



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



September 2012

Volume 4, Issue 2

## Special Interest:

### District

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### Advancement

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- One Oath and Law – pg 9
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
### Training

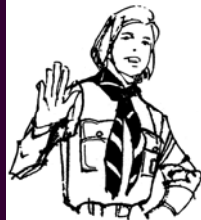
- Revised Safe Swim Defense – pg 15
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## Quick Calendar:

- Sept 12 – Roundtable
- Sept 19 – JSN
- Sept 22-23 – Webelos-o-ree
- Sept 28 – District Dinner
- Oct 8 – Training - BLST
- Oct 10 – Roundtable
- Oct 13 – Training – Den Chief
- Oct 20-21 – Training – IOLS/OLSWL
- Oct 20-21 – JOTA/JOTI
- Nov 3 & 10 – Scouting for Food
- Nov 14 – Roundtable
- Nov 17 - PowWow

## Newsletter Key:

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



from Bobwhite's Blather ([www.fmaynard.com/scouting/](http://www.fmaynard.com/scouting/)), June 25, 2012

A lot of us were drawn into Scouting as adults with the assurance that “it’s only an hour a week.” We’d be hosting a fun activity, we were told, using the published handbooks and planners, so we don’t have to work through it ourselves. We’ll have help – the other parents will pitch in. We can get trained so the job is even easier. And that’s all there is to it!

It’s only later that we find we take on a second hour, then a third, because we like the way that things are going. We enjoy being with other civic-minded adults, usually our neighbors, who are enthusiastic about Scouting. We like being able to do things that we can’t do otherwise, like camping inside a professional baseball stadium or a Navy sub. We like the fun that our sons are having because it’s good, clean fun. And we start to see that it really is a game with a purpose: help other people, obey the rules, do your best.

And once we get a couple years under our belts, we might be asked (or volunteer) to help at the district level. Would you help train other leaders? Would you help the camping committee with day camp? Can you give a presentation at Roundtable? (Oh, and we could always use another Roundtable staff member. Would you be interested?)

In much the same way as we watch our boys grow and develop their skills, then go on to help the younger ones as they get older, so do we start giving back to Scouting by helping others. We had fun on the way up; everyone should have that opportunity!

I suspect that if you’re reading this article, you’ve gone beyond that second and third hour to the point where it’s almost like another full-time job. We go to work and do the job we get paid to do, but in our time away from work we find ourselves doing more and more for our pack, troop, district or council. Clarke Green summed it up very well in a piece called Extraordinary People in his podcast number nineteen ([www.scoutmastercg.com/2010/05/scoutmaster-podcast-19/](http://www.scoutmastercg.com/2010/05/scoutmaster-podcast-19/)) a couple years ago. We become those extraordinary people because we do things that are beyond the ordinary.

Scouting is different. Scouting is not something you clear your schedule for an evening and go do for an hour a week, then return to your home and your life and resume whatever you were doing before. Maybe this is true of your bowling league, or poker group, or softball team, but Scouting is different. Unlike most other activities, Scouting is more about “be” than “do.” When we become involved in Scouting, not only do we instill the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law in our youth, but those values rub off on us as well.

## District News

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

### Webelos-o-ree 2012



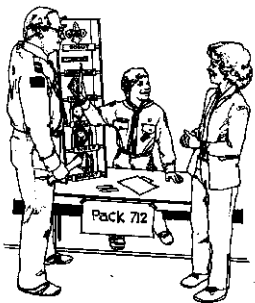
This fall (Sept 22-23) our District will be holding our 8<sup>th</sup> annual Webelos-o-ree, an overnight camping event, at Meadowkirk in Middleburg VA. This camping event is designed to introduce Webelos and their parents to the fun Scouting adventures ahead and to help make the transition into Boy Scouts exciting.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. Activities will be run by our own Boy Scout troops and will include: Fire building, first aid (Readyman), cooking, a monkey bridge, BB shooting and archery, and a campfire run by the Boy Scout Order of the Arrow. (Note: we will **not** have a rocketry station this year). For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining Boy Scouts, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for 2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> year Webelos and their parents.

A full information/registration packet is posted on the District website.

**Note:** While this event has been set up as a camping experience there are non-camping registration options available for those that just want to attend just the day and leave before supper or that will stay for the day through supper and the campfire.

### Join Scouting Night



BSA District and the Loudoun County Public School system date is:

**Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7-8pm**

School buildings will be available from 6:30 to 8:30pm for set up and take down.

#### A Message from Chris Goda – District Vice-Chairman, Membership

Training has concluded and we had about 45 people attend the four sessions put on throughout the county. We hope you liked the presentations and certainly the line of questions that people asked were very good. JSN Newsletter III just went out and there will be 2 more coming, one around the 10<sup>th</sup> and the last one around the 18<sup>th</sup>. We are locking down the turn-in locations which will be announced in the 4<sup>th</sup> newsletter.

I sincerely hope that you are preparing your personalized JSN presentation. I have great faith that everyone will do a wonderful job but as we all knows, it's all about the preparation. Leave nothing to chance

Contact Peggy, Michael or myself at any time with questions you might have.

