



Goose Creek District Newsletter



April 2012

Volume 3, Issue 9

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
Training

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Quick Calendar:

- Apr 11 – Roundtable
- Apr 13-15 – Camporee
- Apr 14 – Training - BSLST
- May 5 – Cubmobile Derby
- May 5 – Training - BSLST
- May 9 – Program Launch
- May 18 – District Banquet
- May 19-20 – Training IOLS/OLSWL
- Jun 2 – Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
- Jun 13 – Roundtable
- Jun 18-22 – District Day Camp

Newsletter Key:

-  Cub Scout Interest
-  Boy Scout / Venturing Interest
-  For Everyone



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Scouting is replete with different measures for success. The metrics of finance, membership, activity, advancement, training, miles hiked, feet climbed, distances paddled, roads biked, all serve to give us different perspectives but only partially and imperfectly answer the question.

We may strive to distinguish our efforts by producing impeccably uniformed Scouts who can tie every knot in the book, whip up impeccable Dutch oven feasts, and win contests. We may have troop trailer with the slickest paint job, or consider trailers effete and insist that 'backpacking only' is the one true way.

We may have the coolest website, the most impressive roster of trained adults, flags full of ribbons, a tricked-out bus, a real powerhouse of a troop spewing out Eagles left and right, or a quiet, mildly ambitious bunch of Scouts.

All these are only indicators, not answers, they aren't proof. Being registered, clocking time, hiking miles, and earning awards *may* indicate you've succeeded but standing in a garage *may* indicate that you are a car.

In the end our success has a single measure; did Scouting positively impact the life of the Scout? There's really only one way to get the answer and that's to ask the man that was once a Scout.

He may remember the indicators but he's more likely to talk about the people, the value of knowing them and working together. He may not be able to tie any of the knots he once knew or remember how far he hiked, he may not even be able to articulate what Scouting did for him because it's become so integral to his personality. But he'll know.

That's our aim - everything else is window dressing.

District News

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

In Memory – Michael Quin



Michael Quin joined Scouting in Pennsylvania before his family moved to Purcellville twelve years ago. He earned his Eagle Scout in Goose Creek before graduating from Loudoun Valley High School. As a Midshipman at the Naval Academy he epitomized the Scouting ideals. He was commissioned into the US Marine Corps and served as a rotary wing aviator in multiple assignments. Michael was killed in a helicopter accident along with a number of his fellow Marines on February 22nd, 2012 during the conduct of a training exercise in advance of a deployment to combat operations in Afghanistan.

Captain Quin was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on the morning of March 21, 2012. He embodied all that was best in Scouting and set the highest possible standard for the youth and adult volunteers of our Council. A memorial site has been established at www.MichaelQuin.Com. He will be sorely missed.

Goose Creek Earns Gold Journey to Excellence District Award



"Scouting's Journey to Excellence" is the BSA's council performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success and measure the performance of units, districts, and councils.

For 2011, Goose Creek is one of the few Gold level districts under the new Journey to Excellence requirements. As the largest district in the National Capital Area Council we set the example for the others. A large part of the district's score was based on our individual unit's Journey to Excellence scores, training, and advancement. So congratulations to everyone for a job well done.

Robin Hayes Campership



In the Summer of 2011, our community lost a leading figure: Robin Hayes, wife, mother, Scouter, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. In the days following her death her family and friends gave thought as to how to best honor her memory and ultimately decided upon a memorial "Campership" program. "Camperships," like scholarships, help offset the cost of sending someone to camp. Robin was a great lover of the outdoors and a frequent attendee and booster of the Goshen Scout Reservation, so it seemed fitting to create a fund that would help those in need enjoy something that she held so dear. Camperships will be made available to any and all who have a financial need and want to go to Goshen.

Anyone with a financial need to offset the cost of camp may attend. Applications are available at www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=109525 and will be accepted through April 28th, 2012. There is no burden of documentation of need – if you are pressed to send someone to camp, download the form and submit it to your unit leader. Email any questions to Campership@GooseCreekDistrict.Org.

