make decisions based on what most of the committee members agree with. Some time ago, I was part of a panel discussion on one of Clarke Green's Scoutmaster podcasts on the function of the troop committee. I made the statement that The troop committee is not a democracy and it caught the ear of one of my readers, who wrote:

I wonder if you might elaborate on that a bit- specifically, what kinds of decisions can be made by the Scoutmaster and committee chair between themselves, and when does the chartered organization representative need to be included. Does the committee "approve" the plans the boys come up with by vote, or do they tacitly agree to support whatever they come up with (as long as the Scoutmaster agrees the plans are within the bounds of Scouting etc.)? What constitutes trespassing on program issues that should be the Scoutmaster's prerogative?

I replied that my viewpoint is that the troop committee's function is to assist and support the Scoutmaster in implementing the plans that the Scouts make. The Scoutmaster guides the Scouts into making plans that conform to the aims and methods of Scouting and the rules of the Boy Scouts of America and the chartered organization. He or she shares those plans with the troop committee, which then makes available the resources necessary to carry those plans out, or at least the resources that the Scouts can't provide for themselves.

As such, the committee doesn't really "vote" on anything. If the plans that the Scoutmaster brings to the committee aren't appropriate for some reason, the committee chair would discuss it with the Scoutmaster who takes it back to the patrol leaders' council. An example would be if the Scouts wanted to do something that was not permitted by safety rules, like hunting with rifles or going bungee jumping.

If the plans that the Scouts make seem out of reality, such as an Alaskan backcountry expedition or a trip to the International Scout Centre in Switzerland, the Scoutmaster takes it back to the Scouts and asks them how the troop could overcome the obstacles – travel, training, equipment, funding to name a few. The troop committee doesn't just say "no, we're not going to do that." If the Scouts want to do something badly enough, they'll find a way to make it happen for themselves – with the committee pitching in where the Scouts can't.

On business matters, the troop committee should arrive at answers by consensus, rather than by voting. An example might be deciding which tents to buy. Rather than all in favor of Big Agnes, say 'aye', you'd have a discussion and evaluation (and that could use some Scout input), and gravitate toward a decision that's agreeable all around.

Looking at things this way, it eliminates a lot of bickering, debate and argument and centers on doing what's best for the Scouts.

The chartered organization representative should be kept informed of what's going on in the troop and have a say in the troop's activities to make sure they are in alignment with the chartered organization's values. For instance, a troop chartered to a Jewish congregation might be expected to observe the high holy days and not go camping on those weekends.

By coming to agreement by all concerned on all fronts, you can make sure everyone has a voice and the decisions made by the committee are something that everyone can support.!

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



Scouting for Food - We DID Do More



The Scouting for Food (SFF) campaign for 2017 was a great success, increasing our collection from last year by almost 9% ... to 97,442 pounds! This is probably a final number, but there are still inputs pending from two pantries; one that needs to send in all details, and one that is believed to have collected from one more unit, a week after the SFF efforts were completed. All in all, the weather was wonderful, the food plentiful, and the 'good-vibe' energy of the Scouts and Scouters fantastic.

For those who use metrics/numbers to appreciate the magnitude of the efforts of our Scouters – and the generosity of our county residents – we offer the following

- **Total # units participating** ... 80; 46 Cub Scout Packs, 28 Boy Scout Troops, and 6 "Other BSA Units".
- **Total # Scouting volunteers** ... Est'd at 1,800 (Unknown for sure, but estimated at 20-25 per unit.)
- **Total # Scouting volunteer hours** ... 5,900; (Unknown for sure, but estimated at 3.5 hrs per person.)
- **Total # Food Pantries involved** ... 8; Catholic Charities, Dulles South Food Pantry, Loudoun Hunger Relief, LINK (Christ the Redeemer), Messiah's Market, Seven Loaves, Tree of Life and Western Loudoun Food Pantry.

Given the improvement from last year, and the known (unfortunate) oversight of many condos and apartments this year, we are sure we can break 100,000 pounds again next year. Plus, we have LOTS of territory within Goose Creek that is simply unclaimed from a SFF perspective.

Thank you all again. And if you do have some ideas on how to improve things for next year, PLEASE send them our way with an email to SFFGooseCreekDistrict@GooseCreekDistrict.org.



Food pile waiting to be sorted at LINK collection site. Carts on the right have additional food coming in to be added to the pile (and it wasn't even noon yet).



Goose Creek District Camporee



Speculation remains rampant as Scouts and Scouters anxiously await the announcement of the location of 2018 Spring Camporee. A full media blackout remains in effect regarding the details. The Commissioner that inadvertently let slip the confirmation of the date of April 13th – April 15th at the end of the October Roundtable was hustled offstage by his handlers and has not been available for comment since. Volunteers remain sworn to secrecy and organizers have moved quickly to quash some of the many rumors that abound. The more outlandish speculation of hot air balloon parasailing, ice fishing on the Potomac and Greco Roman wrestling the older pandas at the National Zoo have been discounted; all that is certain at this point is the date. Would be participants should block the time in question on their unit calendars and contact Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org for pointed denials and evasion.



Goose Creek District Committee



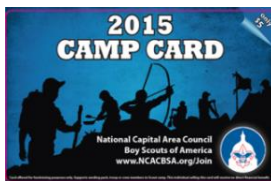
Goose Creek District is always looking for a few good committee members. Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of each month, 7:30 PM at Leesburg United Methodist Church (same place as Roundtable).

The Program Committee is currently looking to fill the following positions:

- **Camping and Outdoor Committee** - Liaison with NCAC, keeping the district aware of any and all camping needs throughout the council.
- **Webelos-O-Ree Coordinator** - Help plan, coordinate and execute the annual Fall Webelos-O-Ree. Dr. Steiner who has run it for the last 13 years is stepping down (and this time he means it) but will still be available to help mentor the new coordinator.
- **STEM Coordinator** - to help promote STEM-related activities within the Goose Creek District
- And, the Advancement and Training Committees are always looking for help.

For more information, please contact District Programming Chair Steve Wolfson at SteveWolfson@verizon.net

2018 Camp Card - Helping Scouts Earn their way to Camp!



National Capital Area Council is pleased to announce the "Camp Card" fundraising program for 2018. People who buy the card for \$5 from Scouts get recurring discounts from several area stores. This year Goose Creek will get a special Camp Card that lists Harris Teeter as the supermarket instead of Safeway (which only exists in eastern Loudoun).

