



Goose Creek District Newsletter



June 2013

Volume 4, Issue 11

Excerpts from an article by Bobwhite Blather, Scouting from the inside out
(www.fmaynard.com/scouting/archives/1980#more-1980)



Ask most people what they know about Boy Scouting, and the most frequent responses you'll get are either "Are they still around"? or they'll cite the negative attention BSA has been getting lately about its policies and past practices.

Ask most Scouting families, and they'll tell you that Scouting's purpose is to go camping, for the boys to earn merit badges, and that most eventually become Eagle Scouts if they stick around long enough.

Boys will respond along a range of reactions, anywhere from "my mom makes me go" and "we wear dorky uniforms and sit around in meetings" to "it's fun!" or "we go camping and have gone on some great adventures".

Aims and methods, values, mission and vision are rarely mentioned, yet these are at the core of our movement. The boys are the participants and beneficiaries, but the program neatly disguises these elements in a wrapper of fun and adventure.

Parents and adult leaders, in an effort to provide a good experience for the boys, go through the motions of fulfilling requirements, holding meetings and going on campouts without understanding really why we do these things. To some, we are not much more than an outings club that, when left to the boys, runs anything but smoothly, and many feel the need to "fix" things by taking over so the activities are well-planned, efficient, and successful.

If you look at Boy Scouts from the perspective of the mission of Scouting and the aims and methods of Scouting, however, you'll see that there's much more than flags and games, tents and hikes, canoes and campfires. You have to look at Scouting from the inside out to see why we do what we do, and why we are supposed to do things the way we are trained to do them. [...]

While Scout skills are an important part of the program, what ultimately matters when our Scouts become adults is not whether they can use a map and compass, but whether they can offer leadership to others in tough situations, and can live by a code that centers on honest, honorable, and ethical behavior.

From the very start of the Scouting movement, our founder, Sir Robert Baden-Powell, cautioned us to approach our work while "keeping the main aim in view." The main aim of Scouting is embodied in the mission statement: to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes, using the Scout oath and law as guideposts. There's no mention of camping as an aim, or calisthenics, or merit badges. Those are just the outer layer of Scouting. As you dig down inside, you get to the real reason we do this, and if you look at Scouting from the inside out, you'll gain a clearer understanding of why.

The newsletter staff is taking the month of July off, the next district newsletter will be August 2013. Enjoy summer camp!

Special Interest:

District

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Advancement

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


Training

- Powder Horn – pg 15

Quick Calendar:

- Jun 1 – Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
- Jun 8 – District Committee Training
- Jun 12 – Roundtable
- Jun 17-21 – Day Camp
- Aug 9-10 – IOLS Training
- Aug 14 – Roundtable

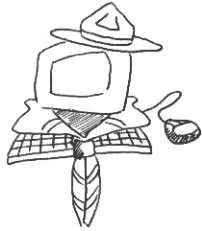
Newsletter Key:

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

District News

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

Updating the District Website



This summer Council will be switching away from its current website provider (Doubleknot) and moving to a new one (YourMembership.com). Since our district website is provided by Council that means that we will be migrating also. Over the summer the district committee will be reviewing the content currently on our website and helping to set up the format for the new "improved" site that should come fully online in early August.

Webelos-o-ree 2013



This fall (Sept 28-29) our District will be holding our 9th annual Webelos-o-ree, an overnight camping event, at Camp Snyder in Haymarket. 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. Participation in the Webelos-o-ree is open to all those that will be fourth and fifth grade Webelos in September.

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 can include such things as: Fire building, cooking, monkey bridge, BB shooting and/or archery, a campfire run by the Boy Scout Order of the Arrow, and much more. For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining Boy Scouts, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for 2nd year Webelos and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for 1st year Webelos and their parents.

A full information/registration packet will be posted on the District website in August.

