



Goose Creek District Newsletter



September 2014

Volume 6, Issue 2

From the blog of the Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock, www.bsachief.com/?p=1076



Special Interest:

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Training

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Quick Calendar:

- Sep 10 – Roundtable
- Sept 17 – JSN
- Oct 8 – Roundtable
- Oct 18 – Training: Life to Eagle
- Oct 25-26 – Webelos-o-ree
- Nov 4 – SFF Bag Distribution
- Nov 8 – SFF Bag Collection
- Nov 12 – Roundtable

Newsletter Key:

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

What the outdoors can teach us

I recently read a great blog about the “Power of the Outdoors” (<http://readingrainbow.com/blog/2014/07/03/power-great-outdoors/>) and wanted to share it with you.

It documents the progress of a Scout who is “the one who’s always there.” Sometimes his pack is too heavy, or he gets wet, cold, tired and miserable because he didn’t pack the right gear. He’s always a quiet fellow who at some point looks like he just wants to cash it in, quit and go home.

At that moment, there’s always a buddy, or an adult leader, who spots this young fellow having a tough time, and stops to have a word with him.

Through the power of Scouting, and the magic of the outdoors, the young fellow picks himself up after hearing those helpful words, moves on down the trail, and has a great time.

I love the way this story is told, because I think everyone of us who has served as a Scout leader has seen a troubled young fellow like this, and watched how Scouting and the outdoors turned him around and put a smile on his face.

Please take a minute and read this fine story, and think about how you can help brighten the outdoor experience of a young fellow in your Scout troop or other volunteer organization. Your smile just might be as big as the youngster you cheer up

Thanks

Wayne.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

Join Scouting Night 2014



Well it is getting close to that time of year and summer will be coming to a close. That means back to school and JSN Night.

JSN night this year will be held Wednesday, September 17, 2014.

In order to prepare your unit for this there is still one training available in Western Loudoun on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 @ 7:00pm @ the Purcellville Library.

If you have any questions please contact Stacy Noll:

Stacey.Noll@GooseCreekDistrict.org.

Webelos-o-ree 2014!



This fall (Oct 25-26) our District will be holding our 10th 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 is open to both first and second year Webelos.

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 is posted on the District website. Requests for the packet can also be emailed to Webelosoree@GooseCreekDistrict.org

Rechartering!!!!



As most unit leaders already know, in the past our recharter window was from November 1st to December 31st with a 60 day "grace period" allowing us to clean up anything that was not correct. "On time" meant we had all charters handed in to Council by December 31st; the 60 day grace period was never designed for units to extend their chartering process.

This year, because of the removal of the grace period, Council petitioned National to allow us to open our charter window one month earlier, and they've agreed.

As a result, recharter packages will be available for units to pick up at the September Roundtable and the online recharter window will open on October 1st instead of November 1st..

The KUDO (Kool, unusual, dynamic and ubiquitous) Yard Sign Contest



To kick off the recruitment season, the KUDU Yard Sign Contest is back and bigger for 2014! Visit www.NCACBSA.org/KUDU to enter photos of your Scout or unit out and about in your neighborhood showing their support for Scouting. The contest winners will have their photo featured in The Scouter Digest and will receive a gift card from the Scout Shop.

Throughout the fall, send us your photos, share news clips featuring Scouts in your area, and tell us about events that your units are a part of and we will do our part to share those memories, not just among our Scouting family, but also your neighbors and friends..

Yard Sign Etiquette:

- Know where you can and cannot display a yard sign.
- Always ask an individual or group to which the property belongs to, where and how long you can display a sign (ex. If it's a school you need to speak to the principal).
- It is helpful to give specific days and a time frame from when the sign will be placed.
- Whoever puts the sign up is responsible for taking the sign down.

Failure to follow Yard Sign Etiquette holds the local unit and/or council liable to fines or other incidentals associated with the law to which the sign was placed.

District Award of Merit



It's time for nominations for the District Award of Merit to be submitted. The requirements are:

1. A nominee must be a registered Scouter.
2. A nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside Scouting, or both.
3. Note: The nature and value of "noteworthy service to youth" may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.
4. Consideration must be given to the nominee's Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position.
5. The nominee's attitude toward and cooperation with the district and/or council is to be taken into consideration.
6. Nominations cannot be considered for posthumous awards.