Special Presentation – Julian Kulski



Goose Creek District presents "The Legacy of the White Eagle", May 16th, 2012 7pm-8pm: Tuscarora High School (or Leesburg site to be determined)

Come hear the story, watch a short documentary and meet Mr. Julian Kulski who shares his experience as a Polish Boy Scout when Nazi Germany invaded his nation in 1939. Through the adult and youth leadership, Mr. Kulski's troop became part of the Polish Resistance and staged a number of events in furtherance of their patriotic mission in defense of the Polish people. On one particular night, during a troop "outing", Mr. Kulski's Scoutmaster gave up his life so that his Scouts could avoid capture and likely torture.

Mr. Kulski wrote of his Scouting memories in a book entitled "The Legacy of the White Eagle". For Scouts: This opportunity could possibly be counted for some of the requirements in Citizenship in the World, Citizenship in the Community and the Scouting Heritage (if questions are prepared) Merit Badge. Please confirm with your Merit Badge Counselor ahead of time. After the event there will be a small reception to meet Mr. Kulski and who will be available for questions. His book will also be available for purchase.

For more information please contact: Sue Hogan at Susan.Hogan@scouting.org or Randy Minchew at JRMinchew@aol.com

Program Launch



What's a "Program Launch"? Are we sending Scouts into orbit?

Not quite sending them into orbit, but ideally the program launch will give Scouters a bunch of great information to help them begin planning for the upcoming year. With schools letting out, summer camp's gearing up, and bags being packed for summer vacation now is the time to plan.

Make sure you get a copy of the upcoming Council Planning Calendar and lots of great handouts and flyers to make the '11-'12 year an awesome one. You'll also get a chance to talk to all of those 'mysterious' district committee representatives you keep getting emails from and find out what they have planned for the district next year.

Program Launch will be held in place of the usual May Roundtable, same place, same time.

Service Project Opportunity



We have received a request from Meadowkirk (38012 Delta Farm Lane, Middleburg, VA 20117) asking about troops (or Scouts) who might be interested in service projects (or Eagle Scout Projects). They have many trails that need clean-up of leaves and addition of mulch, possible repair and painting of benches, etc/ to prepare the grounds for camping groups and their spring/summer activities.

For additional information: Contact Cris Crissman, CrissmansAtHome@cox.net or 540-687-5565

Cubmobile Derby



What do you have when you make a Pinewood Derby car big enough for a Scout to sit in? A Cubmobile! The district is planning to hold our second annual Cubmobile Derby on May 5, 2012. We have a nice gentle, paved slope all lined up for the race and now we need dens to build cubmobiles to race.

Dens will race as teams with a minimum of three and a maximum of five Scouts per team. Dens with six or more Scouts participating will need to register as two, or more, teams. Every Scout on a team will be given a chance to race their cubmobile down the course.

Teams from the same pack will be allowed to use the same cubmobile if they want to. Cubmobiles built for last year's derby may be used again this year.

Derby fee is \$6 per Scout and all teams must pre-register with an \$18 deposit (i.e., the fee for three Scouts). A full information/registration packet and instructions on how to build a cubmobile will be available on the district website.

In order to hold this derby we still need some adult volunteers to help in running the event. If you would like to be a volunteer please send an email to GCCubEvent@verizon.net

2012 Soda Bottle Rocket Derby



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

Where: TBD

Who can Attend: This event is open to all Cub Scouts, including new Tigers (Kindergarten aged Scouts who just registered and will be Tigers the next year) and siblings/friends

Cost: \$8 per person, to be paid at the event. This covers the cost for all of the materials (except the soda bottle) needed to build the rockets.

For more information: Send an email to GCCubEvent@verizon.net and look for the information/registration packet that will soon be on the district website.

How to Register: On the NCAC website select Camps → Cub Scout Day Camps

Webelos Visiting the Spring Camporee



Webelos Leaders! Now is the time to plan on getting that AOL requirement of visiting an outdoor Boy Scout oriented activity fulfilled. Your Webelos are invited to come visit us at the spring camporee and watch the Boy Scouts compete with each other in events during the day to see who is the best. No registration is required and there is no fee to pay for visiting us during the day. Directions and a schedule for the camporee can be found in the camporee information packet available on the district website.

Note: There are no planned activities for the Webelos at this event, you are visitors to see Boy Scouts in action.