### District Service Date at Meadowkirk



The District has set up Sept 8, 10 am – 2 pm, as a service date to do some trail maintenance at Meadowkirk (38012 Delta Farm Lane, Middleburg, VA) as a thank you for letting us use their facilities for this year's camporee and Webelos-o-ree.

If your troop, or individuals from your troop, would like to participate please contact Alan Steiner at [GCProgram@verizon.net](mailto:GCProgram@verizon.net) or call 703-727-2163. Please bring clippers, shovels, rakes, and other hand tools.

### District Dinner and Award Banquet



Please mark your calendars for our annual District Dinner and Awards Banquet on Friday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 5:30 pm – 9 pm, at the ADAMS Center (46903 Sugarland Road Sterling, VA 20164-8520).

During the dinner, we will recognize those Scouters that are selected by their unit as a Volunteer of the Year. Along with these outstanding Scouters, we will recognize the Eagle Scouts of the past year, the 2011-2012 District Award of Merit recipients, and the Key Three awardees.

This is a great opportunity for each unit to send their selected volunteer of the year to be individually recognized.

The dinner will be great fellowship and celebrate a great year in scouting within Loudoun County. For more information and to register on-line:

[www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/Registration/CalendarDetail.asp?ActivityKey=1055222](http://www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/Registration/CalendarDetail.asp?ActivityKey=1055222)

### Nominate Your Unit's Adult Volunteer of the Year



How do you give recognition to someone in your unit who has done outstanding work for you this past year? You nominate them as your unit's Adult Volunteer of the Year of course. They have worked hard to support your program and now you can give them special recognition for their hard work.

Every unit can submit the names of one or two people who have given exemplary service, they don't even have to be registered leaders. All nominations submitted will receive the award and Goose Creek will recognize these adults at the Annual District Dinner and Awards Banquet.

To submit your nominations use the form located on our District website. Your unit may also want to pay for their nominee's dinner to make sure that they attend and get their recognition in front of all of the other units.

### Webelos Invitation to a Campout



Troop 966 (<http://members.doubleknot.com/Troop966>) invites Goose Creek District's Webelos II's to camp with us at Lake Fairfax on Nov 17<sup>th</sup> and/or to come to our open house troop meeting on Monday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup> (7:30 - 9:00 PM at the Sterling Ruritan Club, 183 Ruritan Road, Sterling). Webelos and their parents are welcome to camp overnight or just visit for a day of fun activities.

Please RSVP to [CommitteeChair @ Troop966.org](mailto:CommitteeChair@Troop966.org)

## Jamboree on the Air / Jamboree on the Internet



There are Scouting programs in over two hundred fifteen countries and not everyone can attend the World Jamboree so once a year Scouts and Scouters from around the globe come together by way of radio and computer. October 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> marks the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “Jamboree on the Air” (JOTA) and the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the “Jamboree on the Internet” (JOTI) and the Boy Scouts of America will be well represented.

While anyone (Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Venture Scout) is welcome to participate, not everyone has a broadband connection to the Internet or a shortwave radio that they can take advantage of. With that in mind the Goose Creek District of the National Capital Area Council will host any and all Scouts and Scouters who wish to reach out across the world for this once a year event. Join us Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> in Ashburn, Virginia from 11 AM to 2 PM and talk to your fellow Scouts from around the globe. There is no associated cost and a fun time should be had by all. Depending on participation levels we hope to be part of the World Scout Challenge, an event sponsored by the Headquarters of the World Scout Organization Movement in Geneva, Switzerland.

**For more information:** [www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=29760&orgkey=1988](http://www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=29760&orgkey=1988) or contact: [Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.org).

## Silver Beaver Nominations



This national award is the highest form of recognition that a local council can bestow on an adult volunteer. Established in 1931, the Silver Beaver Award is presented for distinguished service to people within a BSA local council. A recipient must be a registered adult volunteer member of the BSA and show significant service and leadership in three areas: Boy Scouts, youth programs other than Boy Scouts, and the community.

It is extremely important that the nomination form includes information about all three of the service and leadership areas. The Council review committee can base their decision only on the submitted documentation and missing or ambiguous information often means that a deserving person does not get the award.

In order to ensure that all Goose Creek nominations have the best information before they are sent in to Council the District has set up a Goose Creek Silver Beaver Review committee. The purpose of this committee is not to decide which nominations to send in, but to review the nominations and to identify where additional information or clarification should be included. All members of the committee are Silver Beaver recipients including some who have served on the Council review committee.

**For nomination forms and submittal information:** On the District web page select [Resources and Help](#) from the menu and go to the listing for the 2012 Silver Beaver nominations (or just click on the big silver colored beaver in the upper left hand corner of the splash page). All nominations must be in to the committee by Nov 15.

## “Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail

### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts:

Zachary Allison Troop 163

Ross J Clark Troop 982

Jon E Emch Troop 1550

Henry Ernst Frenzel Troop 711

Joshua Gross Troop 961

Nicholas T. Hintze Crew 1106

David L. Murray Troop 956

Kyle Sargent Troop 961

Tomithy C Schott Troop 998

Thaddeus Thomas Troop 761

Peter Stephen Van Der Hoek Troop 711

William Kenneth Yancey Troop 1159

Nolan Yost Troop 711

### Lowe's Teams with BSA for Eagle Scout Project Support



Home improvement retailer Lowe's has teamed with the Boy Scouts of America to provide the Lowe's National Eagle Scout Project Impact grant for candidates working on their Eagle Scout project.