Cub Scout Uniform Closet



Pack 71 coordinates a District-level Cub Scout Uniform Closet building a supply of Scout uniforms and accessories able to help boys throughout the District who want to be part of the wonderful experience of Scouting, but just can't quite afford the uniform. As we go into the summer and you buy new uniforms for your Scouts please remember those in need and donate your old items.

- Uniform shirts (long or short sleeve)
- Pants, Neckerchiefs, Slides, Hats, Belts
- Anything "uniform" a Cub Scout or Pack could need
- ALL SIZES... but please, gently USED or NEW

For more information: Contact Brian Kale at bkale@ekale.com or 703-443-9648

Troop Participation in the Webelos-o-ree



Over the years we have heard from several troops that one reason that they don't participate in the Webelos-o-ree (Sept 28-29 at Camp Snyder) is that they already have enough Webelos joining their troop and don't need to do another recruiting event. What the troops who do participate, and keep coming back, found is that this is not a recruiting event; it's a chance for their Scouts to teach skills to others. Teaching others is the best way to really acquire deep knowledge of an area. By sharing their skills, Scouts retain their knowledge better and provide service to others.

At the Webelos-o-ree each troop selects a different activity/skill that their Scouts teach the Webelos and their parents during a morning and afternoon session. Troops may elect to either camp at the event (there is space about 5 troops to stay over) or to just come in for the day to run their activity. And the cost? Nothing! There is no registration fee for Boy Scouts, even if they camp. The only thing required is a service project to help keep the event running (starting cooking fires, cleanup, food prep, etc.).

If your troop is interested in participating in this year's Webelos-o-ree, even if you were at last year's, please contact GCProgram@verizon.net so that we can coordinate the activities to be run and see what space is available for camping.

District Committee Training



The District Committee Training Workshop will be conducted at the Leesburg Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall on June 8th, 2013, starting at 9:00AM and finishing at noon. All members of the district committee (including at-large members) are encouraged to attend.

The District Committee Training Workshop meets the basic training need of members of the district committee (committee members and at-large members). The workshop also results in a well-coordinated and dedicated group of Scouters committed to achieving the mission of the council and its districts. The workshop also helps initiate a working relationship between council and district personnel.

The training manual is found at:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/commissioner/pdf/34160.pdf>

Other useful documents regarding District operations can be found at:

<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/home/commissioners/operations.aspx>

You might have been a Scouter too long when:



- You buy your shampoo in little tiny bottles.
- You can actually start a fire by rubbing two sticks together.
- You name one of your kids Baden.

“Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagle Scouts:

Michael P Bloom – Troop 1159
Connor H Bryant – Troop 1158
Kyle Douglas Burkett – Troop 1666
Ian S Coombs – Troop 2970
James H. Dentzer – Troop 2970
Joshua Isaac Holtom – Troop 1106
Scott Lee Mason – Troop 1106
David Burton Tolley – Troop 2970
Thomas L C Vail – Troop 956

From the NCAC Advancement & Recognition Committee



The NCAC Advancement and Recognition Committee – and specifically the NCAC Council office – has developed Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA) certification procedures to require a District Advancement Committee review prior to submission to NCAC for certification. The reasons for doing this can be summarized as follows:

- Certification of all ESRAs is **required** by the BSA prior to scheduling the Eagle Board of Review (EBOR). Certification confirms the Scouts’ requirements, rank dates, merit badges, and signatures are correct.
- At NCAC, a “painfully large” percentage of ESRAs are ‘failing initial certification which greatly slows down the process (and frustrates Scouts/Scouters). This procedure update will reduce errors in submitted ESRAs and improve the overall processing time at the NCAC.

To see more info on this procedure, and see a handy ESRA Checklist – invaluable to Life-to-Eagle coaches, Advancement Chairs and Eagle Candidates themselves – please see a four-page PDF description of this process (www.boyscouts-ncac.org/document/adv-ncac-eagle-scout-local-council-certification-procedures-05162013/126711), or see it explained online within the NCAC ARC website (www.boyscouts-ncac.org/council-committees/advancement-recognition-committee-arc/eagle-scout-application-form-workbook-and-information/20827).