Pinewood Derby Results



The checkered flags have waved for the 2012 Goose Creek Championship Pinewood Derby held on March 17 at Tolbert Elementary School. Presented by Jerry's Automotive Group and hosted by Venture Crew 7070, this year's event drew 162 scouts from 34 packs around the district. The top finishers from their respective units, tested their award winning designs against one another in heated competition. There were 51 Tiger Cubs, 28 Wolf Scouts, 32 Bear Scouts and 51 Webelos, with the Tiger Cubs taking the top three championship spots. The first race of the day, won by the Chic-fil-A cow, surely set the stage for an exciting day of racing. Many thanks for the prizes and coupons from our sponsors, Chic-fil-A and Leesburg Hobbies & Collectables. With the monster type truck parked outside from Jerry's Chevy of Leesburg, and the display of the Cub Mobile for the District event on May 5th, there were certainly lots of things to entertain the boys. Many thanks to Venture Crew 7070 for hosting and running the concession stand, insuring plenty of food and snacks throughout the day. Additional thanks to those scouts donating to the Scouting for Food boxes. We collected 111 pounds of food for our local food pantries. Complete race results will be posted on the Goose Creek District website.



Overall Winners:

- 1 - Henry Mecker - Pack 962
- 2 - Robert Wheeton - Pack 1666
- 3 - Michael Logan - Pack 1158

Tigers:

- 1 - Robert Wheeton - Pack 1666
- 2 - Henry Mecker - Pack 962
- 3 - Michael Logan - Pack 1158

Bears:

- 1 - Kory Fierstine - Pack 1158
- 2 - Kevin Tatum - Pack 1483
- 3 - Alex Bates - Pack 956

Wolfs:

- 1 - Mikael Frey - Pack 1152
- 2 - Soren Lee - Pack 663
- 3 - Coleman Kraske - Pack 1445

Webelos:

- 1 - Ryan Harvey - Pack 1666
- 2 - Christopher Summers - Pack 956
- 3 - Luke Rounds - 1484

Cub Scout Day Camp: High Seas Adventure



Goose Creek Day Camp: June 18-22, 8 AM – 4 PM, Morven Park, Leesburg

Walk the plank, swim with the sharks, hunt for treasure, and sing your favorite sea shanties at day camp this summer! Cub Scout Day Camp is a great opportunity for Cub Scouts to experience all that camp has to offer, and come home each night to tell their family all about it.

Boys in grade 1 (as of September, 2012) through Webelos are eligible to attend day camp. Boys will receive a camp t-shirt, water bottle, craft supplies, and all the goodies needed for a week of fun. One adult is needed for every five boys to escort the adventurers through camp. Tiger Cub adult partners must attend camp with their Tiger.

Can't get leaders to commit for an entire day? Goose Creek is also running a **Twilight Camp**, same dates, that will run from 6:30 PM (6:00 PM check-in) until 8:45 PM and will include many of the activities done during the day.

ACTIVITIES

Activities range from traditional Scouting games and achievement opportunities to archery, slingshots, BB instruction, crafts, nature study, soccer, fishing, swimming, handicrafts, leatherwork, and camp skills. Dedicated family members, Scout leaders, and other adults can turn out to assist volunteer camp staff members.

FEES

This year's fees for day camp are:

Early Bird (before April 16)	\$165
April 16 - May 18	\$185
After May 18	\$205
Twilight Camp	\$100

Spring 2012 Join Scouting Night Event



Chris Goda has taken over as Vice Chairperson for Membership from Mary Gail Swenson. Thanks for all of her hard work over the years in making Goose Creek District within NCAC one of the top rated districts in the country. First up and because of a shorted school year is that Goose Creek District will be having a Join Scouting Night tentatively slated for the April timeframe. Building on what was offered last spring, we will be revamping the approach and working to offer a higher level of support to Packs interested in holding an event. Newsletters will be the primary source for detailed information and those will be coming on line shortly.

If you have any questions, comments or constructive advice, please route it directly to Chris at ChrisGoda@gmail.com or call direct at (571) 246.6988

Den Chief Training



Web registration is now open for Den Chief Training, April 21, 2012. The schedule is for 9 AM to 12 PM at the Train Station, 210 N 21st Street, Purcellville, VA 20132.