The nomination form and information can be found at www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf. Nominations need to be submitted to the committee no later than Oct. 31 at scalesbobbie@yahoo.com.

Scouting for Food



Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

- Saturday, November 1st - Bag Drop-off
- Saturday, November 8th - Food Collection

As soon as the training dates/locations have been identified our Scouting for Food coordinator, Claudia Wolfson, will send out an email.

To ensure that we have the Goose Creek District territories covered, please respond directly to Claudia (Claudia.Wolfson@GooseCreekDistrict.org) with the POC for your unit. Please include the following information:

- Unit Type and Number (Pack, Troop, Crew)
- POC Name
- POC email
- POC Phone number
- Confirmation that your unit will be participating
- Any issues/questions about your territory

Let's all work together to ensure another successful year for this program.

Flag Retirements at Webelos-o-ree



At the Webelos-o-ree this year we will be having a flag retirement station where the Webelos will do the ceremony under Boy Scout guidance. If anyone has, or knows someone who has, a flag that is ready for retirement please contact Alan Steiner at Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org or bring the flag to the September or October Roundtable.

Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblem Seminar



George Birsic, Goose Creek's member of the Arlington Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting and Campfire, will be guiding an Ad Altare Dei religious emblem seminar starting this October. The seminar is designed for 13- to 14-year-old registered Scouts who are of the Catholic faith, have been active members of their troop for at least six months, have completed the sixth grade, and regularly participate in Sunday worship.

An application (found in the activity workbook) must be signed by the scout, parent, counselor, scoutmaster, and pastor in order to complete the seminar. Requirements include work outside the seminar sessions to include presentations, attending a retreat or day of recollection, service project, et. al. After completing the requirements, the scout concludes with a Diocesan Ad Altare Dei Board of Review.

If you are interested in participating, please email Mr. Birsic at GooseCreek.ccosc@gmail.com.

Report Those High Adventure Treks



If your troop had a crew or two do one of the BSA high adventure camps this summer we would like to post of a photo of the crew in the newsletter. Just send a photo of the crew and tell us which trek they did to GCProgram@verizon.net. This way everyone can see what great fun your Scouts are having and wonder why they aren't doing the same. Think of it as bragging rights.



Troop 163 - Sea Base SCUBA Certification Crew SCSU072014A: **Sean James, Jackson Shaffer** (Troop 641, Arlington), **Tom Hill, Scotty Hill, Henry Baime, Mark Baker, William Fincher, and Hayes Baker**



Troop 163 - Lenhok'sin week long canoe trip on the James River: **Sam Upton, Dennis Upton, William Fincher, Ethan Rodriguez, Tom Hill, and Scotty Hill**



“Cheerful Service Chatter”

Chapter News for our Arrowmen
Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA

OA Lodge History Initiative Makes Sure No Story is Forgotten



Storytelling is a vital part of American Indian culture, in which true tales are passed from one generation to the next.

It's similarly important in the Order of the Arrow, the Scouting honor society that uses American Indian-style traditions and ceremonies.

That's why the Order of the Arrow Lodge History Initiative is so vital. The project, timed in the run-up to the 100th anniversary of the OA in 2015, aims to preserve each lodge's unique story to make sure it's never lost to the erosion of time.

The National Scouting Museum has partnered with the “Green Bar Bill” Hillcourt Trust to sponsor the OA Lodge History Initiative.

Robert Mason, a young Divinity student at Duke University, has organized efforts to have all 300 OA lodges produce a lodge history.

Mason's team publishes a monthly email newsletter, “The Historian Gazette,” to help guide local lodge historians and their advisors. On the first Sunday evening of each month, a topical webinar is held as a means to bring together lodge historians. Topics thus far have included “How to Get Started,” “How to Interview People,” “Writing Fundamentals,” “Basics of Editing” and “Dealing with Sensitive Topics.”