This initiative is designed to help Scouts earn their way to Summer Camp and Day Camp. Units participating in the program will earn up to 50% commission, (\$2.50) on each \$5 Camp Card they sell. The 50% commission is contingent on closing the settlement account no later than April 1st. Mid March will be an opportunity to turn in money and get more cards, or turn in cards. This program is RISK FREE, simply return any unsold cards. Lost cards are assumed as sold and charged the \$2.50 rate.

To sign up just talk to our District Executive

Friends of Scouting



It is that time of year again to begin thinking about Friends of Scouting! Please begin thinking about when you want to have your presentation for 2018. You can begin scheduling these for December Through April. We are accepting this information as soon as you have it, so please get it to Dimitri or Ray Posluszny ASAP!

If you made a pledge for 2017 and have yet to pay it, or have only paid a partial amount, please pay that as soon as you are able! Pledges are great, but payments are even better! Please let Dimitri or Ray know if you have any questions!!

- Start to collect the registration/insurance fees for your Scouts

Remember there will be no insurance Fees for Lion and Tiger adult partners: Lion and Tiger adult partners will not pay the \$6 insurance fee as originally planned during charter renewal. Updated Internet Rechartering will only compute the insurance fee for paid members. **This is a change from what was published in the Charter Renewal Handbook and on the face of Transmittal Envelopes.**

All unit recharterers need to be turned in by November 30. If you are having problems please talk with your Unit Commissioner to contact the district commissioner if you cannot reach your Unit Commissioner.

Merit Badge Counselor Rechartering



Just as units must recharter every year so must the district, and that means we not only have to get the listing of all of our committee members and commissioners ready, but also the listing of our merit badge counselors (MBCs). With about 600 MBCs in the district this would be a daunting task but we do have a way to make this easier.

All MBCs currently registered with the district, **and that have their YPT training current as of January 1, 2018** (i.e. it doesn't expire before this date), will be automatically registered for next year. Anyone without current YPT will be dropped from the roster and will need to send in a new MBC application, after retaking YPT, in order to be added back into the list.

Webelos-o-ree Patches



If you haven't gotten your patches for the last Webelos-o-ree yet then please send an email to Webelosoree@GooseCreekDistrict.org. We want to make sure that everyone gets one who paid for it.

Order of the Arrow - Unit Elections



The annual OA Unit Election season runs from November 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018. Troops and Teams may hold only one election per season and it is recommended that the election be held prior to April 1, 2018. This will allow all elected candidates to be able to attend the Goose Creek Chapter Ordeal the weekend of April 27-29, 2018. 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 (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) 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.



Webelosoreesnowapalooza!



Troop 982 cordially invites Webelos 1 & Arrow of Light Scouts, to join the Scouts of Troop 982 for our 8th annual Webelos-O-Ree and Winter Fest (Saturday January 27th, 2018 - 10AM-2PM). Our Scouts have been working hard to put together a fun program that will introduce your Webelos to Boy Scouting and give them an opportunity to meet the Scouts of Troop 982. There will be several program stations for your Webelos to enjoy including Fire building, Knots & Lashing, Orienteering, Camping/Hiking/Troop Trailer. Each of these program areas (approximately 20 minutes each) will be run by our Scouts and be hands on for your Webelos allowing them to get a sense of what Boy Scouts is like.

For the adults, please plan on spending about 45 minutes for an orientation to our Troop by our Adult Leadership. We will have numerous Troop 982 Scouters and parents available to answer questions about Scouting, Troop 982 in general, our activities and philosophy and advancement from Webelos to Boy Scouts. Send an email to wagnerrobert@hotmail.com to indicate interest (and to ensure we are well stocked with hot chocolate and snacks enough to go around).

Troop 1941's Open House



Come explore Troop 1941 at our open house. Learn what it is like to be a Boy Scout and see what exciting adventures are planned for the next year.

Date: December 11, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Farmwell Station Middle School
44281 Gloucester Pkwy, Ashburn, VA

Who's Invited: All Webelos and their families.

Troop 761's Open House



It was wonderful to meet so many Webelos/Arrow of Light Scouts and Leaders at the Troop 761 Monkey Bridge at Webelos-o-ree! We hope your Scouts had as much fun crossing the Monkey Bridge as our Scouts had building it.

Troop 761 invites your Arrow of Light Scouts, parents and Scout leaders to an Open House on Monday, December 4th from 7:00-8:30pm. We are chartered at and meet at the National Recreation and Parks Association in Brambleton at 22377 Belmont Ridge Road (detailed directions available on our website: www.troop761.org/whenwhere/). Please share the date & details with your Arrow of Light Scouts & parents.

To assist with planning, it would be helpful to have a response on how many Scouts + adults may attend from your Pack. It is not required to have an exact headcount -- we would simply like your best guess so that we can plan chairs & refreshments. Please reply to webelos@troop761.org.

If the Open House date doesn't work for your den, or for some members of your den, just let us know. We would be happy to welcome your Scouts to visit at a regular troop meeting in January as well. We meet regularly on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm.



"Cheerful Service Chatter"

Chapter News for our Arrowmen

Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA



Dues Change for 2018



2018 is right around the corner, which means it's time to begin looking towards next year's events filled with fun and fellowship. To attend any OA event or wear your sash and lodge flap, you must be a current dues-paying member of our lodge. For 2018, due to an increase in National recharter fees, annual dues will be \$16. However, if you pay your dues before March 31, you will receive the early bird price of \$14, equivalent to this year's dues cost.

In addition to dues, the Lodge Passport allows you to attend Lodge events next year at a great, discounted price. The \$100 cost of the 2018 Passport includes your 2018 dues, a cool patch, and entrance to the Lodge Banquet, Spring Fellowship, and Fall Fellowship.

Please see our lodge website, www.ncacbsa.org/program/order-of-the-arrow/ to complete your online registration and to learn more about our plans for the upcoming year. If you have any questions or concerns about annual dues or the Lodge Passport, please send us an email at membership@wipit470.org

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Gavin Ferguson – Troop 1158

Jordan Hardy – Troop 982

Ryan Rodriguez – T761

Ethan Williams – Troop 998



Life-to-Eagle Training



Mark your calendars for the first “installment” of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek in 2018.

Date: Saturday, January 20, 2018

Time: 10:30 - 2:30

Place: Purcellville Library, Roby Mtg Rm (**pending Library confirmation**)

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 as well. The goal is to get each every 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.