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts:

B. Austin Enriquez – T950

Gregory Ludlow – T997

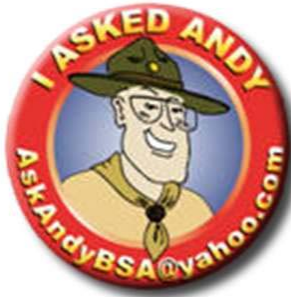
Alexander Prompovitch – T2970

Begad Salem – T1576

Christopher Vahlkamp – T997

Jacob Williams – T711

From Dear Andy (No. 298 – March 20, 2012)



Dear Andy,

On merit badges, I can't find anything written by the BSA about how long a Scout has to complete a merit badge once he's started it. A troop has set a time limit, and if the Scout doesn't complete in that space of time frame he must start over. I don't agree with this, but I can't find any support. Can you help me here?

Also, I noticed that Citizen in the Community req. 5 says that the Scout must watch a movie that shows how the actions of an individual (or group) can have a positive effect on a community. Where can I direct Scouts on this one? I'm thinking of showing them "Waste Land," but I'm wondering what else is out there.

The BSA informs us that a Scout has until his 18th birthday to complete a merit badge, which he can start at any time once he's a registered Boy Scout. For a troop to try to enforce some arbitrary time limit of its own, much more in opposition to standard BSA national policy, is totally inappropriate; in fact, it's an unequivocal and unacceptable violation. You'll find the statement in BOY SCOUT REQUIREMENTS and of course in the GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT.

On movies, check out "Pay It Forward," "October Sky," and the classic "Follow Me, Boys."

Dear Andy,

My Assistant Cubmaster and I are debating whether Cubs who earned belt loops as Wolf and Bear need to now re-earn them as Webelos Scouts to qualify for the related activity pin. Our council didn't give me a real answer on this one. Can you help?

It's not from your council that you get this sort of information; it's from the WEBELOS HANDBOOK. A little requirement-reading will give you the answer you're looking for!

IMPORTANT!!! - Internet Advancement Reports



Starting April 1, **ALL** advancement reports must be turned in electronically. The Scout Shop **will not** accept paper reports when purchasing ranks for your unit.

For more information on how internet reporting works check out the Council notice at: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=17096&orgkey=1988

Excellence in Youth Leadership Evening



NCAC's **Excellence in Youth Leadership Evening** (formerly **Eagle Career Day**) will be held on May 16th and provides a fantastic opportunity for youth who earned their Eagle Scout, Quartermaster or Venturing Silver Award between January 1 and December 31, 2011, to network with business, civic and military professionals from a variety of career fields. Youth are matched with mentors based on industry interests.

Online registration will be available for youth and mentors by January 31. For more information or to register, visit www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/EYL.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

Cub Scout Give Thanks Theme for April



Each month, the Cub Scout program focuses on a core value. The Cub Scout April theme is Faith. BSA has started releasing theme based pack meeting plans for each of these core values. This April theme for Cub Scouts brings to mind both thankfulness to the Creator and remembering to show appreciation to each other. This thankfulness theme also presents a good opportunity for your Cub Scouts to thank everyone who helps them with the program – their parents, their leaders, and the chartering organization. Have your Cub Scouts spend some time writing thank you notes to them, or come up with a creative way for the Cubs to show their appreciation. Some ways that thankfulness can be incorporated into the Cub Scout program are on the site www.ScouterMom.com.

World Jamboree

JAMBOREE
DENMARK

2012



Fresh on the heels of the World Jamboree in Rinkaby, Sweden, neighboring Denmark will celebrate its own National Jamboree from July 21st – 29th. Over 35,000 Scouts and Guides are expected to attend. Like many national jamborees, foreign participation is encouraged and the Danes welcome Scouts and Scouters from abroad to attend. Individuals may register up until the start of the Jamboree and the price is right – only \$350 for more than a week of international Scouting! (Granted you have to get there, but still that's very affordable). For more information click <http://2012.spejderne.dk/en>

Scuba BSA



Scuba BSA introduces participants to the special skills, equipment, and safety precautions associated with scuba diving, encourages aquatics activities that promote fitness and recreation, and provides a foundation for those who later will participate in more advanced underwater activities.

The Scuba BSA experience contains two parts – Knowledge Development and Water Skills Development. During the first part, participants learn basic dive safety information and overview skills to be used during their water experience. The Water Skills Development session introduces essential dive skills, such as mask clearing, regulator clearing, and alternate air source use.

This is an introductory, try-it scuba experience. It does not result in certification for diving on your own. It is not the BSA Scuba Diving merit badge. Many people decide to go on and take a certification course after trying scuba.