Mason says that to date about 150 lodge historians and adult advisors have been reached. Learn more at the Lodge History website:

www.oa-bsa.org/pages/content/lodge-history-book

Fall Fellowship



Fellow Arrowmen, registration for the Fall Fellowship, Sept. 19-21 at Camp Olmstead, Goshen Scout Reservation is now open on the Lodge website. A bus is being made available for an additional \$25.00 cost. The registration cost will go up on Sept. 3, and the opportunity to sign up for the bus ends then as well. If you purchased the Passport at the beginning of the year, you still need to go to the site and register. The Lodge web site is www.ncacbsa.org/oa. If there are any questions, feel free to contact the Chapter Adviser, Bobbie Scales at scalesbobbie@yahoo.com.

OA Chapter Needs Animal Skins



The Goose Creek Order of the Arrow Chapter needs animal skins for making authentic Native American costumes for its ceremonies team. The ceremonies team uses these costumes for the ceremonies for Order of the Arrow Induction and public ceremonies such as the those at the Webelos-o-ree or the Arrow of Light. The costumes are replicas of the clothing worn by Native Americans in Virginia, as illustrated in Captain John Smith's journals.

If you have or know a source of deer hides or other animal skins, please contact Mrs. Bobbie Scales (Scalesbobbie@yahoo.com).

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

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

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

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), and request access.)

"Onward and Upward"

On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle:

Timothy J Calhoun – Troop 1550

Justin R. Greene – Troop 1158

Chase M Henson – Troop 2970

Hunter J Henson – Troop 2970

Joel Thomas Monroe – Troop 711

Gary A Stephens – Troop 968

Life-to-Eagle Seminar (Training)



The next installment of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek is coming soon. These training conferences are primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level – but are by no means limited to same. Life Scouts and their parents are encouraged to attend. The key goal is to get each of the unit Eagle Advisers up to speed on changes to the process, and some of the district-level mechanics of same. That way, they can help share the message to the Life Scouts in their units on a more frequent basis.

When: Saturday, October 18, 10:15 – 12:45, Gum Spring Library (24600 Millstream Drive, in Stone Ridge, VA), Room B

Also, if you ARE a Life-to-Eagle Adviser or Advancement Chair for your Unit, and have not attended one of these within Goose Creek within the last 2 years, you really should make an attempt to do so. Lots of things have changed over the years, and even the long-standing and experienced L2E Advisers will learn something new.

Currently, we are planning to hold 3-4 more Life-to-Eagle Training seminars in 2015 as well. Keep your eyes open for those dates as they are become known.

2015's Arrow of Light Transition Plan Revised



There's still a year of Cub Scout fun before the new program debuts next year. But a just-announced update affects those who like to plan ahead.

A Cub Scout who has earned the Webelos rank as of June 1, 2015, and is moving on to earning the Arrow of Light will now have two options for completing the Arrow of Light.

Option 1: He may continue to work from the current handbook and complete the Arrow of Light requirements as stated.

Option 2: He may begin using the new *Webelos Handbook* and the *Webelos Den Leader Guide* for Webelos adventures. If he chooses this option:

- He must complete the four defined required adventures.
- To satisfy the requirement for three electives, he may use EITHER the new adventure electives OR activity badges earned under the current program but not used to fulfill Webelos rank requirements.

Previously only Option 2 was available, meaning when first-year Webelos transitioned to the second-year Webelos program in 2015, they would need to get the new book and earn their Arrow of Light Award under the redesigned program.

Which option is right for your Scouts? Consider the options carefully by reviewing the requirements at www.scouting.org/programupdates.

Fingerprinting Merit Badge



The Crime Museum offers the Boy Scouts a Fingerprinting Merit Badge program! The program fee below also includes admission to the Museum. All of the merit badge requirements will be met during the program.

Program Length: 1 Hour

Maximum Capacity: 40 Per Hour

Minimum Attendees: 10 Scouts

Cost: \$20.00 Per Person

For more information contact Susan Frese at 202-621-5553 or by email at susan@crimemuseum.org

The Crime Museum is a privately owned museum dedicated to the history of criminology and penology in the United States. It is found in the Penn Quarter neighborhood of Washington, D.C., half a block south of the Gallery Place metro station.