We're targeting an additional 2-3 Life-to-Eagle Seminars in 2018, and are currently targeting the months of April, July, and Sep (or Nov). Locations and times are all “TBD” pending confirmation of meeting room availabilities.

Also, if you ARE a L2E 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.



What to Do When a Scout Misbehaves



In the Nov 21, 2017 Ask Andy column

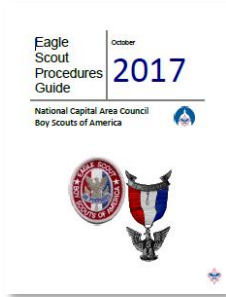
(<http://netcommissioner.com/askandy/2017/11/issue-551-november-21-2017/>)

a question came in on “Is there ever a situation where a Scout's behavior permanently puts his Eagle rank out of reach?”

Andy's response is exactly how all Unit Leaders should handle situations like this and we suggest that all unit leaders take a look the article (it is the second one listed for that date).



Updated Eagle Scout Procedures Guide



NCAC has just finished updated the NCAC Eagle Scout Procedures Guide (www.ncacbsa.org/advancement/eagle-scout-information/). The guide provides guidance to Life Scouts and Souters in the NCAC on the policies and procedures relating to the Eagle rank and to address commonly asked questions and issues.

This document is divided into small, consumable sections for the Scout. The NCAC Advancement and Recognition Committee recommends they read just the section with the information they need rather than trying to devour the whole document.

While the focus of this document is towards the Scout working on Eagle, it is also valuable for parents and unit leaders to read.



Things to Remember When Filling out an Eagle Scout Rank Application



- Six references are required (five if not employed), this is not optional. Also, complete contact information should be provided. Use the school address and phone if the teacher does not wish to give personal information. The reference cannot be a building or a company; it must be a person who can write a letter.
 - If home schooled a parent name can be duplicated for the school reference.
- The start date of the position of responsibility cannot be before the date of the Life Board of Review and cannot end on a date after the Scout signs the rank application.



Tech Talk! Nova Class at Microsoft for Cub Scouts



Microsoft has worked with Boy Scouts of America to design curriculae that meet Boy Scout and Cub Scout advancement requirements.

The Tech Talk! Class is for Cub Scouts (2nd grade - 5th grade) and covers requirements 3-5 of the Tech Talk! Nova Award. Scouts will also participate in an Hour of Code Minecraft activity. Please note that Tigers are not eligible for the STEM Award and should not register for this class.

This class is held multiple Sundays & Thursdays at Microsoft Tysons. To see when the next available class is and to register go to

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

LOL



Scouting Rules:

- The number of matches it takes to get the fire going is inversely proportional the number that were in the box when you started.
- There is no such thing as "Too much wood".
- Scouts have endless supplies of energy until they have to walk somewhere.
- If you stand and stare at a tent long enough it will pitch itself.
- Food is never burnt – it's got "extra carbon".
- Only expensive equipment gets broken, cheap stuff falls apart all by itself.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org



BSA Chief Answers Your Questions about Welcoming Girls into BSA Programs



After the BSA Board of Directors' historic decision to welcome girls into Scouting, many in the Scouting community had just one question: When can my daughter sign up? Other Scouters had more specific questions about the reasons for the move, implementation and rollout plan.

On Oct. 30, Bryan Wendell (senior editor of *Boys' Life*, *Scouting* and *Eagles' Call* magazines) asked Scouters to submit their questions for BSA Chief Scout Executive Mike Surbaugh. By the time they recorded the video, they had received more than 400 questions.

Bryan read each one, organized them by topic and took a representative sample of 22 questions directly to our Chief. He spoke openly and candidly for nearly 30 minutes.

To watch the complete video of the discussion go to <https://youtu.be/bpq2xYPKl4w>



Space Camp



The link between Scouting and the space program has been well documented. Less known but equally potent is the longstanding relationship between Scouting and Space Camp, part of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala.

"When you look at the history of Scouting, it has always sought to develop the best Scout mind, the best heart and the best sense of duty," Taylor says. "Here at Space Camp, we look at those same factors. We want to engage them with an experience that is as authentically and rigorously embedded in something bigger than the every day."

Then there's the more practical alignment, like merit badges. Boy Scouts can earn merit badges (Space Exploration, Aviation or Robotics) as part of their weeklong, overnight summer programs. Each Scout receives a letter in his graduation packet stating he has fully met the requirements for these badges. In addition, Aviation Challenge graduates complete all but one component for the Wilderness Survival badge.

For more information go to <https://www.spacecamp.com/groups/scouting>



Troubleshooting the Patrol Method

This is a self assessment tool to help gauge how well a Troop it may be a good idea to have several adults and youth Troop members complete the assessment and discuss the results. This is not very scientific but it will at least give you an idea of where you are.

PATROL SYSTEM	PATROL STRUCTURE			PATROL LEADER'S COUNCIL
	ALPHA	MEET TIME	DELIVERANCE	
Patrol membership is stable	yes	yes	yes	Patrol
Patrol Leaders are elected by patrol members	yes	yes	yes	Patrol
Patrols participate as a "natural" patrol	yes	yes	yes	Patrol
Patrol has AP, Scribe, Quartermaster	yes	yes	yes	Patrol
Patrols have eight to ten members	yes	yes	yes	Patrol
PLC meets with Scoutmaster observing	yes	yes	yes	Adult
PLC plans meetings/activities	yes	yes	yes	Adult
Senior Patrol Leader is elected by Scouts	yes	yes	yes	Scout

This is a self assessment tool developed by ScoutmasterCG

(<http://scoutmastercg.com/troubleshooting-the-patrol-method/>) to help gauge how well a troop applies the patrol method. It may be a good idea to have several adults and youth troop members complete the assessment and discuss the results. This is not very scientific but it will at least give you an idea of where you are.

Here's the PDF version you can download: www.scoutmastercg.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/patrol-system-self-assesment-tool.pdf



Project: Milkweed for Monarchs



In February 2018, NCAC will kick-off Milkweed for Monarchs, a massive conservation project to protect and promote sustainable habitat for the monarch butterfly. One of nature's most recognizable and beautiful butterflies, the monarch has been in decline in recent years. Monarchs are also a vital food source for other animals in the local ecosystem; their dwindling numbers could have profound effects on the food chain. Many factors, including environmental considerations and a loss of habitat, contribute to the decline.

