



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



January 2014

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## Is your Scouting knowledge obsolete?

We tend to think of Scouting as a perpetual program – something that's always been there and always will, without much changing. The ideals, the oath and law, the principle of the boys running the troop are all things that seem to be carved in stone.

So how can our Scouting knowledge become obsolete in a program with so much that remains constant?

While the principles we live by don't change, and haven't changed in a hundred years, the way the program implements them have changed over the years, and sometimes quite dramatically. If you were around in the 1970s, you may remember when the BSA revised the Boy Scout program to lessen the emphasis on the outdoors, removing outdoor skills requirements for the lower ranks and deleting several outdoor-related merit badges, including Camping, from the Eagle-required list. It took "Green Bar Bill" Hillcourt coming out of retirement to beat some sense into the program and restore the outing in Scouting.

In his blog *The Reformed Broker*, financial expert Joshua Brown presented an illustration titled *The Shelf Life of Your Knowledge*. His concept is that there is some knowledge, like calculus, that is unchanging and will be useful essentially forever, while other subject matter, like VCR repair, no longer has any practical use. Most knowledge falls in between these two points. As one who is conversant with computer programming, I was amused to see that one of the languages I have learned, COBOL, is alongside Latin toward the "Forever" end of the spectrum, while contemporary systems like Android programming are as prone to obsolescence as the cellphone devices they run on.

Our own personal knowledge must constantly evolve to keep pace, not only in life but also with the changes in Scouting. New versions of merit badge pamphlets come out to reflect changes in the requirements. Changes to rank requirements, safe Scouting rules and advancement procedures dictate revisions of publications every year or two. Training courses have to change to keep pace with these changes elsewhere in Scouting. Even the venerable *Scoutmaster Handbook* is due for a revision later this fall and will encompass not just the role of the Scoutmaster but will have all adult leaders as the intended audience. We need to regularly monitor these changes and realize that our knowledge of Scouting must keep pace.

But another aspect of Scouting that requires us to update our thinking comes from within ourselves. Remember when you first got involved in Scouting? Was it in Cub Scouts, where you had no idea what was ahead but you plowed forward anyway? Then you went to a training session and learned more about what you were supposed to be doing, and your knowledge changed. You had to throw away some notions you had when you first started, to be replaced with a better and easier way. As you progressed through, there was always new information to be learned and new ways to deliver the program. Boy Scouts was a huge leap for an adult who was conditioned by Cub Scouting's parent-led program, and it takes a lot of re-thinking (and throwing away of old knowledge) to do it the right way.

What's your best defense against a constant program that's constantly changing? Keeping in touch with online resources like this one is a good start, but pay attention to the news your council sends out. Read *Scouting Magazine* regularly. Go to Roundtable each month and find out what's coming down the road. Much of the time, we hear about changes through the grapevine before they're officially announced, and Roundtable is a good time and place to find out from fellow leaders and district volunteers what's being talked about. Be careful to avoid charging ahead with anything that hasn't been officially announced, but do your best to know what's new and current.

We all want our knowledge to keep, but knowing what's obsolete and what's evergreen is important.

### Special Interest:

#### District

- Freeze-o-ree – pg 2
- Untrained Leaders Report – pg 2

#### Advancement

- Cooking MB – pg 6
- Eagle Project POCs – pg 8

#### Council/National

- Service Hours – pg 8
- NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet - pg 10




#### Training

- Univ. of Scouting – pg 16

### Quick Calendar:

- Jan 8 – Roundtable
- Jan 24 – MB Workshop
- Jan 31 – Feb 2 – Freeze-o-ree
- Feb 2 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 8 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 12 - Roundtable

### Newsletter Key:

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

## District News

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

### Freeze-o-ree



Goose Creek's premier outdoor winter event – the annual Freeze-o-ree - will be held January 31 – February 2. In addition to the traditional patrol Scoutcraft competitions in fire building, first aid skills, ax throwing, flag football, soccer, speed knot tying, tug of war, chili cookoff, dessert bakeoff, we will again have slingshot paint ball target shooting!! This event is run by the youth members of the Order of the Arrow Goose Creek and we need many OA youth volunteers from all Troops to help run the events.

For registration, fees, and required equipment to bring to the event, please contact OA Chapter Advisor Mrs. Bobbie Scales ([ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com](mailto:ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com)).