EIA to Host Energy and Nuclear Science Merit Badge Class



The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) is again hosting its Boy and Girl Scout merit badge/patch day in November. The event is free. EIA will teach classes to earn either the Energy or Nuclear Science merit badge. Last year's event was a big success with about 120 Boy and Girl scouts participating.

This year's event will be on Saturday, Nov. 15th, from 9:30 am to 1 p.m. in the U.S. Energy Department's huge cafeteria located across from the Smithsonian Castle on the National Mall. Scouts can check out the registration page, Energy Information Administration www.eia.gov/kids/activities/meritbadge/, to learn more about the event. Online registration for classes starts Oct 6th at 11 a.m.

Completing Partial Merit Badges

Partials refer to merit badges that for whatever reason are not completed during the summer camp session. The Scout has done some of the requirements towards being awarded the merit badge but for one reason or another, has not been able to cover all of them. Partials may also occur when a Scout starts the badge with a counselor who has since moved away or retired from Scouting while the Scout is still working on the requirements, or most likely, taking a break from working on the requirements.

To finish the merit badge it is up to the Scout to make an appointment with another merit badge counselor to complete the missing requirements. There is no requirement that the original counselor be the one to whom they go or that they have to wait till the next summer camp to complete it. If troop level or district level merit badge counselors exist for the subject badge, the wise Scoutmaster, Troop Advancement Chair, and/or Troop Committee would make certain that the list of those counselors is readily available to the Scout so he knows where to begin the trail to completion.

Important Facts:

- The only expiration date on a partial is the Scout turning 18. If a Scout got the partial when they were 11 they can still complete it when they are 17 years and 11 months old.
- The only requirements the Scout needs to do are the ones not signed on the Blue Card. The new merit badge counselor cannot make a Scout redo a signed requirement as a test or not accept it because they suspect the 'quality' of the work done. If it's been signed then it's done, period. Conversely, if all the Scout has is a worksheet from camp of what was done and it wasn't also signed on the Blue Card then it officially wasn't done and it is up to the counselor on whether to accept it or not.
- Changes in the merit badge requirements that have occurred since the partial was done are not to be considered. The Scout must complete only the requirements in place when the badge was started. This means that any new requirements do not have to be done, on the other hand, any requirements that were dropped but were not completed do have to be done.

Program Updates - 2014 and Beyond



The next three years promise to be exciting for Scouting as all three of our traditional programs will be updated based on several years of volunteer-led research and development. Venturing is first up in 2014 with a totally new program and recognition approach focusing on progressive development in adventure, leadership, and service to others and personal growth.

Venturing: New Venturing award requirements have been released. Drafts of Handbook for Venturers, Venturing Advisor Guidebook, and the Venturing Awards and Requirements Book were on display and are due in Scout shops soon.

Boy Scouts: Program changes coming in 2016

Cub Scouts: Samplers of new youth handbooks and den leader guides unveiling five of the 84 new adventures have been released. Other items of note include PDFs about progress-toward-rank recognition insignia; Ethan, our new Cub Scout guide; a transition guide, FAQs, and more!

The Program Updates page of Scouting.org will always have the most recent information on what is coming and when. Check out the files and opportunities at: www.scouting.org/scoutsource/programupdates.aspx

Eagle Project Opportunities – POCs



Last fall, after developing the district's Advancements & Recognition Committee webpage, we indicated that one of the planned enhancements to same would be an area dedicated to Eagle candidates, offering them (and their unit Life-to-Eagle Coordinators) a list of places and points of contact for potential Eagle projects. You may have noticed that this enhancement hasn't been developed, and wondered why. The reason is simple; we've only received two inputs. So, we could still really use your help in building that page. 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 have responded already.

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

Thank you,
Advancement Committee Chair, MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com

Crowdfunding and Eagle Projects



Eagle Scout service projects completed with minimal or no expense are always preferred to those with high price tags. In other words: An Eagle project doesn't need to cost a fortune to be meaningful.

But the BSA knows that low-cost Eagle projects aren't always possible or preferred by Scouts, meaning sometimes Scouts need to earn money for materials, equipment rentals, or even professional services.

Some Scouts approach friends, family members, and businesses for this money. Others try car washes, bake sales or spaghetti dinners. But given the rise of crowdfunding websites, some Scouts may wonder whether online fundraising is an acceptable option.