With Milkweed for Monarchs, Scouts are looking to reverse this trend. Monarch caterpillars depend upon milkweed as their food source; Scouts will help the butterflies by protecting existing stands of milkweed, and by planting more of it.

Helping out is easy! Protect milkweed where you see it and plant more. It's a simple plant to cultivate. Because milkweed is a perennial, once you plant it and establish it this spring your plants will return the following year to help feed the next generation of monarch caterpillars.

In addition, NCAC will be holding a Monarch Photo Contest and introducing a special Council Shoulder Patch to commemorate this conservation effort. Be on the lookout for additional information as we move towards our kickoff. To take the Milkweed for Monarchs Pledge or for more information, please visit www.NCACBSA.org/Monarchs



24th World Scout Jamboree



Over fifty years ago the Boy Scouts of America hosted the only World Jamboree to be held in the United States. The 12th World Jamboree welcomed twelve thousand Scouts from 105 nations, who assembled at Farragut State Park in northern Idaho. In less than two years' time the Joint Hosts of Canada, Mexico and the US will hold the 24th World Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve July 22nd – August 2nd 2019.

Up to 50,000 Scouts from some 160 countries and contingents will come together, to renew their perspective to all that is best in Scouting. You can be a part of the US contingent, but you have to register electronically, and spots are filling up quickly. Since registration opened a few weeks ago the pace of activity has only increased. For more information on the Jamboree, with details as to how to sign up as a participant or staff volunteer, go to www.ncacbsa.org/wsj at Council for all your Jamboree needs. If you have questions, contact the District Rep to the International Committee at Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org.



Seabase Contingent Needs Additional Scouts



Personals: Lonely SeaBase contingent from Central Loudoun seeks two additional Scouts. Must be born before 6/26/2005 and have a valid US Passport. Respondents should like salt water, confined spaces and the smell of Dramamine in the morning. Free your calendar for a trip to the Bahamas between June 26- July 3, 2018. All the sun screen you could want. No non-swimmers need apply. Contact Patricia Allen at 1971librapab@gmail.com or via cell at 703-473-1789.



Buy a Patch to Help Rebuild Puerto Rico Council's Guajataka Scout Reservation



Scouts help other people at all times, and the Puerto Rico Council needs our help at this time.

Concilio de Puerto Rico de los Boy Scouts of America, one of the BSA's nearly 280 local councils, suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Maria in September. The powerful storm hit the council's service center as well as the beloved Guajataka Scout Reservation.

While most of us won't be able to make it down to Puerto Rico to help with relief efforts, there is something we can do with a few taps or clicks.

In true Scouting fashion, this bit of relief comes in the form of a commemorative patch. The Northeast Region, of which the Puerto Rico Council is a member, has created a set of limited-edition patches. Proceeds from the sale will rebuild Scouting on the island.

The patch idea was devised in part by the Order of the Arrow. The Northeast Region's OA chief (a youth) and OA chairman (an adult volunteer) worked with the Northeast Region Area 5 Director (a professional) to create the patches. Arrowmen from OA Section NE-5 (of which Puerto Rico's OA lodge, Logia Yokahú, is a member) helped with the design.

The patch comes in three flavors — a blue border for \$5, a blue mylar border for \$10 and a limited-edition chenille for \$25.

You can order at <https://scoutingevent.com/358-PPCPRP> by following these steps:

1. Click the blue button marked "Order Here" at the top of the page.
2. On the next page, click "Order Here" again. It will show \$0.00, but you'll actually add patches to your cart in Step 4.
3. Sign in (if you have an existing MyRoster account with the council), or register as a guest by putting in your first name, last name and email address.
4. Order your patches. You may also make an additional donation at the bottom of the page.

What to do with questions? Contact Frank Caccavale by email at frankcacc@yahoo.com.



2018 Goshen Summer Camp Staff Applicant



Every year, the seven camps and programs which make up the Goshen Scout Reservation employ close to 250 highly motivated individuals to participate in the experience of a lifetime. If you are 14 years of age or older by this summer, you could be a part of something huge!

Interviews will be the first two Saturdays in January. Apply online and get more information at www.GoToGoshen.org/staff.



National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award



The National Eagle Scout Association has established the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award to recognize valuable service of an exceptional nature by a Scout to a religious institution, a school, community, or other entity. The award recognizes the Scout for his Eagle Scout service project, which is part of the requirements for earning the Eagle Scout Award. Each local council will choose a council-level winner, and from that pool, each region will pick a region-level winner. A national winner then will be selected from the four regional finalists. The national award winner will receive a certificate, a silver device for the Eagle embroidered knot, and a cash award of \$2,500 that will be available for the Scout's future educational purposes or for him to attend a national or international Scouting event or venue.

The nomination shall be submitted to the NESA committee of the council in which the service project was completed on or before January 21 of each year. The submission must include the application (found at www.nesa.org/PDF/542-026.pdf), a name and summary of the project, and the Eagle Scout's contact information. A complete duplicate copy of his Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook (previously submitted by the Scout to his Eagle board of review committee) must be attached to the application.

Each local council NESA committee shall select one service project of the year from among those meeting the submission guidelines. The included criteria and other factors are all appropriate for consideration by the committee in selecting the winners. Evaluation criteria for this award should include consideration of at least the following:

- Project planning required
- Effort to develop the project
- Extent and character of the leadership provided by the Scout
- Extent of achievement of the planned result, including changes or modifications required to complete the project
- Project's impact on the beneficiary and/or on the community at large
- Originality of the project
- Scope of the work
- Time and materials contributed

Level of skill employed to complete the project



Snow Rangers



Looking for a fun winter activity for a Webelos den? The US Forest Service has a Junior Snow Ranger program that you can use in a den meeting. This PDF file (www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5354851.pdf) is a great activity book with an application form at the end. It covers science, animals, safety, and a lot more.

Scouts can receive a card, badge, and bandanna upon completing the program.



2017-18 We the Students Essay Contest



Should schools be able to keep tabs on students' social media to prevent internet bullying? Should there be regulations that prohibit President Trump from tweeting? This year's prompt is, To what extent in the U.S. does the government—federal, state, and local—have the duty to monitor internet content? With our “We the Students” essay contest, you could win prizes just for sharing your thoughts on this issue!

Each year, the We the Students Essay Contest gives high-school students in grades 8-12 from across the U.S. a chance to share your perspective on a trending topic.

This year, we're asking you to consider what role the government should play in monitoring internet content and awarding \$20,000+ in scholarship and prizes.