### District Championship Pinewood Derby



Goose Creek District Pinewood Derby will be holding the 2014 district championship Pinewood Derby race (hosted by Venture Crew 7070) where only the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in individual pack events are eligible to participate. Trophies will be awarded to the top three fastest cars in each rank, Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos. Overall trophies will also be awarded to the top three cars for all ranks

**Important:** All cars must meet the District's Derby construction rules (available on the district website). Just because a car passed the pack's inspection does not mean it will pass the district inspection. *Take special note of the wheels and axle rules!*

The derby will be held Sat, **March 1, 2014** at Tolbert Elementary School (691 Potomac Station Dr NE, Leesburg 20176). Watch the newsletter for more details and announcements in the next two months. Registration will open soon.

### Untrained Leaders Reports



Do you know if every leader in your unit has met their training requirements? Are you sure?

If you want to find out who still needs training then call up the Goose Creek Untrained Report generated by NCAC:

<https://drive.google.com/a/goosecreekdistrict.org/folderview?id=0Bx4Qs9s1RnK-b3JBMEg5d05WSUU&usp=sharing>. Each unit report is a separate file.

To find your unit move your mouse over a file icon and wait for the file name to come up. Look at the last 5 characters of the file name which is a combination of a letter (P-Pack, T-Troop, C-Crew) and the unit number.

## Goose Creek Day/Twilight Camp Dates Announced



As the holiday season descends upon us and you begin formulating your summer plans, we want to formally announce the dates for the 2014 Goose Creek Day/Twilight Camp.

Day Camp: June 16-20th 9:00 – 4:00 pm.

Twilight Camp: June 16-19th 6:30 – 9:00 pm.

Look for further Day/Twilight information at the January Round Table.



## “Cheerful Service Chatter”

Chapter News for our Arrowmen

Lodge Website: [www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA](http://www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA)

## Order of the Arrow Elections Guide

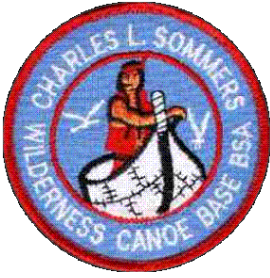


The OA Election season is upon us. Each unit is allowed to have one election during that time. In order to be put on the ballot, the youth must be at least First Class, have 15 nights of camping in the last 2 years with 5 of those nights being a long term camp (think summer camp), and must have the Scoutmaster's approval. Adults may be nominated by the committee. You may nominate 1 adult per 3 boys elected. The adults have the same camping requirements as the youth.

To schedule an election, the Scoutmaster must email our Vice Chief, Ben Gerhart, at [bbgerhart@gmail.com](mailto:bbgerhart@gmail.com), with at least two dates. Please do this at least three weeks in advance of your earliest date so that we can have enough time to get an election team together and you have enough time to fill out the forms that Ben will email you. You **must** use the forms that Ben sends you. National will no longer accept anything from Troop Master or the forms used in previous years. Please make sure to have the forms filled out completely before the election team arrives. If you are not ready for the election when the team arrives we might have to reschedule your election. If you are nominating an adult, please make sure that the form is filled out completely as well. If it isn't it won't be accepted.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either our Vice Chief – Ben Gerhart, or our Chapter Advices – Bobbie Scales ([ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com](mailto:ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com)) for answers. Thank you for your time, and we look forward to seeing you at your unit's election.

## Four OA High Adventure Options Available for 2014



The OA annually supports work/adventure crews at each of BSA's High Adventure camps:

**OA TRAIL CREW** - This two-week expedition at Philmont is literally a mountaintop experience. Blaze new trails during a week of service. Then experience Philmont and the OA like never before.

**WILDERNESS VOYAGE** – Explore the waterways of the north woods. Rebuild centuries-old trails and live the virtues of the OA.

**CANADIAN ODYSSEY** – OA service goes international in the Ontario wilds. Embark on the odyssey of a lifetime, transcending borders and the spirit of the OA.

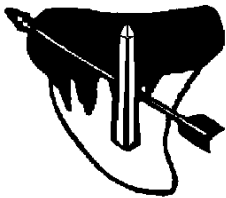
**OCEAN ADVENTURE** – Explore tropical waters while performing conservation projects in the Florida keys.

**OA SUMMIT EXPERIENCE** – Explore the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve and provide service to the New River Gorge National River. Experience rafting and kayaking while building bonds of brotherhood.

The National Order of the Arrow Committee subsidizes the cost of participation in all the high adventure programs to minimize the fee paid by all participants. Because of different operational costs, each program has a separate fee.

For more information about these programs including fees and schedules, consult [www.oe-bsa.org](http://www.oe-bsa.org).