The answer is yes. There are hundreds of crowdfunding sites out there, and the BSA won't endorse one over another. It's best for Eagle Scout hopefuls to do their homework on these sites. They'll want to know how much of a cut the site takes, whether they'll get the money even if they don't reach the stated goal and whether the site allows fundraising for projects benefiting non-profits like the BSA.

As anyone who has sought crowdfunding for a movie, book or gadget knows, just because you ask for money doesn't mean you'll get it. Scouts should have a plan B in case the online funding route doesn't succeed.

Remember: Anytime money is raised for an Eagle project from sources other than the Scout's family, his unit, or the project beneficiary, an Eagle Scout Service Project Fundraising Application is required. That form is in the Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook, available at www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BoyScouts/AdvancementandAwards/resource.saspx.

Crowdfunding sites work well for project-based fundraising but are not the right approach for general unit fundraising. In other words, you shouldn't use these sites to fill your unit's coffers as a substitute for traditional unit money-earning projects.

This article was copied from the Sept-Oct *Scouter* magazine.

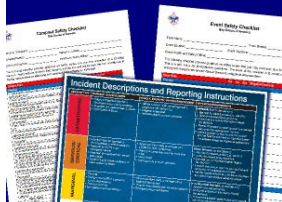


Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

New Tools in Guide to Safe Scouting

Checklists and Reporting Requirements



Keeping Scouts safe is a key responsibility of any Scouter, and Safe scouting requires we understand and manage the risks involved in our activities.

Scouter Walter Underwood has posted an excellent overview of recent changes to the Guide to Safe Scouting that includes:

- A Campout Safety Checklist (PDF),
www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/campout_checklist.pdf
- Event Safety Checklist (PDF),
www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/event_checklist.pdf
- Incident Information Report (fillable PDF),
www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-016_fillable.pdf
- and Near Miss Incident Information Report (fillable PDF),
www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-017_fillable.pdf

Every Scouter should review the Guide to Safe Scouting and be familiar with the key concepts of maintaining a safe environment. Scouters hold a sacred trust to do all in their power to maintain a safe environment for adventure. It's not only possible, it's essential. We should all take the time to study these resources and learn how to apply them.

The Triple Crown High Adventure Award



Before the Summit Bechtel Reserve began its high-adventure offerings this year, the requirements for the Triple Crown Award were pretty simple. It recognized Scouts and Scouters who participated in at least one high-adventure program at each of the three BSA national high-adventure bases: Philmont, Northern Tier and Sea Base.

The addition of a fourth national high-adventure base changes the playing field for the Triple Crown Award. That left many Scouts and Scouters wondering whether the Summit Bechtel Reserve will count as one of those three or whether a new — let's call it "Grand Slam" award is on the way.

So does the Summit count toward the Triple Crown Award? Yes, but only high-adventure activities there in 2014 or beyond. Jamborees and service projects like SummitCorps do not count. The basic rule is that if you received a high-adventure program participant emblem (patch) from the national high-adventure base during your program, it qualifies as your participation requirement for that base.

Where can you find out more about this award? Go to
www.holry.org/TripleCrownAward/

Why a New-Parent Orientation is a Must for Your Cub Scout Pack



You know how to welcome the new Cub Scouts who will join your pack this fall. But what about their parents?

The August 2014 edition of CubCast, www.scouting.org/filestore/scoutcast/cubcast/201408_1/CC_Aug_Parent%20Orient.mp3, reveals just that. It tells you why every Cub Scout pack should hold a new-parent orientation the night of their recruitment event.

CubCast's guest was Dr. Geoff Zoeller, professional educator, Cubmaster and the vice president of membership and relations for the Patriots' Path Council in New Jersey. He argues that many experienced Cub Scouters forget what it's like to be a new Cub Scout parent.

"It's something that so many units overlook," he says. "We take for granted as Scouting insiders that everybody knows what the Scouting program really is about. It's really important to have parent orientation so we can explain who we are."