The one hour Scuba BSA sessions start hourly at 2, 3, 4, and 5pm. This is for any scout-aged youth or adult. Maximum of 8 participants per one hour session. Preregistration is required, each participant must complete a medical questionnaire.

All you need to bring is your swimsuit and a towel!

When: June 19, Camp Snyder pool.

Cost: \$25 (includes all equipment)

Registration deadline: June 11

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 MMMeenehan@cox.net.

Scuba Certification and Scuba Diving Merit Badge



What: PADI open water scuba certification and the BSA Scuba Diving merit badge. The class is limited to 24 students.

Who: For any scout-aged youth at least 11 years old and adults. Participants younger than 15 years old will receive PADI Junior Open Water Diver Certification. 15 years and older receive PADI Open Water Diver Certification.

When/Where:

- Orientation (Camp Snyder) – Aug 5 1-3pm
- Class/pool sessions (Camp Snyder) – Aug 18 & 19, 9am-5pm
- Open water training dives (quarry in Fredericksburg) – Aug 25 & 26
- Scuba Diving merit badge counseling session (A.B. Sea's Diving in Fairfax Station) – Aug 26, 4-6pm

Cost: Scuba certification class and merit badge session - \$450 (includes all equipment); Scuba diving merit badge session only - \$5

Registration deadline: July 30

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 MMMeenehan@cox.net.

BSA and American Red Cross Lifeguard



What: BSA Lifeguard is professional level training that meets the requirements of government agencies for professional lifeguards at regulated swimming activities. The course will include American Red Cross CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and Standard First Aid Training along with ARC Lifeguard certification.

Who: The program is open to all registered adults and older youth (15+) and is a recommended adjunct to the Aquatics Supervision awards for unit leaders who wish to expand their water safety skills and for youth who wish to work on the aquatics staffs at BSA camps. Participants must attend all scheduled sessions.

When/Where:

- May 20 3-6 pm - prerequisites & orientation, Henderson Hall Pool, Arlington VA
- June 9-10, 16-17, & 23-24, 9am - 5pm – Camp Snyder

Cost: \$120, class size limited to 16 participants.

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 MMMeenehan@cox.net. Registration deadline is May 7

Pre-Camp Swim Classification Tests



This is an opportunity for your unit to have your annual BSA swim classification check done under the supervision of NCAC-approved aquatics personnel at the Camp William B. Snyder pool. A unit swim classification record will be issued by NCAC Aquatics personnel to each unit showing the swim classification (swimmer, beginner, non-swimmer) of each participant. This event is open to all NCAC units.

Units must register online at www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics for a 30 minute block. Up to 20 tests can be administered during a block. The date is Saturday, June 9 and available times start at 1:00pm, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30pm. Cost is \$2 per participant. Minimum preregistration is 10 per unit.

For more information: Contact Reggie Cahoon (571) 248-4904

Scout Related Expenses and Income Tax Returns



Scouters who heeded the Scout Motto last year remembered to track and document their Boy Scouts of America-related expenses. And now, they know that they can include those expenses if they plan to itemize their 2010 deductions.

But what if you didn't know that BSA expenses were deductible? Or what if your "filing system" is really your glove compartment that's stuffed with gas receipts and crumpled-up napkins? And what qualifies as an eligible expense, anyway?

For help in figuring all of this out check out the following web article:
<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2011/03/03/tax-time/>

NE Region Area 6 Venturing Phenomenon



The Venturing Phenomenon will be co-hosted by Area 6 Venturing and the National Capital Area Council's VOA at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, Virginia during the weekend of April 20-22, 2012. The event will debut a new format of programming that is by and for Venturers. The program possibilities are endless, and all depend on the program activities brought forward by the crews who attend (with a little coaching by the hosts to maximize the fun and variety available to all participants). This event is open to all Venturers and Scouts age 14 years or older.

As has been the case in the past, costs will be \$45.00 for tent camping and \$55.00 for limited cabin lodging, and meals will be provided. The A6VOA and NCAC VOA will release details about the event, including crew program proposal guidelines, prior to Christmas 2011. Every Venturer who attends will both help deliver and be a participant in the activities, ensuring that Venturers remain the focus of the fun that we have in Venturing. Be sure save the dates on your calendar, and start thinking about the activity your crew would want to present to other Venturers who attend.