## Chapter Chatter



The annual Lodge Banquet will be held Saturday, January 4, 2014, at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Community Center, 3900 Crain Highway, Waldorf, MD 20604. This event is open to all Arrowmen and their families. It is where all Vigil honorees of the previous year are publicly recognized and all Lodge awards are given out. Registration information will follow soon.

## Are you getting Chapter Communications?



All Goose Creek Arrowmen are welcome to join the Chapter's Yahoo Group, giving them access to an abundance of things like Calendar info, directions to upcoming events and even a peek at "Lost-and-Found" items (from prior/recent OA events). If you are NOT getting automated reminders of upcoming meetings (or fun events like our night of bowling last September), please visit the website, and ask to join. (When doing so, please be sure to provide your name, and unit so we can verify your 'Arrowman status'. Our Yahoo Group website is here ...

<http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/GooseCreekOA470/info>. (Alternatively, send an email to the Chapter Adviser (Bobbie Scales, [scalesbobbie@yahoo.com](mailto:scalesbobbie@yahoo.com)), and request access.)



## “Onward and Upward”

### On the Advancement Trail

#### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts (Note: In reconciling our District's Eagle list with Council's a number of Eagle Scouts were found who had not been previously listed in our newsletter. We apologize for this oversight and for not listing their accomplishment earlier):

**Braden Kye Baker** – Troop 1106  
**Mark Joseph Campbell** – Troop 1550  
**Michael Andrew Cardone** – Troop 2010  
**Walter James Coleman** – Troop 1550  
**Brennan George** – Troop 1430  
**Jeremy Walter Gigena** – Crew 1173  
**Nathaniel James Hagberg** – Crew 1168  
**Sean M Hagen** – Crew 743  
**Geoffrey Euan Haselden** – Team 1106  
**Noah Einer Holt** – Troop 163  
**Brian Christopher Hummer** – Troop 1550  
**Connor Adair Kirk** – Troop 961  
**Jacob Russell Kloman** – Troop 956  
**Wade W Leibach** – Troop 572  
**Sahith R Malyala** – Troop 1154  
**Owen Edward McCafferty** – Troop 1430  
**Daniel James McGovern** – Troop 1550  
**Yousuf Aatur Rehman** – Troop 786  
**Jeffrey Daniel Rickard** – Troop 1159  
**Stephen A Roddewig** – Troop 1550  
**Collin James Ryan** – Troop 572  
**William Slook Troop** – Troop 961  
**Chad E. Smith Troop** – Troop 761  
**Cameron Robert Sugg** – Troop 1430  
**Eric Wm Svendsen** – Troop 997  
**Robert David Wallace** – Troop 961

## Cooking MB is Now Eagle-Required



For the new Cooking merit badge, which is now Eagle-required, Scouts will prepare meals using the MyPlate food guide, understand and explain food allergies, and learn about cooking food indoors.

This is important: there are two big, separate changes to Cooking merit badge as you know it. The first is that Cooking merit badge became Eagle-required on Jan. 1, 2014. The second is that the new requirements become mandatory for Scouts who begin the merit badge on or after Jan. 1, 2015.

The new Cooking pamphlets will be in Scout Shops by the end of January 2014. From now until Dec. 31, 2014, a Scout may use the old or new requirements — his choice. All Scouts beginning Cooking merit badge on or after Jan. 1, 2015, must use the new requirements.

Lets break it down:

**Scouts who already started Cooking MB using old requirements:** They're fine and may finish with the old requirements. They will not need to re-earn the merit badge with the new requirements, but they may switch to the new ones if they choose. There is no time limit between starting and completing a badge, although a counselor may determine so much time has passed since any effort took place that the new requirements must be used.

**Scouts who already earned Cooking MB:** They may purchase or be presented with the new, silver-bordered Cooking MB patch (regardless which requirements were involved). They don't need to re-earn it now that it's Eagle-required. But they can't wear both the green- and the silver-bordered versions.

**Scouts who begin Cooking MB in 2013 or 2014:** They may use the old or new requirements — their choice.

**Scouts who begin Cooking MB in 2015 or beyond:** They must use the new requirements.

Make sense? Think of 2014 as a transition period for the merit badge. During this time, you'll find both pamphlets in Scout Shops, and a boy may choose which to use.

## How do I interpret Requirement 10 for First Class?



Here's how Chris Hunt, advancement team leader for the Boy Scouts of America answers this question:

Advancement requirements are to be implemented as they are written. Requirement 10 says the boy to be asked must be "eligible to join" or be one who is "inactive." It says to "tell" the boy about the troop's activities, and then it says to "invite" the boy to either an outing, activity, service project, or meeting.