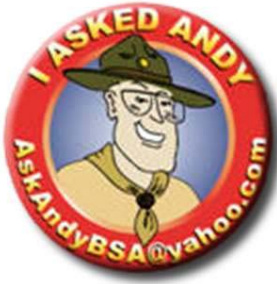
About the Grant: A generous contribution from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has made it possible for local councils to present **selected** Eagle Scout candidates with a \$100 prepaid gift card to be used toward their service projects. Life Scouts who are planning a construction-based project may apply. Local councils will be notified of their allotment of awards, which will be figured based on a percentage of each council's three-year average for Eagle Scout Awards earned. The council or district Eagle project review board will determine which projects qualify for a Lowe's grant. The local council will distribute its allotment of the \$100 prepaid gift cards to recipients. Cards must be used to purchase building materials and equipment for the Eagle candidate's service project. The gift card may be used at any Lowe's location or any place that it is accepted.

For more information: [www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/TrailToEagle.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/TrailToEagle.aspx)

### Tundra



## “Approval” for a Scout to Work on a Merit Badge



Andy,

I'm a District Advancement Chair, and we have a local problem: a troop and Scoutmaster delaying the “approval” for a Scout to work on a merit badge.

In your June 22, 2012 column you said, “...the BSA’s national advancement team has stated clearly and without equivocation that a Scoutmaster cannot ‘decide’ to withhold his signature from any registered Scout seeking to begin any merit badge, at any time. The ‘approval’ means only that the Scout is indeed a registered youth member of the BSA; it means nothing more. No Scoutmaster is permitted to apply ‘judgment’ regarding any Scout’s age, abilities, rank, or interest. He is to sign the merit badge application and provide the Scout with name and contact information of a registered Merit Badge Counselor. End of story.”

I'm being challenged on that, and after reading through the current advancement guidelines yet again, all I can find is this: “Though a few merit badges may have certain restrictions; short of them, any registered Scout may work on any of them at any time, as long as he has the approval of his unit leader.” This is in the new **GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT** (section 7.0.0.2) and it's being used to delay approval, based on an interpretation to the effect that if it weren't discretionary, the “as long as he has the approval” part wouldn't be necessary.

Thank you for posing your question to Andy, who has reached out to us. This particular issue has received a lot of attention since the **GUIDE TO ADVANCEMENT** (GTA) was published, even though the “approval” part of the language was taken from the **SCOUTMASTER HANDBOOK**. We've been monitoring some of the discussion groups, however, and the BSA National Advancement Committee has reached a resolution on how this will be treated. The Committee has decided to change the language that will appear with the Unit Leader signature on the next reprint of the Application for Merit Badge (aka “blue card”). It will no longer be “...is qualified to begin working for the merit badge noted on the reverse side” and will become “I have discussed this merit badge with this Scout and recommended at least one merit badge counselor.” (Note that this wording may change slightly as it goes through the national BSA editing process; but its purpose and intent will not.)

The next step will be revised language in the GTA, which will define the unit leader's role as that of an adviser; not an approval authority. If a unit leader, for whatever reason, believes a Scout isn't “ready” for a merit badge, the unit leader can try to lead the Scout to something else; however, it is the intention of the Boy Scouts of America that the decision to proceed with a merit badge belongs to the Scout. (Advancement Team, Program Impact Department, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA-Council Operations)

## Service Project Guidelines



In May 2012, the National Health & Safety Committee issued two new documents that are designed to assist youth and adult leaders in planning and safely performing service projects. The Service Project Guidelines (No. 680-027) is for youth, adults and members of OA to use in planning service projects and minimizing the opportunities for accidents.

The **Age Guidelines for Tool Use and Work at Elevations or Excavations** (No. 680-028) is designed to provide youth and leaders guidance on age appropriate use of tools or work that may be performed 4-ft. above or below the ground. This document was covered in the August District newsletter and can be found at: <http://ScoutingMagazine.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/age-guidelines-2012.pdf>

The **Service Project Planning Guideline** is useful in the planning process for any service project, whether it is done in a public area or on a council/regional or national BSA facility. This guide used many of the parts of the current Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project book. The steps listed in this guide will help youth and adult leaders to recognize and plan for contingencies as well as the service project needs. Although the Guide is 5 pages long, plenty of “write-in space” is provided. This document can be completed and then shared with the leadership of the service project as a good communication tool. Likewise, it is always a good practice to utilize this form for all pack, troop, crew or team service projects. Councils can also use this form as guidance to leaders for such service projects as “Scouting for Food” or use by Order of the Arrow members in their service projects on or off council properties. The document can be found at: [www.Scouting.org/filestore/healthsafety/pdf/680-027.pdf](http://www.Scouting.org/filestore/healthsafety/pdf/680-027.pdf)

## Eagle Recognition Letters



If you want your new Eagle Scouts to receive recognition letters from one of the military services, follow these directions:

**Army** – for the U.S. Army Youth Certificate of Recognition, signed by the Army’s Chief of Staff, nominations must be sent to a local U.S. Army recruiting battalion or applied for online at [www.GoArmy.com/ycr/](http://www.GoArmy.com/ycr/).