- 1st Place – \$5,000 and a scholarship to our 2018 Constitutional Academy in Washington, D.C.
- Runners Up – Six prizes at \$1,250 each
- Honorable Mentions – Eight prizes at \$500 each



For more details, and to and submit your 500-800-word essay before February 5, 2018 go to: <https://webportalapp.com/sp/signup/wethestudents2017>



2018 Goshen Summer Camp Availability



Key: Available Almost Full Full

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

Week 1 – 6/24 to 6/30

Week 2 – 7/1 to 7/7

Week 3 – 7/8 to 7/14

Week 4 – 7/15 to 7/21

Week 5 – 7/22 to 7/28

Week 6 – 7/29 to 8/4

Fees:

If paid by April 13: Youth \$360, Adults \$225*

If paid by May 18: Youth \$400, Adults \$265*

After May 18 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/>



How to Celebrate Scout Sunday/Sabbath/Jumuah



Two very special days for the Boy Scouts of America are Scout Sunday and Scout Sabbath. First observed in 1914, the days honor the contributions of boys and adults to Scouting.

Recently, the National Association of Muslim Americans on Scouting began celebrating Scout Jumuah which honors the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting within the Muslim community.

Celebrating Scout Sunday, Scout Sabbath, and Scout Jumuah can help introduce the Scouting program to congregation members who may not know about it. Because most Scout units are chartered to faith-based organizations, Scout Sunday, Scout Sabbath, and Scout Jumuah also give the boys an opportunity to give back by performing acts of service.

Whether with your pack or with your family, commemorating one of these important days will show your Scout spirit to your community.

Typically, Scout Sunday is the Sunday before BSA's anniversary which is February 8th. This date is flexible to accommodate the congregation's needs. For example, the United Methodist Church always celebrates Scout Sunday on the second Sunday in February to avoid conflict with their commemoration of Transfiguration Sunday. An individual church also has the option of celebrating on a different Sunday.

Scout Sabbath is the Saturday following Scout Sunday. Congregations may also choose another Sabbath on which to celebrate Scout Sabbath.

For 2018 Scout Sunday is Feb 4th, Scout Sabbath Feb 10th, and Scout Jumuah Feb 9th.

Ways to Commemorate Scout Sunday, Scout Sabbath, and Scout Jumuah

- Wear your Scout uniform and sit together at the front of the church, synagogue, or mosque. If your unit is not sponsored by a faith-based organization, wear your uniform to your home church.
- Serve as ushers for the church and hand out church bulletins.
- Conduct a flag ceremony at the beginning of the service.
- Recite the Scout Oath and Law during the service.
- Lead a prayer.
- Serve as the liturgist.
- Collect the offering.
- Provide refreshments for the church members.
- Set up a Scouting display in the narthex or foyer.
- Ask members of the congregation who were Scouts to stand up. Then ask those who have served as a Scout leader to stand up.
- Formally present your unit's charter to the church, synagogue, or mosque.
- Award any religious emblems that your Scouts have earned.
- Work on a service project for the church, synagogue, or mosque after the services have concluded.
- Hold your troop's Court of Honor or your pack's award ceremony immediately following the service.
- Hold a Scouting for Food food drive at the church, synagogue, or mosque.

★ When and How to File an Incident Report if Things Go Wrong on a Scouting Outing



Thanks to the BSA's array of safety programs, Scouting boasts an impressive safety record. Although the program includes many potentially risky activities — rock climbing, whitewater rafting, rifle shooting, etc. — Scouts are typically safer at camp than driving to camp. However, while rare, incidents do occur. And so do what the BSA calls “near misses.” The BSA's incident reporting strategy ensures that the right people are notified, an appropriate and timely response occurs, and that everyone can learn from what happened.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED AN INCIDENT? Loosely defined, a health and safety incident is any unplanned event that results in harm to an individual, property or the environment. Examples include injuries (ranging from minor to life-threatening), outbreaks of foodborne illnesses, vehicle accidents, property damage, the closure of a program area because of safety concerns, and the death of a Scout or volunteer. Any incident that requires the intervention of medical personnel, involves emergency responders or results in a response beyond Scout-rendered first aid must be reported. Youth Protection incidents are defined as any occurrence of abusive or inappropriate behavior in which a report to, or action by, authorities, the council, unit or parents is indicated. Allegations of child abuse or victimization of a Scout have specific reporting requirements, as described later.

WHAT'S A NEAR MISS? An unplanned event that doesn't result in injury, illness or damage but had the potential to do so. If injuries occurred, the incident was not a near miss. An example of a near miss is a Scout getting lost at camp and your calling for emergency response. Near-miss reporting has been used for decades as a means of knowing risks and preventing future incidents.

WHY SHOULD WE REPORT INCIDENTS? To ensure that the organization can respond in an appropriate manner and be prepared to handle any ensuing allegations or claims. Incident reports also help the BSA develop policies to prevent future occurrences.

WHAT ARE THE BSA'S REPORTING REQUIREMENTS? It's as simple as gathering the facts: who, what, where, when, why and how of the incident. Then inform your council Scout executive or Enterprise Risk Management Committee staff adviser. The Incident Information Report (No. 680-016) is a tool to help you ask the right questions; it can be found on the Scouting Safely website (<http://scouting.org/scoutingsafely>) and in the appendix of the Guide to Safe Scouting. For a catastrophic incident, after getting help for injured parties, notify your Scout executive immediately. The Guide to Safe Scouting details the reporting instructions for other types of incidents.

WHAT IF THE INCIDENT INVOLVES ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR? Use the Youth Protection/Membership Incident Information Form (No. 680-676) to gather data. Note that this form contains confidential information and must be forwarded directly to the Scout executive as soon as possible.

IF I REPORT ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE TO THE BSA, DO I STILL NEED TO REPORT IT TO THE AUTHORITIES? Yes. You must still follow your state's mandatory reporting requirements.



Strive for Scouting Success using Journey to Excellence



Journey to Excellence (JTE) helps a unit leader answer the question: Are you and your Scouts getting the most out of Scouting?

You answer that question by using a JTE scorecard (there are different ones for Packs, Troops, and Crews) and keeping score. You get points in a number of categories and, at the end of the year, you add up your score from each category. If the total is high enough, you earn bronze, silver or gold.

Each category on the scorecard is important, but a poor performance in one or two won't doom your unit. You fill out your scorecard at the end of the calendar year and hand it in according to your district or council's instructions.