It does not say the boy must show up at any of these four kinds of opportunities, or that the boy must join. That said, it's better if the boy actually shows up and then joins, but this isn't required, and unit leaders do not have the authority to add to requirements.

In some circumstances it may be difficult to get someone to actually show or join. For example, in some rural areas there may only be a few eligible boys available, and it is possible none of them may be able to get to an activity or join the unit. If it is suspected that Scouts are inviting boys who they know are not interested in joining, or who would find it practically impossible to get to an activity or to join, then this would be a subject to explore at a board of review. Scout spirit could be at issue.

## Council Advancement and Recognition Committee News



- Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA) – Effective Nov. 1, 2013, NCAC will not review the ESRA for certification **unless a District Eagle Representative (DER) has initialed it.** If the ESRA is not initialed by the DER it will be returned to the unit.
- NCAC Eagle Scout Procedures Guide (ESPG) – The updated ESPG has been released and is ready for your use, provided 'you' have any involvement in either executing (or guiding the execution of) the Life-to-Eagle process within NCAC. This guide is a valuable resource for Life Scouts working towards Eagle and the leaders mentoring those Scouts. You can find it on our Goose Creek webpage, or here ...  
[http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/dabf2b2b-f7f6-48ee-a27c-9cc7e1a94a55/Documents/Eagle\\_Scout\\_Procedures\\_Guide.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/dabf2b2b-f7f6-48ee-a27c-9cc7e1a94a55/Documents/Eagle_Scout_Procedures_Guide.pdf)
- NCAC Eagle Scout Fundraising Application – Effective immediately, NCAC only needs to approve the fundraising application included in the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook if a Scout plans to solicit donations amounting to more than \$500 from area businesses or organizations that are not associated with your project. Please contact your District Advancement Chair for more information.
- Eagle Scout Board of Review Advancement Report – The BSA Advancement Report (#34403B) is no longer required to be submitted with the rest of the Eagle Scout Package following an Eagle Scout Board of Review.

## District Eagle Project POCs



In October, we mentioned that the Advancements & Recognition Committee webpage had been developed and was ready for use, and then last month, we noted that one of the planned enhancements to same will be an area dedicated to Eagle candidates, offering them (and their unit Life-to-Eagle Coordinators) a list of places and point of contact for potential Eagle projects. To that end, we could still use your help though in building that page, so if you know of (or are) the right person for a Life Scout to contact for Eagle project ideas for a camp, park or other non-profit group in the area, please let us know by sending the following information to the district Advancements Chair ASAP. (Thank you to those who submitted your information last month!)

- Organization Name (& city/town)
- Point of Contact Full Name
- POC email
- POC preferred phone number

Thank you,

Advancement Committee Chair, [MSVA\\_Tenor@yahoo.com](mailto:MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com)

## Council / National News

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

### Service Hours



BSA has created a website to make it easier to report and track the service projects we perform in our local communities. Service hours are a key requirement for your unit's Journey to Excellence score and this website will make it easier to record them. For more information on how to set up your unit's profile on the website, <https://servicehours.scouting.org/includes/files/popHelp.htm>

### NCAC is Live on Instagram!



Follow NCAC on Instagram (<http://instagram.com/ncacbsa>)! Scouts, parents, alumni, and volunteers now have the opportunity to share cool, inspiring photos and videos using #NCACBSA while they're out and about enjoying Scouting activities. Need to learn more about Instagram? For a user-friendly guide on Instagram go to <http://mashable.com/2012/05/29/instagram-for-beginners/>

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

District Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739](http://www.facebook.com/pages/NCAC-Goose-Creek-District/150234058338739)

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Spring Cub Family Campouts



This spring Camp Snyder will host two Cub Scout family campouts. These campouts are a great experience, allowing Cub Scouts and their families to spend a weekend camping together. There will be a variety of activities on both weekends, ranging from shooting sports, outdoor camping skills, crafts, games, academic and sports belt loops and much more. Each weekend will also feature different activities for families wishing to attend both weekends.

Weekend One: April 11-13

Weekend Two: May 9-11

Registration will be open for individual families, dens, or packs. Families may also choose to join us for just the day if they do not wish to camp. More information and registration can be found online at [www.GoToSnyder.org](http://www.GoToSnyder.org)

(Editor Note: This link currently just goes to the NCAC site and the event is not on the Council calendar yet)

## Coming soon: Scouting Around, a new TV show from Boys' Life magazine



Call it real reality TV. Take all the excitement and education found in *Boys' Life* magazine and transport it to your television. That's the clever concept behind *Scouting Around*, the new show from the century-old mainstay in the life of boys and the Boy Scouts of America. The show "will focus on widely popular, fun and informational subjects covered in *Boys' Life*, appealing to relevant interests of both male and female teenagers."