**Navy** – for a U.S. Navy Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate, send requests to the commanding officer of the local navy Recruiting District. District locations are available at [www.NavyCS.com/districts.html](http://www.NavyCS.com/districts.html) or by calling the nearest navy recruiter. Requests should include the new Eagle Scout’s name (as it will appear on the certificate), date of the award ceremony, mailing address to send the certificate, and information for contacting the troop leader.

**Air Force** – Requests for an Eagle Scout congratulatory letter from the U.S. Air Force should be sent of AFRS/PA, Attn: Scout Letters, 550 D Street West, Suite 1, Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4527.

**Marines** – Send your request, in writing, to Commandant of the Marine Corps, Director of Marine Corps Staff, The Pentagon, Rm. 4E791, Washington, D.C. 20350-3000.

## STEM-Tastic Fun!



Scouts have a new opportunity to explore and expand their STEM skills - NCAC has partnered with the Microsoft Store in Tysons Corner (map) to offer skills-based achievement experiences. Currently, Cub Scouts can work on:

**Computer Belt Loop:** Scouts will learn parts of a computer, how to properly shut down a computer and to prepare a document and print on his own. (Sept 22, Jan 26, March 23, April 27, July 27)

**Photography Belt Loop:** Scouts will learn functions of a camera, discuss film vs. digital, learn to take his own photos and share with others. (Oct 27, May 25, Aug 24)

**Video Game Belt Loop:** Scouts will learn about the video game rating system, create a gaming schedule to include gaming, homework, chores, and family time, learn a new video game and discuss his favorite game and why. (Nov 24, Feb 23, June 22)

**To register:** Go to [www.MSevents.microsoft.com](http://www.MSevents.microsoft.com) and the in *Search Microsoft Events* box in the top header, right side, type in **Cub Scouts**

## Council / National News

Council Website: [www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org](http://www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org)

### Making Use of BeAScout.org



If you're making full use of BeAScout.org, you know what a great marketing tool it can be. Think of it as the new front door or welcome mat for your units.

If you're not, here's how it works: A visitor looking for info about Scouting enters a ZIP code and – bam! – the prospective Scout or Scout parent is transported to your site. What does your visitor see? You'll surely list the basic contact info – meeting times, location, phone, and e-mail links. But you've got to show them something that will make the newcomer say, "I gotta join."

"There are so many advantages to customizing here," says Michael Ramsey, director of marketing communications and brand management. "You could change your message every day, if you wanted to." That means offering added features such as links to your Web site, cool photos, details about upcoming events, and more. If your troop is noted for great backpacking trips, say so. If it has won a recent award, post a shout-out. "This is your chance to hang out your shingle in the marketplace," Ramsey says. "The sky's the limit."

To customize your unit's BeAScout.org listing the unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Adviser) must log in to their [myscouting.org](http://myscouting.org) account. This is the same account used for youth protection training and online rechartering. On the left side of the screen there is a BeAScout link. Follow that link to customize your unit's BeAScout listing. This link is only available to unit leaders.



## One Oath and Law Proposed for All BSA Programs



The volunteer-led task forces supporting the 2011–2015 National Council Strategic Plan’s Goal 411, after considerable deliberation, have recommended moving to the use of the Scout Oath and Law for all BSA programs. This change would primarily impact Cub Scouts and Venturing.

The recommendation has been reviewed and endorsed by the national support committee responsible for program content changes. It has also been discussed and endorsed by the national officers of the BSA, and Wayne Perry has directed that the recommendation be brought forward to the National Executive Board at its October 2012 meeting.

The basis for the recommendation is strategic in nature and is intended to reinforce the connection between all of our BSA programs and the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. Since it is the mission of the BSA “to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law,” it is the task forces’ judgment that this goal is best achieved if all programs use the Scout Oath and Law as their primary statement of values and ideals.

As the changes might impact Cub Scouts, consultation with cognitive and child development specialists and educational practitioners involved in Scouting supported the reasonability of the recommendation and did not identify any age-appropriate difficulties with implementation. Additionally, research among parents and Cub Scout leaders was also supportive.

The changes as they impact Cub Scouts would be implemented with the full rollout of the work of the 411 Task Force, scheduled for the 2015–2016 program year.

## Unit and District Tools Phase I



Replacing MyScouting.org with Unit and District Tools is the first step in moving toward a more user-friendly, self service oriented BSA. This new website will be the first piece in the new Membership database that is currently being built. Similar to MyScouting.org, Unit Tools will eventually give unit leaders, volunteers, parents, Scouts, etc., the opportunity to create a profile, take/track training, perform rechartering, maintain advancement, plan activities, and more. In addition to the previously mentioned items, the new Unit and District Tools application will also give the unit Key 3 the ability to log in, set up the administration function (to grant administration access to three additional registered leaders), access their rosters, assign people into dens and patrols, and perform attendance tracking.

Unit Tools will be released in multiple phases. Phase I (set for release this summer) will include the basic items, while Phase II (set for release later this fall) will include more detailed, position-oriented items. The release of the other phases will be relayed at a later time.