Online Advancement Videocast Library



Over this past year a team of volunteers set out to answer a simple question: Wouldn't it be great if we could economically combine the visual impact of PowerPoint with a well-delivered audio message? The team began experimenting with voice-over scripts that could not only be keyed to PowerPoint slides, but that could be conversational rather than sound as if a reader were using a script. The experiments were taped, coordinated with the slides, and converted to movie format. The result was a fun and engaging experience.

Realizing the potential this format had for becoming a powerful yet economical teaching tool, the team next set out to develop a videocast for each section of the Guide to Advancement and the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook. Their efforts produced nine exceptionally helpful videocasts that are now posted on the advancement resources Web page:

www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resources.aspx.

Look for "Advancement Educational Presentations." Each presentation can be downloaded or viewed directly via a link to YouTube:

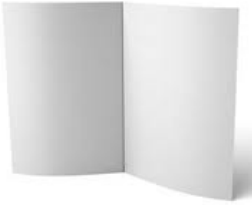
- Introduction to the Guide to Advancement (10 minutes)
- Judgment Calls (24 minutes; covering the "active," position of responsibility, and Scout spirit requirements, and also "reasonable expectations")
- The Merit Badge Program (17 minutes)
- Boards of Review (15 minutes)
- Boards of Review Under Disputed Circumstances (6 minutes)
- Board of Review Appeals (4 minutes)
- The Eagle Scout Service Project (17 minutes)
- The Eagle Scout Application Process (8 minutes)
- Eagle Scout Boards of Review (4 minutes)

Philmont Mechanics of Advancement Conference Set for August



The Philmont Training Center will be hosting a Mechanics of Advancement course for unit, district, and council volunteers and professionals from August 4–10. The revised 2013 editions of the Guide to Advancement and the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook will be distributed, featured, and covered in detail, and conference attendees will gain a more in-depth understanding of the essentials of advancement and an appreciation for the rationale behind the policies and procedures governing it. Presentations will come from members of the national Advancement Committee and its advisory panel. Group discussions will focus on effective ways to resolve advancement-related issues and challenges. Of course, this conference also offers a prime opportunity to share the beautiful Philmont Scout Ranch with your family and new Scouting friends from across the country. Register now at www.MyScouting.org.

New Pamphlet Explores Methods of Improving Rate of Advancement



Earlier this year the National Advancement Committee announced the publication of a guide that should help units, districts, and councils achieve their Journey to Excellence goals in the areas of advancement and retention. Appropriately titled “On Increasing Advancement,” No. 512-047, this compact resource explores key ideas that advancement coordinators can apply toward improving the level of advancement in councils, districts, and units.

Designed to be used in conjunction with “Recommendations for Regional and Area Volunteers Supporting the Advancement Program,” No. 512-048, “On Increasing Advancement” targets six areas that drive increased advancement:

- *A general increase in volunteerism.* A dramatic increase in volunteerism across the board is needed. This can be achieved through prospecting methods such as those outlined in Friendstorming on Tour.
- *Far-reaching unit service.* Increases in advancement result from effective unit service, expanded training opportunities, and improving the function of roundtables.
- *Fully functioning advancement committees.* Advancement increases when advancement committees at all levels are fully staffed and well trained.
- *Promotion and reinforcement of procedural compliance.* A clear understanding and application of national procedures and related local council practices result not only in increased advancement but in retention of members through consistent and purposeful program delivery.
- *Purposeful management.* Increased advancement indicates the presence of an effective unit program that drives retention. Purposeful focus on advancement at all levels of management not only affects metrics, but aids in program improvement and thus retention.
- *Increased reporting and proper data entry.* The use of Internet Advancement has resulted in increased and more accurate reporting over the past few years. A renewed focus on promoting and encouraging the use of Internet Advancement will make it easier to connect broader efforts with increases in advancement.