Michael Goldman, editorial director of the BSA's three magazines (*Boys' Life*, *Scouting* and *Eagles' Call*) made the point that, "Bringing *Boys' Life* into the homes of a new television audience helps us expand the reach of Scouting's fun and values. After all, today's readers — and viewers — are tomorrow's leaders."

Imagine non-Scouts flipping on their TV and seeing what all Scouts and Venturers experience and learn in Scouting. They'll sign up right away — well, right after the closing credits roll. And current Scouts and Venturers will steal the remote to watch episodes that'll cover a wide range of general interests and hobbies, including new tech, gaming, cooking, survival techniques in the wild, and relationship advice.

The show's producers, Big Monster Entertainment, are shopping the show around to major TV networks. Big Monster is the same team behind *Scouting for Adventure*, the *Boys' Life* series that just finished a successful, five-season run on the Outdoor Channel

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual NCAC Scout Orienteering Meet



This event is open to all Boy Scout Troops, Girl Scout units (ages 11 and up) and Venturing Crews. Scouts will be paired up and compete for awards to be presented to the first 15 places in each event.

The morning sessions will include: instruction in Orienteering for Scouts new to the sport, competitions in one of four levels of orienteering courses, and a map skill-building event.

Each Scout pair will have an opportunity to choose two events in the morning. Although we are offering instruction, we strongly recommend instruction take place at a unit level so you can ensure the use of Teaching EDGE instruction that we are unable to provide.

Competition will be broken into two age groups, under 14 years of age and Scouts 14 years of age or older. Venturing Crews with members over 18 years old may be scored as a third grouping to try to ensure fairness. After a brief break at 1pm, the afternoon event will be a 90-minute Orienteering score course. The event will be completed with awards from the morning events at 5:00pm.

**When:** March 29, 2014 (some camping is available both Fri. & Sat. nights, call early)

**Where:** Little Bennett Regional Park, off Route 355 near Clarksburg, MD

**Cost:** TBD per Scout, TBD per Adult volunteer

**Registration:** Registration is to be done at the unit level. Registration deadline is Mar 24, 2014

For more information go to [www.ScoutOrienteering.com/events/2014-03-29Flyer\\_NCAC.pdf](http://www.ScoutOrienteering.com/events/2014-03-29Flyer_NCAC.pdf) or contact James Chaplin at (703) 380-9631, or by email at [jhchaplin@comcast.net](mailto:jhchaplin@comcast.net) (best).

## High Adventure Bases Looking for Staff



Scouts who will be 18 by the summer of 2014 should consider applying for staff at Philmont Scout Ranch, Northern Tier, Florida Sea Base, or the Summit Bechtel Reserve Base. Staff applications are available on line at the web site of each base. Generally you can "Google" the base you are interested in and it will come up.

Members of Amangamek-Wipit who want to explore high adventure staff possibilities are invited to talk to Ken Davis, Loge Communications Advisor, who has contacts at most of the bases. Mr. Davis can be reached at 703-941-9018 or [DavisKenJared@aol.com](mailto:DavisKenJared@aol.com).

**USA Science and Engineering Festival**



The NCAC STEM team will be participating in the nation's largest STEM Expo in Washington, DC., on April 26-27 at the Washington Convention Center.

Over 750 exhibitors gather at the USA Science and Engineering Festival to showcase and promote hand-on STEM education. If you are an inventor, entrepreneur, hobbyist, or just have an interest in science and engineering than this is the place to explore what resources are available.

Youth and adult volunteers are needed to staff the booth. If you are interested in volunteering, send an email to [STEM@NCACBSA.org](mailto:STEM@NCACBSA.org). Please include your contact information and you will be contacted to coordinate your availability.

**Goshen Scout Reservation**



Registration is now open but don't wait too long. We have received numerous inquiries about available space for new units attending Goshen from our Council and abroad. If your unit is planning to spend a week with us this summer, please register your one adult leader as soon as possible!

Again this coming year, we are making every effort to keep the cost of camp down for all participants. Our Scout fees are remaining the same as last year, however, we will increase adult leader fees to be more in line with youth fees in an effort to make it fair to all attending.