Questions are best initially directed to VOA Advisor Steve Wolf at Stephen.P.Wolf@comcast.net or A6VOA Advisor Catherine Pressler at drmclp@verizon.net

To register: Go to www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/Phenomenon

Cub Scout Resident Camp



Camp Snyder will conduct five 3-day sessions (12 PM Friday – 5 PM Sunday) for Cub Resident Camp in 2012. Cub Resident Camp is your introduction to what Boy Scout camp can be like. Scouts and their adult leaders/parents will live in 5-person BSA wall tents with cots and platforms, eat at the camp dining hall and experience a wonderful program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Achievements, Pins, Belt Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or dens' self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well being.

Session 1: July 6-8	Cost:	\$160 – paid in full by May 1
Session 2: July 20-22		\$180 – paid in full by June 1
Session 3: July 27-29		\$200 – paid after June 1
Session 4: August 3-5		
Session 5: August 10-12		\$85 - adults

Cub Adventure Days



Camp Snyder will conduct three Adventure Days sessions for Cub Scouts in 2012. Cub Adventure Days is a great Day Camp experience for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their families to experience a campout without the overnight sleeping. Each day will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude at 3:00 PM with lunch included in the cost of camp. Every day will be different from the one before with Scouts visiting all of the Camp Snyder program areas by the end of the week.

Session 1: July 16-19
 Session 2: July 23-26
 Session 3: August 6-9

Cost: \$175 – paid in full by May 1
 \$195 – paid in full by June 1
 \$215 – paid after June 1
 \$20 – one adult for a week (may be different each day)

Camp Snyder Tiger Pass



The Tiger Pass is an opportunity for you and your new Tiger Cub Scout to participate in Adventure Days at Camp William B. Snyder (CWBS) for either the entire week or just the days that are convenient for you. At CWBS, we understand that each Tiger Cub must have an adult partner to attend day camp and this can be difficult for parents. With the Tiger Pass you can attend only the day or days that are convenient for you. The Tiger Pass is only available for new Tiger Cubs in 2012 and their families. Siblings under 5 attend at no cost.

If you are the parent of a new Tiger Cub, or your pack is doing a spring recruitment, go to www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=1933&id=104544 for more information.

Webelos Camp



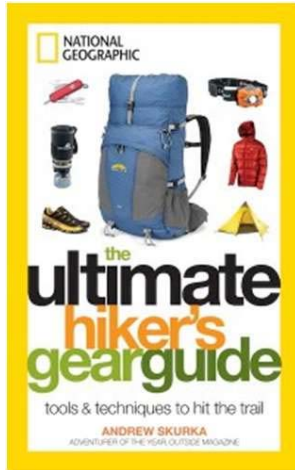
Camp Snyder will conduct one session for Webelos Resident Camp in 2012. Webelos camp is a big step for the Webelos I or II working on Activity Badges. Scouts will camp overnight just like when they become Boy Scouts to get the full summer camp experience in a shorter setting. Most of your time will be spent working towards advancing in your Webelos trail on the way to becoming a Boy Scout. There are plenty of other fun activities to fill your week including games, trips to the pool and more. Webelos will also be able to work on some free time activities that will include the more advanced pins from the Cub Scout Academic and Sports program.

Update!! Due to overwhelming response for reservations at Webelos camps a 7th week has been added at Camp Ross and is now available for reservation. Week 7 will be August 5-11. Space is limited so register today.

Session 1: July 30-Aug 2
 (Monday at 8:00 AM - Thursday at 4:00 PM)

Cost: \$210 – paid in full by May 1
 \$230 – paid in full by June 1
 \$250 – paid after June 1
 \$50 – adults

The Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide



Andrew Skurka's new book *The Ultimate Hiker's Gear Guide* will change the way how we sling a pack on our backs and hoof it into the wild. The first section of the book asks and answers the questions that many don't think to ask until they are out on the trail with too much and/or too little gear, blistered feet, and soaking wet with no hope of getting dry; why am I doing this? Skurka uses his first real backpacking experience (a through hike of the Appalachian trail!) to explain what you are getting yourself into. He offers direction and advice that, if heeded, will save readers a great deal of discomfort.

An extensive analysis of the construction, function and use of gear follows. Skurka explains why and how things ought to work in a way that makes choosing gear relatively painless. While he does mention of specific models and manufacturers he goes well beyond the model number. The final section of the book offers gear lists for several different environments.