## Tour Permit and Activity Plan is Online



The new digital Tour Permit and Activity Plan is now online. NCAC will be accepting paper tour plans until September 1, 2012, to ease the transition, but please encourage your leaders to use the online form for new events. To use the online form you will need to log in to [www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org) and select the tour and activity plan under your "Unit Tool".

All Leaders listed will receive a proof of insurance. Currently there is not a way to identify a "tour leader," so please verify all email addresses to ensure you receive your proof of insurance. If you have any questions, please contact your District Executive.

For additional information:

[www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.aspx?LinkKey=47599&orgkey=370](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.aspx?LinkKey=47599&orgkey=370)

## 2013 Journey to Excellence Scorecards



The new 2013 Journey to Excellence scorecards for packs, troops, teams, and crews are now online. Go to [www.Scouting.org/jte](http://www.Scouting.org/jte) and look for the box labeled "2013 Scorecards."

## NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award

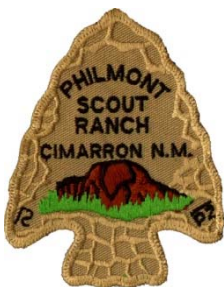


The deadline to submit applications for the NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award is September 30. This new council-level award recognizes Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievement at the local, state or regional level.

For more information about the award or to download the application, go to:

[www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=46684&orgkey=1989](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=46684&orgkey=1989)

## High Adventure Opportunities



NCAC has the following provisional Philmont Treks available for 2013:

- P705 (July 3-July 17)
- P713 (July 11-July 25)
- P720 (July 18-August 1).

The cost is \$1950, and all travel will be arranged by the Council. For more information, contact [Dave.Talbott@uspto.gov](mailto:Dave.Talbott@uspto.gov). For registration forms go to:

[www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=1988&id=91940](http://www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=1988&id=91940)

Want High Adventure a little closer to home? In 2013 there will be two provisional crews at Lenhok'sin, dates to be determined. Watch the Lenhok'sin webpage for more information:

[www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=47443&orgkey=1933](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=47443&orgkey=1933)

## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland Scout Orienteering Day



The 36th Annual Maryland Scout Orienteering Day will be Saturday, Oct. 27, 8:30 am-4:45 pm. This year the event is at Patuxent River Park's Jug Bay Natural Area. Instruction and courses are suitable for beginners, emphasizing fun map skills on a special six-color orienteering map, in addition to compass games. Registration deadline is October 12. For more information or to register, [www.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=1188516](http://www.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=1188516)

## Goshen Scout Reservation



Another summer has come to pass at Goshen Scout Reservation...and despite Mother Nature's temper tantrum Week 1 (aka a derecho) and consistent temperatures in the 80s and 90s...2012 will go down as one of the best summers yet! Work now begins on creating a spillway for the dam as required by the Commonwealth of Virginia to operate the camp next summer. Construction will be completed by May 2013 and Lake Merriweather will be ready for Scouts Memorial Day weekend! Beat the rush... Ready to make your reservation TODAY for next year? Go to:

[www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=370&id=113893](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=370&id=113893)

Interested in being on the 2013 camp staff? Go to:

[www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=370&id=113898](http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?orgkey=370&id=113898)

## Commemorative Council Shoulder Patches



A limited run of 2,000 Council Shoulder Patches (CSP) will go on sale at Marriott Scout Service Center (9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814) Tuesday, Sept. 4 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first Eagle Scout award, which was presented to Arthur Eldred in August 1912. The CSPs will be available during regular business hours (8:30 am – 5 pm, Monday-Friday) through Dec. 31, 2012 or until the inventory is exhausted. No more CSPs of this design will be produced.

Cost is \$5 per CSP. To reserve your special, one-of-a-kind CSP in advance, email [GOEinfo@Scouting.org](mailto:GOEinfo@Scouting.org) with your name and complete contact details, including phone number and email address. You will receive a confirmation email that your request has been received. CSPs can be mailed to you for an additional postage charge of \$2.

## Chaplain Resources



We are pleased to announce that BSACHaplain.org has joined the U.S. Scouting Service Project, Inc.'s family of web sites. You can visit this site at <http://bsachaplain.org>, where you will find resources for adults serving as chaplains and youth leaders serving as a chaplain aid.

## A Listing of Scouting Apps



Once upon a time, we used maps printed on paper to find our way. We studied laminated sky charts to identify constellations. We counted seconds after thunder strikes to locate storms.

What were we thinking?

Today, thanks to the ubiquitous smartphone, we can do all that and more with a few taps.

As Scout leaders, we can now carry a library, GPS, weather radio, compass, map, camera, and field guide in our pocket. But which apps are worth downloading or — in some cases — paying for? To find out, **Bryan on Scouting** (<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/>) asked his facebook to submit their favorite apps and the listing can be found at:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2012/08/09/the-ultimate-list-of-scouting-apps/>

## Changes to Annual Health and Medical Record



The revised Annual Health and Medical Record (AHMR) will soon be available. We already know what you're thinking. "Didn't they just do that?" No, not really. The last updates were completed in 2010.