Camp	Early Bird (April 25)	Regular Payment (May 30)	At Camp Payment
PMI / Ross	\$290/\$230	\$330/\$270	\$370/\$310
Olmstead	\$290/\$230	\$330/\$270	\$370/\$310
Marriott / Bowman	\$315/\$240	\$355/\$280	\$395/\$320

Scout Fee/Adult Fee

You might have been a Scouter too long when:



- You bought 10,000 shares of Coleman stock on an inside tip that they were about to release a microwave accessory for their camp stove line
- You trade your 25 ft. center console fishing boat in on that great little 15 ft. canoe.
- You ask off work for Baden-Powell's birthday.

## Sheriff's Office Offers Internet Safety, Drug Awareness Classes for Parents



Following last year's successful seminars for parents on Internet Safety, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office has again schedule a series of presentations on the topic, and has expanded its offerings to include discussion of illegal drug awareness.

The two-part courses will help introduce parents to basic Internet Safety and the dangers of synthetic and prescription drug abuse. Parents are advised that there will be graphic content and the seminars are limited to parents and adults only.

The topics that will be discussed during the Internet safety portion of the program include social networking; "sexting" and texting; cell phone technology and features; laptops vs. desktop computers; current trends; predatory behaviors; computer and console gaming; and monitoring techniques.

Also available at the classes will be ComputerCop, a computer software program that allows parents to view and permanently delete potentially harmful images and information that have been downloaded on any home computer. ComputerCop is available for Windows only.

The sessions, led by the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Adult Crime Prevention Unit, will be held on the following dates, beginning at 7 p.m.:

- Monday, Jan. 6, Stone Bridge High School, Internet Safety;
- Tuesday, Jan. 7, Stone Bridge High School, Drug Awareness
- Wednesday, Jan. 22, Loudoun Valley High School, Internet Safety;
- Thursday, Jan. 23, Loudoun Valley High School, Drug Awareness;
- Monday, Feb. 24, Park View High School, Internet Safety; and
- Wednesday, Feb. 26, Potomac Falls High School, Drug Awareness.

Parents are welcome to attend any session, not just the one at their home school. Parents unable to attend any session can pick up copies of the ComputerCop program on a first-come, first-served basis at the following locations:

- Loudoun County Sheriff's Office administration building, 803 Sycolin Road, SE Leesburg;
- Dulles South Public Safety Center, 25216 Loudoun Parkway, South Riding;
- Eastern Loudoun Sheriff's Station, 46620 East Frederick Drive, Sterling Park; and

University Station, 45299 Research Place, Suite 100, Ashburn.

## On-Line Resource of the Month



The WhiteBlaze Network (<http://www.whiteblaze.net>) was created by a community of Appalachian Trail enthusiasts. Its intended purpose is to provide a forum for free exchange of ideas about the Appalachian Trail including its history, supporting the trail, hiking the trail, and general issues important to those that enjoy the Appalachian Trail.

This site is not about any one person or their idea of what the Appalachian Trail should be or to dictate to you (the hiker) how the trail is supposed to be used. We leave that for you to decide. Interact with the other members to get a better idea of what others on the trail are thinking and maybe you will get a better idea of what it is all about.

If you have any questions, don't look for an administrator with all the answers, even about how to run this site. Instead, come in and ask the members. Become a member, and you are equally as important as the rest of us.

## Equipment / Gear

### Buy a McFlurry-Get a Sweet Spoon



When McDonalds makes this frozen treat, they stick a long slender stiff spoon onto the mixer shaft and turn it on and then you get the spoon with the flurry. It is a nice spoon for reaching down into a deep bag of food and it is much more sturdy than most plastic spoons.



"It is downright deceiving, I tell you ... So many layers, so little hiker."

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

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Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Best Hand Warmers

This review is extracted from an article by Seamus Bellamy of [www.TheWireCutter.com](http://www.TheWireCutter.com), Dec 2012 .



Sometimes gloves aren't enough. That's when hand warmers come in. I tested several of the best reviewed kinds and models, and the \$16 Zippo Hand Warmer is the best hand warmer, because it's cheap, safe and provides enough heat to keep your hands warm for close to 24 hours before it needs to be refilled. A catalytic hand warmer is heated by the catalytic reaction of the hand warmer's platinum-coated filament burner head coming into contact with fumes from white gas lighter fluid. In order to start the catalytic reaction, just hold a flame to the burner head for roughly five to 10 seconds. The filaments in the burner will begin to glow (sometimes visibly, other times not so much) and produce heat. The burner will continue to generate heat from the catalytic reaction for as long as there's white gas fumes to fuel it.