Stranded man survives 10 days on snow



A 76-year-old diabetic Colorado man survived 10 days in the remote Nevada desert by melting snow and using skills he learned as a Boy Scout, but a friend who was with him and ventured away to get help died. The two men went to scope out some mines in the state when their car became stuck on a lonely road with no cell phone service. The men tried unsuccessfully to dislodge the car, and lit flares and started fires in hopes somebody would see them in northwestern Nevada's Pershing County, where less than 7,000 people are spread over 6,000 square miles. They used a towel in the car to strain ditch water and snow into water bottles, but, after four or five days, one left to get help. The one who stayed drank regularly which was likely the biggest factor in his survival despite the diabetes that could have sent his blood sugar dangerously out of whack and was eventually found by military personnel who were holding training exercises in the area

Freezer Bag Cooking



The ingenious technique 'boils down' to this; measure ingredients into a 1 quart freezer bag and add hot water, wait a few minutes and viola! – a great-tasting meal. Most of the recipes consist of ingredients you can find on the grocery store shelf. Add a home food dehydrator and the possibilities really expand. Blogger and author Sarah Svien offers homemade cozies (an insulating fabric envelope for freezer bags) and other supplies at the Trail Cooking Website (www.trailcooking.com) that features a blog and quite a few recipes. Available from Amazon.

On-Line Resource of the Month



Here's a useful info-graphic from REI about selecting and sizing the right backpack: www.rei.com/features/infographics/backpacks.html

Trained

Training Opportunities

Boy Scout Leader Specific Training

Trained

BSLST is an indoor session that usually takes about 9 hours and is one of the two courses Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters must take in order to be fully trained. The second course is Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) which is the outdoor training and is scheduled to take place May 29-20 at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve (see next article).

Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (BSLST) will be conducted:

- April 14th at the Spring Camporee. Leaders are not required to attend the camporee in order to take the course. Registration is open on the District website, at the bottom of the main page.
- May 5 at the Sterling Library. Registration and class starts promptly at 10:00 am.

All participants should wear their Class A Scout Leader uniform and bring a bag lunch.

Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) and Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders (OLSWL)

Trained

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.

Prerequisites: YPT, (available online at www.MyScouting.org), and BSLST.

Date/Location: May 19-20, Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve (21085 The Woods Road, Leesburg, VA 20175). Registration begins at 7:30 am, class starts promptly at 8:00 am. There is a \$35 fee for this class.

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

Paddle Craft Safety Training



Float trips are popular Boy Scout and Venturing activities. Safety Afloat awareness training provides guidelines for safe float trips and is required of unit leaders, but does not provide the skill training mandated by those guidelines. BSA Paddle Craft Safety expands Safety Afloat training to include the skills, as well as the knowledge, needed for a unit leader to confidently supervise canoeing or kayaking excursions on flat water. Persons completing the training should be better able to assess their preparation to supervise paddle craft activities. The training is open to any registered adult leader, Scout, Venturer, or Explorer who is age 16 or older. The training must be conducted by a council approved instructor, takes roughly eight hours and is valid for three years.

Registration is \$25 and classes are held at the Hylton Training Center, Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, VA 20169. Classes will be held:

April 28	registration deadline: April 20
June 30	registration deadline: June 22
Oct 27	registration deadline: Oct 19

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 MMMeenehan@cox.net.

You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- Latrines at camp start becoming comfortable.
- You plan to get rich by writing a bestselling Dutch Oven cook book
- You carry your own toilet paper wherever you go.

BSA Swimming & Water Rescue



Training for BSA Swimming & Water Rescue provides BSA leaders with information and skills to prevent, recognize, and respond to swimming emergencies during unit swimming activities. It expands the awareness instruction provided by Safe Swim Defense training. Persons completing the training should be better able to assess their preparation to supervise unit swimming events. The BSA recommends that at least one person with this training is present to assist with supervision whenever a unit swims at a location that does not provide lifeguards. This training is open to any registered adult leader, Scout, Venturer, or Explorer who is age 16 or older. A council approved instructor must directly supervise all training. The course takes approximately eight hours and is valid for three years.