New scorecards come out every year and can be found at <http://scouting.org/jte>

Proactive, Not Reactive

Planning ahead is what makes JTE so powerful.

Your JTE score isn't hidden inside a box to be opened on New Year's Eve. It's right in front of you. At the beginning of the year, you see exactly how you'll be scored and can plan accordingly. At regular intervals throughout the year, you track your progress. At year's end? No surprises.

Get on the Scoreboard

Becoming a gold JTE unit isn't easy. And you probably won't achieve gold in your first few years. What's important is that you're equipped with the facts to make any necessary improvements and that you get an early warning of potential problem areas.

Quality Districts and Councils

Units aren't the only ones keeping score with JTE. Districts and councils have their own scorecards for tracking success. Their JTE score is directly related to those of their units. (Editor's Note: Both NCAC and Goose Creek have been gold for the last few years).

Important Notes

- In order for your service projects to count towards JTE they must be entered into the JTE Service Hours website (see above link). These should be entered throughout the year and not done in a last minute scramble, trying to remember who did what, at the end of the year.
- Advancements need to be entered into Internet Advancement in order to count towards JTE.



2018 Camp Snyder Staff Applicant



Camp Snyder is seeking friendly, outgoing, fun and responsible individuals age 15 and up to be program wide Camp Counselors, and age 18 and up to lead our Fort, Big Dig, Ship, Nature, and Handicraft program areas. We are looking for age 18 and up to direct BB and Archery ranges. 21 and up to be Camp, Program and Aquatics Directors.

- Contact Camp Snyder for more information. Phone: (571) 248-4904, Email: Camp.Snyder@Scouting.org



Buddy Check! The Importance of Getting a Friend Wherever You Go



In a crowded pool full of raucous boys splashing and swimming, the justification for frequent buddy checks appears self-evident.

But do Scouts really need to get a friend for a quick trip to the latrine or when they meet with a merit badge counselor?

Simply put, yes.

Scouting's buddy system calls for Scouts to pair up with a friend or two for all activities. This helps ensure safety and accountability, and teaches Scouts to have responsibility for others.

The basics

Looking out for one another anywhere and everywhere is the keystone to the buddy system. Just because you're in a populous place doesn't mean you can't get overlooked by those around you. Watch a few videos on this YouTube page (www.youtube.com/user/LifeguardRescue11/videos) of rescues at a South Carolina wave pool, and you'll soon notice that many times the lifeguards — and not the swimmers just a few feet away — are the first ones to realize something is wrong.

Buddies are there to watch you when others may not. They stay nearby to monitor you, alerting a safety team if help is needed.

Adults are not exempt from any these safety measures. Scouters should have buddies during all Scouting activities, too.

Buddy system guidelines:

- The buddy system should be used at all times, not just for aquatics. Horseback riding, cycling, canvassing the neighborhood during a fundraiser...you name it, you need a buddy.
- It's recommended that buddies know and be comfortable with each other. No youth should be forced into or made to feel uncomfortable by a buddy assignment.
- It is strongly encouraged to pair Scouts of similar abilities, ages and maturity. Self-selection with no more than two years age or significant differences in maturity is recommended.
- A buddy team may consist of three Scouts when necessary, like an odd number in a group.
- While hiking or camping in the backcountry, Scouts are encouraged to travel in groups of at least four. That way, if one gets injured, a buddy can stay with him, while the other two seek help.



One Day Religious Retreat for Boy Scouts



Get away from all the electronics for a day--- A day devoted to Duty to God and A Scout is Reverent. Units are asked to bring scouts in groups of three. Events will be worked on in threes.

- Birds of the Air---all 3 lessons will be covered and the patch earned. Patches presented at closing. Birds of the Air is one part of the Bible Basics program developed by Programs for Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y).
- Learn about: Putting Duty to God into your troop program , Chaplain's Aide Training, and how to earn the Religious Emblem for your Faith-- if you have done: God & Church or God & Life bring your materials for part of a round robin discussion, or if Catholic bring your Emblem materials for the discussion.
- Learning the art of Colonial Tin Punch – will make ornaments and a plaque to take home. If you use frozen juice or lemonade save the metal discs on the opening end, wash them, and bring them with you to turn in.
- Bible Trivia Challenge---Scouts versus Adults

Sponsored by the NCAC Protestant Committee, this retreat is for Protestants and Catholics.

When: Saturday, April 28, 2018

Location: Groveton Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia

Cost:. \$12 per scout, \$10 per adult (adults do patch & can try tin punch)-includes lunch. Must preregister (check on the dates in the NCAC calendar, they are working to get it listed) & pay with registration by april 1, 2018 - no walkins accepted. Program begins at 9:30am and will be finished by 4pm

If you have questions please call Mrs. Mary Castles at 703-765-0855 or email mecastles@yahoo.com

Florida National High Adventure Sea Base



Not even the strongest hurricane ever recorded can keep the Florida National High Adventure Sea Base down for long.

Yes, even after Hurricane Irma dealt a punishing blow to the Florida Keys in September, the Florida Sea Base is open for business this fall and beyond. **Sea Base registration and lottery info**

2018: The lottery for 2018 trips was held Jan. 15 to Feb. 15, 2017. Unclaimed trips are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can be viewed at this site:

<https://reservations.scouting.org/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x8709747c4> . Units cancel reservations from time to time, so check back regularly if you don't see the trip you want.

2019: Yes, it's time to start thinking about 2019. Slots for 2019 will be allocated using an online lottery, open from 9 a.m. ET on Jan. 23 to 5 p.m. ET on Feb. 13, 2018. You can enter the lottery by logging onto www.bsaseabase.org/ . There's no advantage to entering early; as long as your entry is submitted during the window you're good. Winning units will be notified in early March 2018.



Those Little Square Knots are a Big Deal



Look at an experienced Scouter's uniform and you'll likely see a row or more of colorful embroidered knots above his or her left pocket. These small rectangular patches represent honors and awards the Scouter has received. Here's an overview.

How many knot awards are available?

There are about 30 knots, from the Alumni Award knot to the William T. Hornaday Award knot. A few — like the new Scouting Service Award knot — represent multiple awards. (That knot, introduced in 2017, may be worn by Scouters who have earned the Asian American Spirit of Scouting Service Award, the ¡Scouting...Vale la Pena! Service Award, the Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award or the Special Needs Scouting Service Award.)

How are the awards earned?

Every award is different. Some, such as the Scouter's Training Award, have set requirements anyone can complete. Others, such as the District Award of Merit, are bestowed on the recipient (typically through a nomination process).