The great thing about a catalytic hand warmer is that they're easy to use, and can run for up to 24 hours on a single charge of lighter fluid, which as any smoker will tell you, is just about the cheapest part of a nicotine habit. The bad bit about this style of hand warmer is the same as the good news about it: They run on white gas. So, it's a pain to refill one once their reservoir goes dry. But as these things can run for a full day at a time, you likely won't have to worry about refilling it until you get back out of the cold, so that's a minor complaint.

And the best catalytic hand warmer is the Zippo Hand Warmer because it's reasonably priced, easy to find, and cheap to use.

If you just want a cheap disposable hand warmer, you could still go with the air activated kind like those made by Grabber, which cost between 50 cents and \$1 a piece. They're way more portable than the Zippo Hand Warmer. My testing proved that compared to Little Hotties or Heat Factory branded warmers, the Grabbers ran for the longest, at just over six hours and thirty minutes. But none of the air activated warmers I tried came close to being as hot as the Zippo was, so the Zippo is my main choice even if a little more complicated to set up and use.

Naturally the BSA Policy on the Use of Chemical Fuels applies to any equipment using a chemical (whether liquid or solid) fuel during Scouting activities. That the policy specifically states:

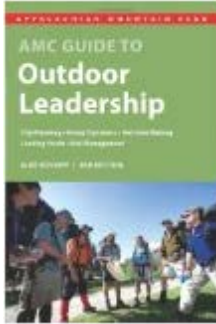
*An adult knowledgeable about chemical fuels and equipment should always supervise youth involved in the storage, handling, and use of chemical fuels and equipment.*

And

*No flames in tents. This includes burning any solid, liquid, gel, or gas fuel; including tents or teepees that feature or support stoves or fires; and any chemical fueled equipment or catalytic heaters.*

## Books

### AMC Guide to Outdoor Leadership



Review by Clark Green, [www.scoutmastercg.com/amc-guide-to-outdoor-leadership/](http://www.scoutmastercg.com/amc-guide-to-outdoor-leadership/)

Outdoor leadership is different. Good administrative skills go just so far when leading a group in an extended outdoor experience. What works at a Troop meeting or in the boardroom does not always translate well on a week-long backpacking or canoeing trip. Scouting offers great administrative training and valuable supplemental training in outdoor skills and safety. What we don't have is a comprehensive training course in the group dynamics of long-term outdoor trips.

Author Alex Kosseff has assembled what I would call a college level course for leaders in the AMC (Appalachian Mountain Club) Guide to Outdoor Leadership. It is notoriously difficult for most of us to find, let alone attend, a course in outdoor leadership; they are few and far between. Simply reading the AMC Guide is not a substitute for more experiential training, but it goes a long way towards developing some useful skills.

I attribute the success of our annual extended canoe trips with studying the first edition of the guide. The practical, effective approach to the challenges we faced vastly expanded my skills and confidence in guiding my Scouts .

The Guide explains how groups function in the outdoors, how to develop good expedition behavior and how to guide group development towards a shared goal. Kosseff has added a great deal of information about working with teens to the second edition that Scout leaders will find particularly valuable.

Kosseff also includes an excellent section on risk management and building risk management plans. It explains how to preserve the challenge and adventure of a trip while assuring the safety of the participants. Kosseff is the founder of the Outdoor Safety Institute and does extensive work in the field of risk management – his writing on the subject is authoritative and enlightening.

I recommended the Guide to anyone contemplating leading extended wilderness trips but the skills are equally valuable on our weekend camp outs.

Available from Amazon (\$14, paperback). 5 out of 5 stars with 11 reviews.

## Training Opportunities

### Wilderness First Aid Classes



Beginning in 2014, BSA High Adventure crews attending Philmont Scout Ranch are required to have two members currently certified in Wilderness First Aid (WFA). The requirement for the other Bases (Northern Tier, Sea Base and The Summit) remains at one crew member currently WFA-trained, but two are strongly suggested since the crew would have to end their trip if the one trained person was injured. Also new in 2014 is the requirement that any unit undertaking a back country trip of their own have at least one WFA-trained participant.

For a list of NCAC High Adventure Committee-endorsed classes, see [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high\\_adventure/hac\\_2014-2013\\_wfa\\_courses.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high_adventure/hac_2014-2013_wfa_courses.pdf).