In the podcast Zoeller outlines several topics for you to cover at the new-parent orientation:

- Describing program
- Discussing expectations
- Showing what parents will need to purchase
- Explaining national and local registration processes and fees
- Making connections with individuals
- Answering questions
- Sharing the expected time commitment for parents and Cub Scouts

Zoeller suggests you hold your new-parent orientation the same night of your recruitment event. That way you're sure every new parent will attend and have his or her questions answered and expectations clarified.

Gathering of Eagles Day at Nats Park



Come join the Gathering of Eagles for an afternoon at the National's Ballpark on Saturday, September 27 starting at 2 p.m. as the Nats take on the Marlins for the last Saturday home game of the regular season and we celebrate the last Boy Scout Day at the ballpark for the year. Prior to the start of the game, the Gathering of Eagles will meet at the Red Porch Restaurant inside the ballpark for refreshments, food, door-prizes and fellowship with other Eagles. To attend the fellowship, purchase discounted game tickets, and learn more information visit www.NCACBSA.org/GOENatsDay.

National Outdoor Awards Revamped



It's official: The National Outdoor Awards, which call on Scouts to demonstrate knowledge and experience in camping, hiking, aquatics, riding or adventure, now have an exciting new dimension. Joining the five existing National Outdoor badges is a conservation badge, which will incorporate sustainability and environmental science.

The requirements for the National outdoor badges have also been changed. Now the Outdoor Award can be earned by any youth of any age and any program in Scouting. Previously, Venturers and Sea Scouts could not earn the award because they could not attain the required First Class rank.

Editor's Note: Though reported in the Sept-Oct Scouter magazine, none of the online search results for this award have yet been updated to list the new requirements.

LDS Scouting Handbook Revised for 2014



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has updated its "Scouting Handbook" for 2014.

The May 2014 version, available online "outlines guidelines and policies relating to Scouting programs" in the LDS church,

www.lds.org/bc/content/shared/english/young-men/35814_scout-handbook_eng.pdf

It specifies places where BSA policy and church policy differ and helps leaders more effectively administer Scouting in their ward.

The 2014 edition includes updates in two sections: Section 3, "Stake Leaders' Responsibilities for Scouting" and Section 8, "Church Policies."

For additional LDS Scouting resources go to www.lds.org/service/serving-in-the-church/aaronic-priesthood/leader-resources/scouting?lang=eng.

Scuba Diving Training Scholarships



The Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI) has a scholarship program that awards various levels of grants to individual Scouts/Venturers Troops/Venture Crews for PADI diver training courses. The scholarships applications must be submitted to BSA National Office no later than December 31, 2014. The forms are available at www.NCACBSA.org/PADI.

Calling All New BSA Lifeguards



If you or a member of your unit completed BSA Lifeguard, Swimming and Water Rescue, Paddle Craft Safety, or BSA Lifeguard Counselor courses at camp this summer, please send a note to Mike Meenehan (mmmeenehan@cox.net) so we can ensure that the NCAC Aquatics Committee has documented your achievements. This is especially critical if you completed them outside NCAC.

Day to Serve 2014!



The governors of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the mayor of Washington, D.C., have issued a call to action to "feed the hungry and heal the planet" as part of this year's Day to Serve, happening September 11-28.

Your unit is encouraged to join one of these great projects or start your own:

Hume School clean-up

Saturday, September 13, 2014 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

1805 South Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA 22202

Please register by September 7.

Family Harvest Day

Saturday, September 20, 2014 - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Serenity Farm, 6932 Serenity Farm Road, Benedict, MD 20612

Feeding 1,000

Saturday, September 27, 2014 - 5:45 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

McLean Baptist Church, 1367 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean, VA 22101

Once the project is completed, report your service hours at

www.My.Scouting.org.

Report your Unit's Service Hours and Achieve JTE Points



Scouting was founded on the premise of doing a Good Turn daily. Community service is very important in the character-building process and, as Scouts, we have made the commitment to give back to our communities. National BSA has provided a website to make it easy for us to report and keep track of Service Projects we perform in our local communities and council.

Completion of a certain number of service hours is a requirement for your unit's Journey to Excellence score. This website will help to keep track of service projects and hours spent executing them. Setting up your unit's Profile on the Service Hours website is simple. Just follow the three steps shown below!