Both “On Increasing Advancement” and “Recommendations for Regional and Area Volunteers Supporting the Advancement Program” can be found online at www.scouting.org/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resources.aspx.

Hear it First on Twitter



Follow the national Advancement Team on Twitter. Topics cover the FAQs received at the national office, clarifications on policies and procedures, news on changes and new releases, and best practices in advancement.

If you already have a Twitter account, follow us at @AdvBSA or BSA Advancement Team. If you don't have an account, it's time to take the plunge. It's a quick and easy process to set up an account at www.Twitter.com. To limit incoming emails (tweets), you can select the Advancement Team as the only account you want to follow.

Next Generation Troop Program Features



The following is an excerpt from a *Bryan On Scouting* article about the next generation of troop program features. View the complete article at: <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2013/05/30/program-features/> to see the listing of potential program areas, view two of them, and enter what you think of the new designs.

In Scouting, one size doesn't fit all.

So suggesting a month-by-month troop planning calendar on a national level, as in the past, just doesn't work.

For example, take the Fishing program feature. A troop in Texas could make that work in March, but a troop in Wisconsin would find that timing a little less, well, comfortable.

Enter the next generation of troop program plans, sure to make your life easier. I have a preview of two from the upcoming generation that I've been authorized to share with you.

There will be 48 in all, delivered in three volumes of 16 each over the course of 2013 and early 2014.

But the best part is that the new program helps are flexible, and troops can customize their own year from the 48 months of activity ideas. Selection is key as youth leaders plan the upcoming year.

There's also customization within the program features themselves. You don't expect every skier to go down the same run, so why expect a 13-year-old First Class Scout to complete the same troop programming as a 17-year-old Eagle Scout?

That's why meeting plans, like ski runs, come in three flavors: green, blue, and black. Skills marked with green circles are essential, those with blue squares are challenging, and the ones with black diamonds are the most advanced.

Another change is the way the program features are divided by volume. Nobody creates a troop calendar alphabetically, but past program features volumes were organized that way. This time they're mixed up, deliberately combining outdoors, careers, and hobbies to make each volume more diverse.

Vol. 1 comes out this fall, Vol. 2 is out by the end of 2013 or beginning of 2014, and Vol. 3 is released in first or second quarter 2014. The hope is that each of the 48 program plans will be made available individually and digitally so units can purchase and download only those they want to use. Stay tuned for more details about distribution once I learn more.

Curious what one of these program features will look like? Well, gone are the black-and-white pages with illustrations that were charming but not always informative. The new versions are broken into chunks with information that's clearly presented and easy to use right away.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

'Are You Tougher than a Boy Scout?' now available on iTunes

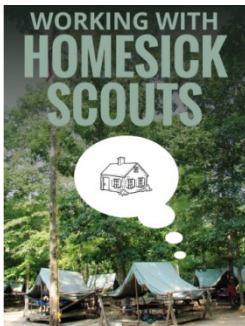


Perhaps your pack or troop meets Monday nights. Or maybe your family doesn't have the National Geographic Channel. Whatever your excuse for missing *Are You Tougher than a Boy Scout?* — the six-episode reality series that matched Eagle Scouts against grown-ups who didn't reach Eagle as boys — now's your chance to see it all from the start.

Yes, *Are You Tougher?* is now available for purchase and download on iTunes, meaning you can watch on your computer, Apple TV, iPhone, iPad, or iPod. You can buy individual episodes in high definition for \$2.99 each or in standard definition for \$1.99 apiece. Or get the entire series for \$13.99 in HD or \$9.99 in SD.

Site: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/tv-season/are-you-tougher-than-boy-scout/id634215642>

Working with Homesick Scouts



If you are headed off to camp this summer it's likely you will be working with one or more homesick Scouts. Understanding, preventing and treating homesickness ought to be approached like administering first aid for any other illness or injury. Homesickness is not imaginary, it's not an indication of weakness or lack of character, it's not a symptom of bad parenting or bad leadership and, thankfully, it's reasonably easy to prevent.