Do any of the awards recognize youth achievement?

A few do, including the Arrow of Light knot and the Eagle Scout Award knot. A few others could represent either youth or adult achievement, such as the Honor Medal knot.

Can a Scouter who has earned a religious emblem as both a youth and adult wear two knots?

Yes. The adult knot shows a purple knot on a silver background; the youth knot shows a silver knot on a purple background.

How many knots may be worn?

There is no set maximum, but the BSA recommends you wear no more than nine: three rows of three knots each. There's no set order in which the knots should appear.

Is it true that there's a right side up for knots?

Yes. Most knots feature a square knot, and the loop of the knot that comes in front of the standing part is always to the wearer's right. It's easy to spot the difference when the knot uses contrasting colors, because you'll see what looks like a capital letter C.

Wreaths Across America



Help place Veterans' Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our American heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday, December 16, 2017

There is no sign-up required, and there is no age limit—simply show up if you would like to participate. We encourage families to come together.

Additionally, event details will be available at

<http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/volunteer-at-arlington/>, and on the following Facebook pages:

www.facebook.com/ArlingtonWreaths

www.facebook.com/WAAHQ



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 January 1st) met the following qualifications to attend NYLT:

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Unit Leader Training
- At least 14 years of age (or 13 with the Course Directors approval), Youth 12 years of age and younger will not be able to attend
- Home Unit Leader approval

2018 Course Dates

WINTER NYLT - Camp Snyder, 13 – 15 January 2018 (Martin Luther King Weekend) and 17 – 19 February 2018 (Presidents Day Weekend). Both sessions must be attended. Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-nyltwinter>

SUMMER NYLT – registration opening in January 2018

17 – 22 June 2018

24 – 29 June 2018

29 July – 3 August 2018

5 -10 August 2018

Cost - \$250.

Northern Tier National High Adventure Program



Paddle your way to an experience of a lifetime in Minnesota and Canada at the Northern Tier National High Adventure Program.

During their 6- to 11-night journey of 50 to 150 miles, Northern Tier crews follow in the footsteps and paddle tracks of 1800s French-Canadian voyagers.

After loading their canoes with gear for the entire journey, Scouts and Venturers explore millions of acres of pristine lakes, meandering rivers, dense forests and fascinating wetlands in Northern Minnesota, Northwest Ontario and Northeast Manitoba.

In the winter, Northern Tier emerges from a blanket of snow to offer the BSA's premier winter high-adventure program. It's called Okpik, and it challenges Scouts and Venturers to learn how to thrive in subzero temperatures, travel across frozen wilderness lakes and construct their own sleeping structures out of snow.

Because Northern Tier's demand often exceeds available space, spots are allocated using an online lottery system.

Northern Tier registration and lottery info

2018: The lottery for 2018 spots occurred in January 2017. However, some spaces are still available — especially in August 2018. Go here <http://ntier.org/Reservations/2018Registration.aspx> to see details; look for the link marked "Click Here for Trip Availability."

2019: The 2019 Northern Tier registration lottery opens at 9 a.m. Central Time on Jan. 2, 2018. It closes a week later: 11:59 p.m. Central Time on Jan. 9, 2018. Go here www.ntier.org/reservations.aspx to enter or go here www.ntier.org/Reservations/2019lotteryinformation.aspx to learn more about the lottery process.

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/

On-Line Resource of the Month



This is the time of year when many packs welcome new Cub Scouts and new leaders. Returning Scouts and leaders are tackling a new rank. Most of us are in planning mode, and we're scouring the internet for good ideas. One new site that has come up is www.CubScoutIdeas.com. The site belongs to a Cub Scout mom, Sherry, who loves to find cool projects that fulfill requirements or that are fun for the boys. She especially likes it when those projects are cheap to do.

At Cub Scout Ideas, she has many articles that will be helpful to leaders—both new and experienced—as you get ready for your new year. She has pulled all of them together in one easy-to-use guide that's available only to the site subscribers. And it's totally FREE!

Note: She does accept advertising on her blog. She also participates in affiliate programs which means that if you click on an affiliate link, she will either be paid for referring you there or paid a commission if you make a purchase. From time to time, she writes a product review. Some of those reviews are sponsored or she has been given a review copy.

Equipment / Gear / Tips



Did You Know about End Locks?



Did you know that there are little impressionable tabs that appear on the ends of boxes of aluminum foil and plastic wrap and that approximately 0 percent of the American population is aware of the existence of these tabs?

These little tabs are called end locks. Their appointed task is to hold the roll of foil or plastic wrap steady inside the box as you pull on it.

Say goodbye to the endless toil and frustration of the roll coming out of the box as you pull. Or the roll flopping around the box, especially as it shrinks, and floating up against the cutting blade as you pull, causing you to clutch and bend the box to hold it in place.

Just press in the tabs the first time you use the roll, and presto. Welcome to a whole new world.

The boxes of most similar kitchen products, like plastic wrap, also have these tabs. A few products even put explanatory text near the tab, e.g. "Press Here to Lock Roll," declares the Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil box. And yet, almost as remarkable as this revolutionary, civilization-altering technology is how few people know about it.

One more question on aluminum foil. When you're wrapping something in it, should the shiny side of the foil go on the inside or the outside?

It doesn't matter. When it comes to its effectiveness for typical uses—cooking, storing, freezing—the difference between the sides is so slight that it requires laboratory instruments to measure.

Oh, and why is one side of aluminum foil dull, and one shiny? Because two sheets are rolled together. The dull sides contacted each other, and the shiny sides contacted the steel rollers.



Is Your Fire Extinguisher Part of the Kidde Recall?



Nearly 38 million fire extinguishers manufactured by Kidde and sold between 1973 and 2017 are part of a nationwide recall.

Scout leaders should check their unit meeting sites, troop trailers, trunks and garages today to see whether their fire extinguishers are included.

There have been nearly 400 reports of affected models failing to activate in a fire emergency, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The CPSC cites one death and 16 injuries.

The affected models of Kidde (pronounced “kidda”) include plastic-handle fire extinguishers and plastic push-button fire extinguishers. They were sold at Menards, Montgomery Ward, Sears, The Home Depot, Walmart and other department and hardware stores nationwide. They were also sold online at Amazon.com, ShopKidde.com and more.