To sign up, you will need to know your 4-digit Unit Number (use zeros to make up digits if needed. Example: Troop 98 would use Troop 0098) as well as your Unit ID#, (This is the same # you use for online advancement) If you don't have this, you can get it from your District Executive.

For additional help setting up your unit's profile, visit

<https://servicehours.scouting.org/includes/files/popHelp.htm>

For additional information and Service Project examples, visit:

http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/Awards/JourneyToExcellence/unit_tips.aspx

Learn the Ropes



Flemish Bend? Easy peasy. Monkey's Fist? Gotcha covered. Thanks to some ingenious apps, even the more complicated knots can be conquered. Here are three apps to help you get the bugs out of your Gnat Hitch.

Animated Knot by Grog

From the Albright Knot to the Zeppelin Bend, this app shows you how to master mega-bunches of knots, arranged in categories including Basic, Boating, Fishing, Scouting and more. Grog also give you detailed descriptions of each knot's uses, advantages and disadvantages. Its motto? *"Better to know a knot and not need it, than need a knot and not know it."* \$4.99 for iOS and Android.

How to Tie Knots 3D

This 3-D animated app wants to be your "personal assistant" in learning more than 45 essential knots. Animated step-by-step directions – "Cross the running end over itself to make a small loop" – shed plenty of light on the subject. \$1.99 for iOS, free for Android.

Knots 3D

Good pause and speed controls for rotational views make this app a standout way to learn more than 90 knots. You'll find brief histories of the knots and explanations of some unusual knot names, and you can use your finger to spin the knot and see how it looks from any angle in 3-D. 99 cents for iOS and Android.

United States Patent and Trademark Expo This Fall



The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will host the expo on Friday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday October 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the USPTO's headquarters in Alexandria (600 Dulany Street, Alexandria VA 22314).

The Expo is a free, family-friendly event designed to educate the public about trademarks which includes:

- Educational workshops and activities for children and adults
- Numerous exhibits featuring trademarks
- Display comparing counterfeit goods with authentic goods
- Customized characters and inflatables featuring trademarks
- Trademark activity guides
- Small giveaways featuring trademarks

At Children's workshops, there will be games, quizzes, and fun and informative presentations about what trademarks are, why trademarks matter, and what it means to "register" a trademark. Adult seminars include Trademarks 101, Counterfeiting and Piracy – Why Buy "Legit"?, and Trademark Basics: What Every Small Business Should Know. The workshops and seminars will run once an hour on Friday and Saturday.

Boy Scouts are welcome! If there are questions contact Chrisie.King@uspto.gov. More information is also available on the USPTO's website at www.NCACBSA.org/USPTO

What do the Different Colors of Scouting Shoulder Loops Mean?



Blue, orange, silver, gold and two shades of green. Scouting shoulder loops come in multiple colors to help you identify a fellow Scout or Scouter. But what do all the different colors mean? And which do you wear if you're involved in multiple programs?

Here's a quick guide:

What do the loop colors mean?

The colored Scouting shoulder loops worn on the shoulder epaulets identify the wearer's primary registered position in Scouting.

Cub Scouting

Blue uniform shirts for Tigers, Wolves and Bears don't have epaulets, so boys in those programs don't wear loops.

But Webelos Scouts and all Cub Scout leaders wear blue loops.

Boy Scouting

Red shoulder loops, while still authorized for wear, have been replaced by forest green loops on the Boy Scout uniform.

These loops are worn by Boy Scouts and Boy Scout leaders.

Varsity Scouting

Varsity Scouting, the program for boys age 14 to 18, still uses the tan uniform shirt seen in Boy Scouting.

But instead of forest green loops, Varsity Scouts wear blaze (orange) loops. They also wear the Varsity strip above the Boy Scouts of America strip above the right shirt pocket.

Venturing

Young men and young women in Venturing wear green loops, but not the same shade of green you'll see on Boy Scout uniform shirts.

These green loops match nicely with the green uniform shirt worn by Venturers.

Council and district

Volunteers and professionals who serve/work at the district or council level wear silver loops.

The council Scout executive can also decide whether youth members representing the council, such as summer camp staffers or council representatives at events, may wear silver loops.