Health and medical information seems to change almost daily. We monitor information from many sources including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association to name just a few, for the latest information as it pertains to all Scouts and Scouters. The BSA Health & Safety Medical Team then uses the information to modify the AHMR as needed to help keep us all healthy and safe.

The new AHMR will have several changes that most notably include a bilingual format. There are additions and changes to Parts A, B, C and D, as well. Please be sure to fill out each section completely and carefully. Although no one wants an accident or illness to occur, an accurately completed AHMR can make a difference in yours or your child's care in the event of an emergency.

For more information, on the BSA AHMR, go to:

[www.Scouting.org/ScoutSource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx](http://www.Scouting.org/ScoutSource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx)

## BSA Indy Car comes to Baltimore



The BSA Indy Car, owned by Dale Coyne Racing, will be available for Scouts and Scouters to see and take pictures with outside the Maryland Science Center on Monday, September 3 from 10am - 3pm at no charge. Scouts and Scouters in uniform can also receive a \$5 discount on tickets to the Maryland Science Center.

For additional information, visit [www.baltimorebsa.org/indycar](http://www.baltimorebsa.org/indycar)

## BSA Goes NASCAR



As the BSA continues to articulate our movement in more relevant and meaningful terms to the American public, we're proud to announce our entry into the exciting, fast-paced sport of NASCAR. This high profile platform will allow the BSA to take the lead on defining who we are, continue our efforts of promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) to those involved in Scouting, and directly support Scouting's Journey to Excellence.

The National Council is proud to announce a multiyear relationship with Scott Lagasse, owner of Team SLR. Scott's team has secured a multiyear, primary sponsorship with Peterson Industries, home of the Hybrid Light product line – solar flashlights that are always ready to work without a concern for dead batteries. With Hybrid Light as the primary sponsor and the BSA as the associate sponsor, Team SLR is gearing up for a successful run in the 2013 NASCAR Nationwide Series. In preparation for a competitive 2013 season, Team SLR will be running the Hybrid Light/BSA car in three races this year: 1) Kentucky 300 – Sparta, KY, 2) Kansas Lottery 300 – Kansas City, KS, and 3) Ford EcoBoost 300 – Homestead, FL.

## Scouting Research Panels



Ever wonder who signs off on major changes to the Scouting program? Instead of wondering, why not be one of those people?

Yep, by joining the Research & Program Innovation team's Scouting Research Panel, you'll be one of the insiders who give their thumbs-up (or down) to new merit badges, updated rank requirements, or other major changes to the Boy Scouts of America.

As a member of the panel you'll get three or four surveys per year regarding new programs or proposed changes to existing BSA programs. The panel is open to all current Cub Scout parents, Boy Scout parents, Boy Scout and Venturing youth members, and registered volunteers (Scouters in any BSA program).

One note on youth members who want to lend their thoughts: "By law we are not allowed to send surveys directly to youth ages 13 and under. However, if a younger Boy Scout would like to participate in our surveys, he can do so by having his parents register in the Boy Scout Parent Panel and indicate that their son is interested in participating."

Visit the Scouting Research Panel page to get started:  
[www.scouting.org/about/research/ResearchPanel.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/about/research/ResearchPanel.aspx)

### Scout Day at Navy Football



Join the Naval Academy Athletic Association for "Scout Day 2012" at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, MD on Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Navy vs. Texas State home football game. Kickoff is tentatively set for 3:30pm. More than 10,000 Scouts and family members have attended in the past years, making it one of the largest football events in recent history. Scouts can also take tours of the United States Naval Academy or camp for the weekend. For more information, go to [www.NavySports.com](http://www.NavySports.com) and use the promo code "SCOUTDAY".

### St. Mary's Century Bike Ride



The St Mary's Century bike ride is on September 15th. Each year about 400 cyclists gather in Leonardtown to discover the history and beauty of St. Mary's County by bicycle. All courses begin and end at the College of Southern Maryland campus in Leonardtown. Courses open at 7 AM, packet pickup is from 7 AM - 9 AM.

This year's ride offers a good opportunity for Scouts and Scouters. The ride includes 25 and 50 mile courses with fully stocked rest stops and full SAG (tire/tube) support for Scouts working on their Cycling merit badge, plus a post-ride picnic and wicking t-shirt if you pre-register. Tell them you are a Scout at registration and they will send half of the \$45 registration fee to your unit!

For more information or to register: [www.PaxVelo.com](http://www.PaxVelo.com)

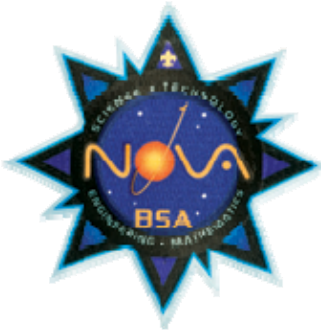
### BSA Policy Statement on Political Activities



Boy Scouts of America policy prohibits Scouts from participating in political activities. BSA membership applications, under Program Policies, state: Citizenship activities are encouraged, but partisan political activities are prohibited.

Uniformed unit members and leaders may participate in flag ceremonies at political events and may lead the Pledge of Allegiance; however, they should retire after the ceremony and not remain on the speakers' platform or in a conspicuous location where television viewers could construe their presence as an endorsement or symbol of support. In addition, photos of candidates or Scouts in uniform or BSA marks and logos are not allowed in political campaign materials of any kind. Leaders must be alert to situations that would imply that the BSA favors one candidate over another. Strict observance of our long-standing policy against the active participation of uniformed Scouts and leaders in political events is mandatory.