Scout leaders and parents of Scouts should consider following a homesickness prevention plan well before the Scouts are headed to camp. For advice on how to do this see the article at www.scoutmastercg.com/homesick-scouts-2/

Scout Days at Sligo Creek Golf Course



All registered Scouts (including Girl Scouts) are invited to play 9 holes at Sligo Creek Golf Course (Montgomery County, MD) with no green fees thanks to the generosity and initiative of Sligo supporter E. Dollie Wolverton. This offer is available Monday through Friday now through November 30. Carts are not included. On Aug. 7 the course will be reserved for a special Scout tournament and barbecue.

Dollie initiated this "Scouts Play Free" offer to honor her late husband, Sidney Wolverton, who at age 16 in 1938 became the first member of his Vista, Ca. community to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Wolverton had a life-long love of the outdoors which he balanced with a career spent helping others as a mental health professional. He retired in 1982 as director of the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention at the National Institute of Mental Health and died in 2005.

For tee times call 301-585-6006 or go to <https://www.mcggolf.com/>. For more information about Sligo please visit <http://www.sligocreekgolfassociation.org/>.

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

District Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739

Roundtable Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224

Major Venturing Changes Coming Next Year



At age 15, the Venturing program is beginning to show its age. Membership has declined since 2008. Venturing has the lowest retention rate — 53 percent — of any BSA program. And advancement hasn't caught on with teens; just 0.66 percent of Venturers earn any awards. But it's not all bad news. Beginning next year, big program changes are on the way that amount to much more than just a fresh coat of paint.

- The BSA will reinstitute the strong, national Venturing committee supported by parallel structures at the region, council, and district levels
- Venturing will benefit by modifying Journey to Excellence criteria to gain a balanced focus on membership growth and bring increased attention to the Venturing program
- Completely new advancement system:
 - A new four-by-four advancement program will replace the Bronze, Gold, and Silver awards beginning in 2014.
 - The focus of the awards will be on continual growth in the four pillars of Venturing: Adventure, Leadership, Service, and Personal Growth.
 - Each level will challenge the Venturer to first learn the skills, then demonstrate them, then teach them to others, then mentor others in those skills.
 - The new program will be phased in slowly, meaning Venturers currently working on the Bronze, Gold, and Silver awards can continue their progress
- Beginning in 2014, Venturing, Varsity, and Sea Scouts will all be counted together as an older youth program for membership reporting purposes only. This won't change anything in Varsity or Sea Scouting program structure or administration. It just groups all older-youth programs together for counting purposes.
- The National Venturing Committee will adopt and develop specific adult and youth training continuum, including defining required and optional training and recommended timing. They will separate position-specific training into crew Advisor and crew committee training, update Venturing Fast Start training to be consistent with new program approach, and develop youth training programs necessary to support the new program matrix.
- The national committee plans to discuss including "uniforming" as one of the methods of Venturing by incorporating national uniform options as follows:
 - Venturing field uniform: Current (or revised) Venturing field shirt
 - Activity uniform: Nationally developed and offered Venturing polo shirt or polo/T-shirt of crew design

Information source: <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2013/05/28/venturing/>

National Summertime Pack Award



The purpose of the National Summertime Pack Award is to encourage packs to provide a year-round program by continuing to meet during the time periods when school is out of session for several weeks or months. A pack can qualify for the award by planning and conducting three pack activities - one each in June, July, and August. This award can be an incentive for greater attendance at your summer pack activities.

Individual Scouts that participate in a pack event each month can receive the National Summertime Pack Award pin. Starting in 2008, there has been a different color pin for each Cub Scout rank so earning the pin each year has more incentive.

One activity in June, July, and August is the minimum requirement. But remember that few Scouts will be able to make three specific dates during the summer. Consider offering at least two pack events each month. Ask your dens to each host an event. Council/District events such as Cub Scout Day Camp and Cub Scout and Webelos Resident Camp qualify as well as a variety of other activities (such as the Soda Bottle Rocket Derby – June 1st) for you to put in your calendar. So realistically your Cub Scouts may be able to choose from four or more activities each month.