How to check if your fire extinguisher is recalled

Plastic-handle Kidde fire extinguishers

Use this chart (https://s3.amazonaws.com/inmar-adx-files/N130284/US_Plastic+Handle+Product+ID+Guide.pdf) to see if your plastic-handle Kidde fire extinguisher is recalled. You'll need the actual extinguisher in front of you to see its exact serial number and model number.

Push-button Kidde fire extinguishers

Use this chart (https://s3.amazonaws.com/inmar-adx-files/N130284/US_Push+Button+Product+ID+Guide.pdf) to see if your push-button Kidde fire extinguisher is recalled. Once again, you'll need the serial number and model number.

If you'd rather talk with someone in person, call 855-271-0773 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday to Friday (excluding holidays), or between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. during the weekend to determine whether your extinguishers are affected.

How to get a replacement if you're part of the recall

Kidde will ship a replacement within approximately 10 to 15 business days from your call or online form submission. Keep your affected unit until the replacement arrives because they'll want it back.

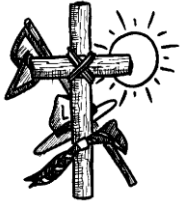
Online: <https://inmarmarketaction.com/kidde/Kidde284US/>

Phone: Call 855-271-0773 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday to Friday (excluding holidays), or between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. during the weekend.

Training Opportunities



Religious Emblems Orientation and Training



Announcing: An orientation, sponsored by the NCAC Protestant Committee on Scouting, and training course for counselors, mentors, lay leaders, REC's and other adults for the God and Country/PRAY Awards Program, the religious emblems program used by Protestant and Christian Churches.

Training covers the God and Country Program/PRAY Awards series, the roles and responsibilities of program leaders and counselors, & Religious Emblem Coordinators, use of the program in churches, schools, Girl Scouts, Cub and Boy Scouts, Trail Life USA, and Campfire groups. Plus overview of duties of Religious Emblems Coordinators & Chaplains. Participants get a thick notebook of info & resources to take home. New PRAY program Patch series training has been added to this training course.

Who: Youth ministers, seminarians, lay leaders, volunteer and professional Cub and Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire groups, Trail Life, parents, and religious leaders of Protestant and Christian denominations and faiths. Home School leaders. Unit & District Religious Emblems Coordinators. (Adults only.)

When: March 10, 2018: 9:30am to 3:00 pm. Lunch provided. Check-in: 9-9:20am. (Assignments to do before class starts)

Where: Groveton Baptist Church, 6511 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Virginia.

Cost: \$20.00 per participant.

Registration: To find out how to register contact Mary Elizabeth Castles at 703-765-0855 mecastles@yahoo.com.

THE BUCKETS

BY GREG CRAVENS





Scoutmaster Specific Training



This course (S24) is specifically intended for registered Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, and is required to complete your basic training. Other interested adults working with Boy Scout troops -- committee members, parents -- are welcome to attend.

Date: Saturday, Dec 9, 7 AM – 12 PM

Where: Herndon United Methodist Church (701 Bennett St., Herndon)

Fee: \$5 per person. Register and pay online at
<https://scoutingevent.com/082-16255>

Through a series of lively presentations and discussions, the course teaches basic methods adult leaders can use to guide boy leaders in delivering an effective, exciting scouting program. Course topics include:

- Practical concerns of a scout leader
- The role of adult leaders in a boy-led troop
- Troop operation using the patrol method
- Achieving a vibrant, safe outdoor program
- Encouraging recognition through advancement
- Understanding troop administration and the troop committee



Venturing Advisor Position-Specific Training & Crew Committee Challenge



For: Adult Venturing Training Workshop (Advisors, Associate Advisors, & Committee Members)

Did you know that in order to be a Venturing Advisor, Associate Advisor, or Committee Member you are required to be "Trained" in your position? Did you know that all adult leaders are required to be officially trained in order to successfully recharter your Crew? In addition to completing the "Venturing Youth Protection" online training, each adult volunteer must also complete position-specific training -- and this in-person workshop fits the bill!

Get your "Trained" patch! Those who register in advance, and who have completed the Venturing Youth Protection Training, will receive a "Trained" patch for their uniform. Any registered adult volunteer is welcome to join! Come network with other volunteers from your district and nearby and help us reach our goal of having 100% adult volunteers officially trained!

Join us for an interactive workshop at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, from 12n-5pm on Saturday 16 December 2017. Wear your Venturing Field Uniform (green & grey) if you have it. Bring a notepad and pen for notes and other resource-sharing!

This workshop will provide an introduction to the responsibilities, opportunities, and resources that will ensure a successful Venturing crew leadership experience. You don't want to miss it, register today!

Fee: \$10 per person. Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-16702>



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills



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 or, 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 is 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 shakedown will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure.

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. 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.

2018 Spring Course - \$45

Classroom: Sat. 10 March from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at

Scientist Cliffs Community (Alder Rd and Acacia Rd) 3500 Alder Rd, Port Republic, MD

Overnight: Sat. 21 April, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 22 April, 1:30 PM

American Chestnut Land Trust 676 Double Oak Rd, Prince Frederick, MD

2018 Fall Course

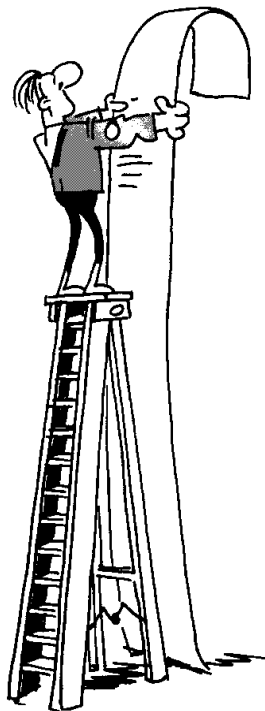
Classroom: Sat. 29 September from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at

Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308

Overnight: Sat. 21 October, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 22 October, 1:30 PM

Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA

District Calendar



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
20 **Life to Eagle Seminar**
24 District Committee
26-28 **Freeze-o-ree**
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**
10 **Pinewood Derby**
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
13-15 **Spring Camporee**
25 District Committee
27-29 **OA Spring Ordeal**

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

September 2018

3 Labor Day
12 Roundtable
12 OA Chapter Meeting
26 District Committee

October 2018

8 Columbus Day
10 Roundtable
10 OA Chapter Meeting
24 District Committee

November 2018

3 **SFF Bag Distribution**
7 Roundtable
7 OA Chapter Meeting
10 **SFF Food Pickup**
14 District Committee
30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**