## NOVA Awards Program



The Boy Scouts of America's NOVA Awards program incorporates learning with cool activities and exposure to science, technology, engineering and mathematics for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. The hope is that the requirements and activities for earning these awards stimulates interest in STEM-related fields and shows how science, technology, engineering and mathematics apply to everyday living and the world around them. Counselors and mentors help bring this engaging, contemporary, and fun program to life for youth members.

There are four Nova awards for Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers. Each award covers one component of STEM—science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. For their first Nova award, Scouts earn the distinctive Nova award patch. After that, a Scout can earn three more Nova awards, each one recognized with a separate pi ( $\pi$ ) pin-on device that attaches to the patch. The patch and the three devices represent each of the four STEM topics—science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

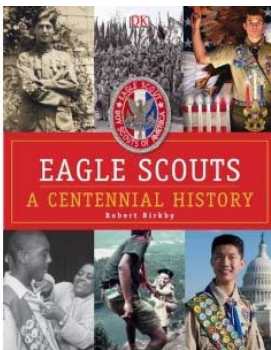
The Supernova awards have more rigorous requirements than the Nova awards. The requirements and activities were designed to motivate youth and recognize more in-depth, advanced achievement in STEM-related activities.

All requirements may be found in the Nova awards guidebooks, available through local Scout shops—one for Cub Scouts, one for Boy Scouts, and one for Venturers. The requirements can be completed with a parent or an adult leader as the counselor (for the Nova awards) or mentor (for the Supernova awards). Each guidebook includes a section for the counselor and mentor.

To look at the requirements:

- Cub Scout:  
[www.BoyScoutTrail.com/content/award/cub\\_scout\\_nova-2296.asp](http://www.BoyScoutTrail.com/content/award/cub_scout_nova-2296.asp)
- Boy Scout:  
[www.BoyScoutTrail.com/content/award/boy\\_scout\\_nova-2295.asp](http://www.BoyScoutTrail.com/content/award/boy_scout_nova-2295.asp)

## Inspiration Illustrated



More than two million Scouts have earned the rank of Eagle Scout since Arthur Eldred became the first Eagle in 1912. Now, in *Eagle Scouts: A Centennial History*, author Robert Birkby tells the stories of many of these Scouts, showing how the leadership lessons and skills acquired from the Eagle program led them to future accomplishments.

This inspiring book (\$20; available Sept. 28 from Amazon) comes illustrated with a wide range of photographs and art works, including many historic Eagle medals and insignia.

As a special addition (\$15), you can order a custom book jacket at [www.ScoutStuff.org](http://www.ScoutStuff.org) that will allow you to replace the six images on the cover with six images of your own.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Scouting Salutes the Military



On Thursday, September 20, National Capital Area Council (NCAC), Boy Scouts of America will proudly host its 4th Annual Scouting Salutes the Military.

The concept of Scouting Salutes the Military is unique, simple and powerful: Honor one active duty enlisted person who personifies the values found in the Scout Oath and Law to represent each of the five U.S. military branches - Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard - during a special evening event that brings together the national community in support of Scouting's impact on today's youth and the tremendous service - on and off the battlefield - rendered by the men and women of our armed services.

The 2012 Scouting Salutes the Military Honorees are:

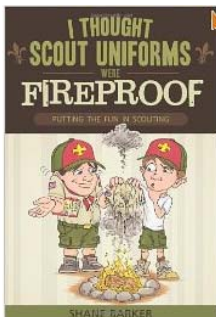
- U.S. Army – Sergeant Patrick B. Wilson
- U.S. Navy – EM2 (SW) Scott Jones
- U.S. Air Force - Staff Sergeant Joseph P. Gille
- U.S. Marine Corps – Staff Sergeant David Coan
- U.S. Coast Guard – Petty Officer 2nd Class Nicholas Krupa

Active duty Service members (or spouses of) who are registered adult volunteers with NCAC are invited to attend for free with your registered Scouting youth member. THIS IS A LIMITED OFFER! Please contact

[www.SupportScouting@Scouting.org](mailto:www.SupportScouting@Scouting.org) or 301-214-9151 for full details.

Please visit [www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/SaluteTheMilitary](http://www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/SaluteTheMilitary) for information about support opportunities and for registration details.

## I Thought Scout Uniforms Were Fireproof!



**From a User Review:** The focus of this book is truly to put the fun back into scouting. It is a quick read, filled with ideas for breaking out of doing 'the usual' for your troop meetings, camp outs, and while working on merit badges. I enjoyed it and as a Roundtable Commissioner, I think I'm going to pick up a couple extra copies to give out at our Boy Scout Roundtable.

Fair warning, it is aimed at LDS Scouting, but with that said there are not very many of the ideas that are directed specifically for LDS troops. Many of the thoughts can be applied to any troop out there. I highly recommend it and the price is great

Available from Amazon for about \$9.