You can get the application from www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33748.pdf.

Gettysburg Ceremony



2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. The Gettysburg Foundation is hosting a commemorative illumination on June 30, 9-10:30pm at Soldiers' National Cemetery to pay tribute to the more than 3,500 soldiers who fought and were killed in Gettysburg in 1863. The Gettysburg Foundation invites you to assist in making this event a success. Volunteers are needed to help set-up and clean-up the cemetery. To register your unit, or for more information, write to aswade@gettysburgfoundation.org.

33rd Annual Boy Scout Golf Classic



When: Monday, June 24, 2013

Where: Manor Country Club, 14905 Carrolton Rd, Rockville, MD 20853

What: Four-person full scramble, morning and afternoon shotgun starts. Luxury vehicles or \$100,000 cash prize for hole-in-one on every par 3! Hundreds of dollars' worth of great giveaways!

For more information, visit www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/Golf.

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, a towel, and a scuba medical statement (page 9 of the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record).

When: June 9, Camp Snyder pool.

Cost: \$25 (includes all equipment)

Registration deadline: June 3

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

Competitive Underwater Swimming Events Are Not Permitted



As summertime swimming activities continue and youth become more comfortable in the water, it's not uncommon for their water games to become more challenging and competitive. For qualified supervisors of Safe Swim Defense activities, for parents watching their children in the water, and for youth participants themselves, hyperventilation has been cited as a factor in numerous drowning incidents.

Breathing is triggered by a buildup of carbon dioxide rather than the depletion of oxygen. Holding your breath is an important stage in learning to swim, and the ability to swim underwater is an important skill for snorkeling and lifesaving. However, repeated deep and rapid breathing, or hyperventilation, before underwater swimming can result in a loss of consciousness by delaying the urge to breathe.

Contestants in underwater swimming events may be especially prone to this danger because, under the stress and excitement of competition, they may ignore their own built-in urge to breathe. In such cases, the swimmer may have little or no warning that he or she is about to pass out.

Caution anyone who is obviously breathing heavier than normal before they swim underwater. Because of concerns with hyperventilation, competitive underwater swimming events are not permitted in Scouting.

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 (π) 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.

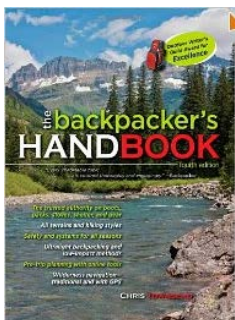
The Supernova awards have more rigorous requirements than the Nova awards. The requirements and activities were designed to motivate youth and recognize more in-depth, advanced achievement in STEM-related activities.

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
- Boy Scout:
www.BoyScoutTrail.com/content/award/boy_scout_nova-2295.asp

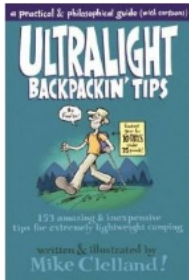
The Backpacker's Handbook, 4th Edition



Whether you are backpacking for the first time or a veteran follower of the trails, this enormously practical guide includes everything you need to know, from essential techniques such as map and compass work to the skills needed for more remote wilderness journeys. *The Backpacker's Handbook* by Chris Townsend also gives you the latest information on gear. You'll find the last word on:

- How to choose packs and footwear—and make sure they fit
- What clothing to take on the trail
- Tents, tarps, stoves, water purifiers, and other gear
GPS, cell phones, and other
- electronic devices

Ultralight Backpackin' Tips

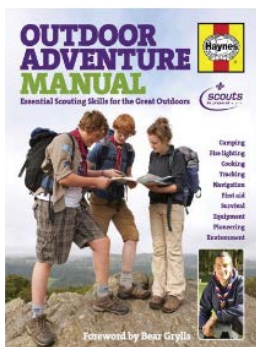


There's a lot to recommend ultra-lightweight backpacking. Travelling light involves reconciling weight, safety, comfort and cost and Mike Clelland's book is a good resource to get you thinking. *Ultralight Backpackin' Tips* is a list of 153 hints the author offers to help guide you towards a lighter pack and the methods that make this possible. Clelland illustrates the book with his own ultra-witty cartoons. The first ten tips are the 'manifesto' of ultra-lightweight backpacking.