BSA Venturing Crew 80, Alexandria, VA also offers Wilderness First Aid classes at a reduced rate. For more information, see <http://www.w3bsa.org/WFABPlan.htm> or contact Demi Pulas at [demetrios.pulas@ferc.gov](mailto:demetrios.pulas@ferc.gov) or 202-502-8676

### University of Scouting



The "University of Scouting" is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, Varsity Scouts, District, and Council). Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cubbing, Scouting, what we call "Adventuring" (a combination of Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout activities), as well as Electives opportunities.

**When:** Feb 22, 2013, Registration opens in January

## Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills



This course is aimed at all adults working with older youth regardless of program (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Explorer). This training IS NOT recommended for Cub Scout leaders. All participants must have completed Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the position-specific training for their program area (Venturing or, Varsity or, Boy Scout) prior to attending this course and be able to meet physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record.

The target audience are leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, inasmuch as unit shakedown will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure. Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills is offered by the Council Training Committee as an optional follow-on to the basic course, Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Its goal is to provide adult leaders with an overview of such topics as:

- Working With Older Youth
- Wilderness First Aid Overview & Personal Hygiene
- Cooking & Clean-up
- Leadership Teambuilding & Development
- Leave No Trace
- Resources On the Trail Tips
- Risk Management
- Crew Equipment Needs
- Equipment Maintenance
- Personal Equipment Needs
- Terrain Awareness & Land Navigation

Part 1 (classroom) — Addresses ways to effectively work with older youth and covers the detailed preparation and planning that must be done before you go out including risk management. Summarizes the personal and crew equipment used for lightweight camping. Plans are also made for the weekend overnight session.

Part 2 (overnighter) — Participants will practice core leader skills for the outdoor program — Leave No Trace, navigation (map & compass plus GPS), terrain awareness, expedition menu planning and food preparation, stove and stove maintenance, wilderness first aid issues, expedition health and hygiene, team building.

### Spring 2014

Sat. 3/15 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA

Sat. 4/12, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 4/13, 1:30 PM at Camp Highroads, Middleburg, VA

### Fall 2014 SUNDAY FRIENDLY

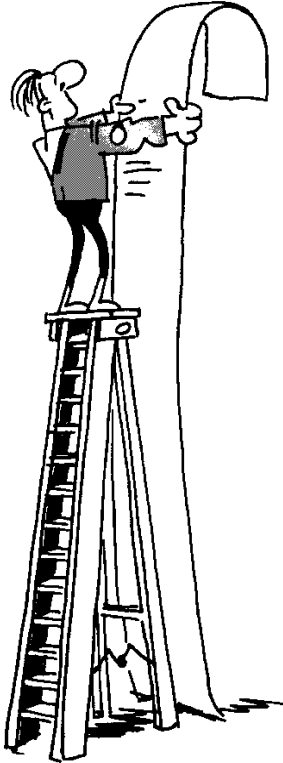
Sat. 9/27 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Huntingtown, MD

Fri. 10/24, 7:30 AM thru Sat. 10/25, 1:30 PM at LaPlata, MD

Course Fee: \$40, register on the NCAC Website under "Program > Training"

Questions? Contact Dominick Caridi ([dscScouting@aol.com](mailto:dscScouting@aol.com), 703-625-4196)

## District Calendar



### January 2014

- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 4 OA Lodge Banquet
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 20 MLK Jr. Day
- 22 District Committee
- 24 LDS 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Merit Badge & Training Workshop
- 27 Moveable School Holiday
- 31 **Freeze-o-ree**

### February 2014

- 1-2 **Freeze-o-ree**
- 2 Scout Sunday
- 8 Scout Sabbath
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 17 President's Day
- 26 District Committee

### March 2014

- 1 **District Pinewood Derby**
- 6 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 26 District Committee
- 31 Student Holiday

### April 2014

- 4-6 **Spring Camporee**
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 14-18 Spring Break
- 23 District Committee

### May 2014

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

### June 2014

- 7 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 11 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 13 Last Day of School
- 16-20 Day/Twilight Camp
- 25 District Committee

### July 2014

- 4 Independence Day

### August 2014

- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 27 District Committee

### September 2014

- 1 Labor Day
- 2 First Day of School
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 20-21 **Webelos-o-ree (TBD)**
- 24 District Committee

### October 2014

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 13 Columbus Day
- 22 District Committee

### November 2014

- 1 **Scouting for Food Bag Distribution**
- 3-4 Student Holiday
- 8 **Scouting for Food Bag Pickup**
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 19 District Committee
- 26-28 Thanksgiving Break

### December 2014

- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 17 Annual District Business Meeting
- 22 Winter Break Starts