Although the training is consistent with training provided professional life-guards, the Swimming & Water Rescue course is not a lifeguard training course and is not a substitute for BSA Lifeguard training for summer camp aquatics staff. On the other hand, this course addresses important information that may not be covered in generic lifeguard training programs such as: preventative measures, including the buddy system and swim classification tests; how to set up a safe swim area in diverse situations; the use of non-standard rescue equipment; and emergency action plans in remote settings. Therefore, BSA leaders with lifeguard training from other agencies are encouraged to complete this course prior to supervising unit swim activities in remote settings. A 'challenge' option is provided to foster cross-training of individuals with training from other agencies.

Registration is \$25 and classes are held at the Hylton Training Center, Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Road, Haymarket, VA 20169. Classes will be held:

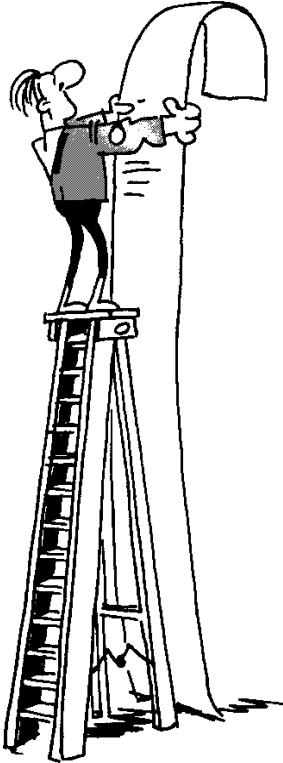
May 26	registration deadline: May 18
July 28	registration deadline: July 20
Sept 29	registration deadline: Sept 21
Dec 8	registration deadline: Nov 30

To register or for more information: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics or contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 MMMeenehan@cox.net.

BC



District Calendar



April 2012

- 2-6 Spring Break
- 9 Moveable School Holiday
- 11 Roundtable
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 13-15 **Spring Camporee**
- 14-15 Snyder Parent/Son Overnighter
- 14 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 20-22 NE Venturing Phenomenon
- 21 **Training – Den Chief**
- 21-22 Snyder Parent/Son Overnighter
- 25 District Committee
- 27-29 **OA Ordeal**

May

- 5 **Cubmobile Derby**
- 5 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 9 **Program Launch**
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 13 Mother's Day
- 18 **District Award Banquet**
- 19-20 **Training – IOLS/OLSWL**
- 19-20 Snyder Parent/Son Overnight
- 23 District Committee
- 28 Memorial Day

June

- 2 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 8 Last Day of School
- 13 Roundtable
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 18-22 **District Day Camp**
- 27 District Committee

July

- 4 Independence Day
- 6-8 Snyder Resident Camp
- 16-19 Snyder Adventure Days
- 20-22 Snyder Resident Camp
- 23-26 Snyder Adventure Days
- 27-29 Snyder Resident Camp
- 29-30 Boy Scout Week at Camp Snyder
- 30-8/2 Snyder Webelos Camp

August

- 3-5 Snyder Resident Camp
- 6-9 Snyder Adventure Days
- 8 Roundtable
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 10-12 Snyder Resident Camp
- 22 District Committee
- 27 First Day of School

September

- 3 Labor Day
- 12 Roundtable
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 22-23 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 26 District Committee

October

- 6 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 8 Columbus Day
- 10 Roundtable
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 13 **Training – Den Chief**
- 20-21 **Training – IOLS/OLSWL**
- 20-21 JOTA/JOTI
- 24 District Committee

November

- 2-4 NCAC Venturing Hike-o-ree
- 3 **Scouting for Food Bag Distribution**
- 5-6 Student Holiday
- 8 Commissioner RT
- 10 **Scouting for Food Bag Pickup**
- 14 Roundtable
- 15 District Committee
- 17 PowWow
- 21-23 Thanksgiving Break

December

- 12 Roundtable
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 19 District Committee
- 24 Winter Break Starts

January 2013

- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 9 Roundtable
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 18 Moveable School Holiday
- 19 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 21 MLK Jr. Day
- 23 District Committee
- 25-27 Freeze-o-ree

February

- 10 Scout Sunday
- 13 Roundtable
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 16 Scout Sabbath
- 18 President's Day
- 23 Univ. of Scouting
- 27 District Committee

March

- 4 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**
- 10 Roundtable
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 25-29 Spring Break
- 27 District Committee