Available from Amazon for \$11 (paperback).

And much more

Outdoor Adventure Manual



Published by Scouts UK with a forward by Bear Grylls *The Outdoor Adventure Manual* is packed with practical Scout skill tutorials; tents and camping, fire, food and cooking, tools and gadgets, knots and lashings, navigation, first aid and survival, and more.

Skills are explained step-by-step with photos and illustrations that really bring them to life. The Outdoor Adventure Manual leverages the know-how of many experienced authors to provide practical instruction that is inspiring and easy to follow.

The book is not an attempt at an exhaustive reference work, it's a collection of adventurous projects, useful knowledge and activities that any Scout would enjoy. Within its pages a Scout can learn to build a shelter, make cordage out of natural materials, carve a wooden spoon, explore natural navigation, and sharpen their tracking skills.

Some of the information is specific to the British Isles and to Scouts U.K. (plant and animal identification for example) but that's not to say they aren't interesting and practical for North America. It is also a great opportunity to learn something more about the world of Scouting.

Doing the projects and trying out the skills in *The Outdoor Adventure Manual* would be a great way to spend a summer. It's a colorful, engaging, hardcover book that encourages Scouts to get outdoors and get active!

Available from Amazon, \$22 (hardcover).

On-Line Resource of the Month



Nothing beats a day spent in the outdoors, hiking, padding, climbing or cycling – and nothing makes it better than satisfying food for the belly! Packit Gourmet (www.PackItGourmet.com) delivers a whole new delicious alternative to the "fuel behind the reason" we all trek into the Great Outdoors!

Packit Gourmet meals allow you to start the day off right - with a delicious breakfast that will "jump start" your day; inventive quick-and-easy mid-day boosters to fuel you through the end of the day; and rich home-style comfort-food dinners to end the day not on JUST a positive note - but a resounding belly-rubbing Ahhhh!

Check out their Scouting Resources area for information on Scout Partnerships (15% off for all scout troops!), articles, helpful links and more.



Training Opportunities

Training Records



Have you ever wondered if your BSA adult leader training record is up-to-date? Or why leaders are listed as Untrained on your unit roster even though you know they've taken the appropriate courses? There is now online assistance available to answer those questions via www.MyScouting.org.

"Training Validation" is a menu item located under E-Learning on the left hand side menu. Clicking on Training Validation opens a new Training Search window. Searching via the BSA member identification number usually works best. A link for "Advanced Search" allows for the input of a Scouter's name. A help button on the upper right side of the web page (the question mark) can also provide assistance.

If completed training is not shown, training points of contact or individual leaders can submit changes to official BSA training records by filling out a Training Update Form and sending it to the district leadership development chair. The form is available at:

<http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=35029>

NOTE: When completing online training make sure you enter your full name, council number (082), and BSA membership ID number. That way, your permanent BSA training record will be AUTOMATICALLY UPDATED

NCAC Powder Horn 2013



Scouting leaders want to provide challenging and fun outdoor programs to meet the needs of their older youth members, but may lack the knowledge and/or resources to do so. Powder Horn responds to this problem with an exciting training opportunity that exposes Venturing, Boy Scout, and Varsity adult leaders to a wide range of outdoor, high-adventure activities. Powder Horn provides its participants with valuable resources and contacts to assist leaders in delivering the promise of Scouting's high-adventure experiences to our youth.