**First rule of camping:** Every flat surface is a table or seat.

**Second rule of camping:** Any liquid spilt in a tent automatically doubles in volume.



## On-Line Resource of the Month



The [SCOUTER.com](http://SCOUTER.com) network was launched in September, 1995, as a grass root resource to equip Scout leaders with the tools to fulfill their responsibilities... as leaders, as parents and as mentors.

We are the largest Scouting web portal in the world, with more than 1.5 million pages visited each month. Through our huge web of Compass Points, covering more than 400 Scouting-related topics, we link to Scouting and Scouting-related web sites throughout the United States and the World.



## Training Opportunities

### Revised Safe Swim Defense Training



There is newly revised Safe Swim Defense training found under the My Scouting tab at [www.Scouting.org](http://www.Scouting.org). If you last reviewed that training prior to June of 2012, you should check out the latest version with video footage, which re-replaces cartoons with video footage. The guidelines have not changed, but the revised training provides additional detail and clarity. A DVD of the updated training is also available from [www.ScoutStuff.org](http://www.ScoutStuff.org).

BSA policies require unit swimming activities to be supervised by adults with current Safe Swim Defense training. However, the training also provides important information for family swimming events and may be taken by anyone. Although drowning occurs year-round, summer is the prime season, with many groups headed to the water for the Labor Day holiday. Keep your unit, family, and friends safe by following the safety guidelines in Scouting's Safe Swim Defense.

### Adult Training Requirements for 2012



The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America has set the training requirements for all units to re-charter in 2012. For 2012 all Direct Contact Leaders must be trained in their positions. This means that if a leader has direct contact with a youth (i.e. outings, meetings, etc.) then they will have to be trained for their position. This includes all Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Crew Associate Advisors and their assistants, all Den Leaders (Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos) and their assistants, and any other registered leaders that have contact with youth.

For a listing of the training required for leaders please go to:

[www.Scouting.org/Scoutsource/BoyScouts/Adults/Training/Trained%20Leader.aspx](http://www.Scouting.org/Scoutsource/BoyScouts/Adults/Training/Trained%20Leader.aspx)

#### Notes:

- New leaders are required to complete **Youth Protection** training within 30 days of registering. It must be renewed every 2 years
- **This Is Scouting** is no longer required, it is now supplemental training.
- **Fast Start** training is no longer required.

## Cub Leader Pow Wow



This Year's Cub Leader Pow Wow will be **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2012**

### ***What is Cub Leader Pow Wow?***

Cub Leader Pow Wow is a supplemental, action-packed all day training event for adult Cub Scout Leaders. You will spend the day learning new ideas and concepts with hands-on experiences that will enhance your ability to deliver and support a fun-filled, exciting program to Cub Scout boys.

### ***Who should attend Cub Leader Pow Wow?***

Everyone! All registered adult Cub Scout Leaders, potential leaders, and interested parents.

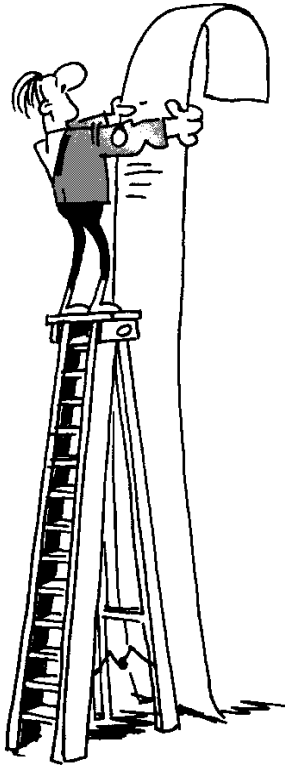
Training sessions offer relevant topics for every Cub Scout position to help you make your Cub Scout program more fun for the boys ... and you too!

### ***What do I need to do to register online for Cub Leader Pow Wow?***

Download and carefully review the course description and course schedule, then make your course selections. Begin electronic registration [here](#). Have a major credit card handy when you register. All courses have limited enrollment and many fill quickly. Courses that reach maximum enrollment will not be available to select for registration. So... register when it becomes available.

**For additional information:** e-mail to Bill Mayo, at [NCAC.PowWow@gmail.com](mailto:NCAC.PowWow@gmail.com)

# District Calendar



## September 2012

- 3 Labor Day
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 19 Join Scouting Night
- 22-23 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 26 District Committee
- 28 **District Dinner**

## October 2012

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

## November 2012

- 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
- 14 Venturing Forum
- 15 District Committee
- 17 PowWow
- 21-23 Thanksgiving Break

## December 2012

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

## January 2013

- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 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 2013

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

## March 2013

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

## April 2013

- 1 Moveable School Holiday
- 6 **Training – Den Chief**
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 Venturing Forum
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 19-21 **Spring Camporee**
- 20 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 24 District Committee

## May 2013

- 4 **Cubmobile Derby**
- 4 **Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 8 **Program Launch**
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18-19 **Training – IOLS/OLSWL**
- 22 District Committee
- 27 Memorial Day

## June 2013

- 1 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 6 Last Day of School
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 17-21 **Day Camp**
- 26 District Committee

## July 2013

- 4 Independence Day
- 15-24 National Jamboree

## August 2013

- 8 Commissioner RT
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 Venturing Forum
- 28 District Committee