Powder Horn is based on the requirements for the prestigious Venturing Ranger Award. This award requires demonstrated proficiency in a challenging set of core and elective topics. During the course, presentations on Ranger topics are made by knowledgeable consultants with demonstrated skills and certifications, as appropriate. They demonstrate the skills required and explain where resources, such as equipment, facilities, guides, instructors, and certifications that can be obtained locally. Most of the presentations involve actual hands-on experience by the participants, including shooting (pistol, rifle, shotgun), archery, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, fly fishing, mountain biking, SCUBA, land navigation, Leave No Trace, Project COPE, and much, much more.

The course is 4-days long, August 22-25, and will be held at Camp Snyder. Details for registration and cost (in the past it was about \$275) will be forthcoming. It is for any older Scouts, Venturers, and adult leaders interested in experiencing a unit-level, high-adventure program.

For more information: contact Steve Wolf at NCACPowderhorn2013@gmail.com

Nap on Safely Training



We hope all of you Scouters out there will be able to complete your Nap on Safely training during summer camp. If you are unaware of the requirements for this training we have listed the guidelines below.

Two Deep Leadership: It is recommended that all available adults participate in napping activities. At a minimum, ensure that at least two adults are resting at all times.

Area: Before engaging in any napping activities, make sure that the area is free of Scouts.

Lookout: At least one adult should serve as a lookout during napping activities. He must awaken the nappers from their slumber when Scouts are returning to the campsite.

Physical Condition: All participants should be sufficiently tired to nap.

Equipment: Appropriate equipment is required for napping. All nappers should have a comfortable cot or hammock. A pillow is recommended.

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:

July 27	registration deadline: July 22
Oct 5	registration deadline: Sept 30

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

THE BUCKETS

BY GREG CRAVENS

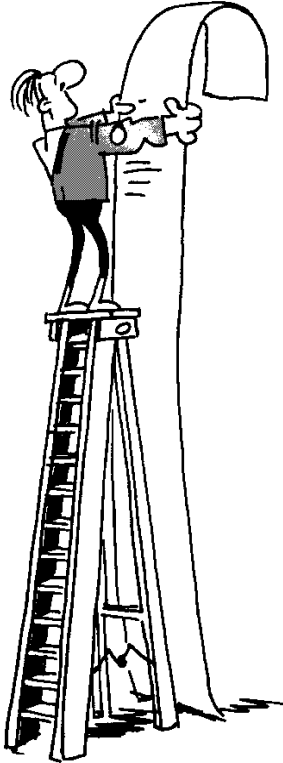


District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

District Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739

Roundtable Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224

District Calendar



June 2013

- 1 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 6 Last Day of School
- 8 **District Committee Training**
- 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
- 9-10 **Training - IOLS**
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 Venturing Forum
- 28 District Committee

September 2013

- 2 Labor Day
- 3 First Day of School
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 Venturing Forum
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 28-29 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 25 District Committee

October 2013

- 5 **Training - BSLST**
- 7 Columbus Day
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 14 Columbus Day
- 19 **Training - IOLS**
- 19-20 JOTA/JOTI
- 23 District Committee

November 2013

- 2 **Scouting for Food Bag Distribution**
- 4-5 Student Holiday
- 9 **Scouting for Food Bag Pickup**
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 16 PowWow
- 20 District Committee
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

December 2013

- 11 Roundtable
- 11 Venturing Forum
- 18 Annual District Business Meeting
- 23 Winter Break Starts

January 2014

- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 Venturing Forum
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 20 MLK Jr. Day
- 27 Moveable School Holiday
- 22 District Committee

February 2014

- 2 Scout Sunday
- 8 Scout Sabbath
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 17 President's Day
- 26 District Committee

March 2014

- 6 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 26 District Committee
- 31 Student Holiday

April 2014

- 4-6 **Spring Camporee**
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 14-18 Spring Break
- 23 District Committee

May 2014

- 8 Commissioner RT
- 14 **Program Launch**
- 26 Memorial Day
- 28 District Committee