The chartered organization representative should wear silver loops, according to the BSA Insignia Guide.

National, regional and area

Volunteers and professionals who serve/work at the national, regional and area level wear gold loops.

On-Line Resource of the Month



www.ScoutOrienteering.com is a site dedicated to promote orienteering within the Scouting community and to see it utilized in a manner that teaches map skills, self-reliance, leadership, and physical conditioning.

The site lists upcoming orienteering events for Scouts and offers a four-day lesson plan for teaching orienteering and information on understanding maps and map symbols.

Equipment / Gear

Socks



Socks are the most underrated — and most often ignored — piece of outdoor gear. A quality pair of socks might seem expensive at first, but it is worth its weight in gold and will make your time on the trail so much more enjoyable.

THE SOCK COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt never wear cotton socks for hiking. They absorb sweat quickly and are very slow to dry. Soggy, sweaty feet = BLISTERS.
2. Thou shalt wear only socks made of wool or synthetic fibers ... or a blend of both. They will dry quickly, wick sweat away from your feet and keep your feet more comfortable on the trail.
3. Thou shalt wear socks that fit. Make sure your socks fit snugly. If they're too big, they'll bunch up inside your boots or shoes and be uncomfortable and might cause blisters.
4. Thou shalt not dry your socks on a stick over the campfire. They might catch fire or melt. Instead, wring them out and lay them on a warm rock in the sun.
5. Thou shalt always pack three pairs of socks. That way, you have a pair to hike in, an extra pair for hiking when the other gets wet, and a clean, dry pair for sleeping.

MONEY-SAVING TIP

Here's a little secret: There's often sizing overlap between large kids' socks and small adult socks. They're essentially the same product and cover the same size feet, but the kids' versions are usually much cheaper. So check the company's sock sizing charts online, and when they fit, go with the cheaper kids' version.

Sleeping Bags: How to Choose



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When choosing your sleeping bag, consider what time of year you're heading out camping and whether or not you're more susceptible to the cold. We'd recommend comparing different bags' season and comfort ratings, which can give you a great indication of when the bag should be used, and what sort of temperatures you will find most comfortable when sleeping.

Bags fall into three basic categories.

1. **Summer** - Suitable for temperatures of about 30°F and higher. They're lightweight (because less insulation means less weight), and they pack down tiny (often as small as a cantaloupe).
2. **Three-Season** - Ideal for temperatures of about 20°F and above, these bags are best suited for spring and fall trips, as well as summers in the high mountains when temps can dip below freezing at night.
3. **Winter** - These puffy cocoons, good for about 20°F and below, have all the features of a three- season bag (cinch-able hoods, draft collars, zipper draft tubes), but are beefed up with more insulation.

Sleeping Bag Temperature Rating and Insulation Type

All sleeping bags have temperature ratings, which indicate the minimum temperature that the bag is designed to handle. Temperature ratings should be taken with a grain of salt however, because as of now, there is no standard, universal method for determining ratings. A sleeping bag's temperature rating identifies the lowest temperature at which a bag is intended to keep the average sleeper warm. When a bag is described as a "20-degree bag," it means that most users should remain comfortable if the air temperature drops no lower than 20°F. These ratings assume that the sleeper is wearing a layer of long underwear and using a sleeping pad under the bag.

The key choice in sleeping bags is between synthetic fill or down. Down is lighter in terms of a weight-to-warmth ratio. Down is also more compact. However, only synthetic fills like PolarGuard 3D, Lite Loft, Hollofil, or Quallofil will maintain loft and warmth even when wet. Down turns into a heavy, soggy, cold mess that takes forever to dry out.

Bag Shapes

Bags come in several cuts and each shape is designed to appeal to a different type of camper.

Mummy - A tapered cut through the legs and feet give mummy bags maximum thermal efficiency. A bag's primary job is to contain the heat your body generates and when interior space is smaller, the bag is more efficient.

Rectangular - With no taper at all through the legs, rectangular bags are not as thermally efficient, and are best suited for backyard campouts and basement sleepovers.

Semi-rectangular - A happy medium between mummy and rectangular shapes, semi-rectangular bags are a good choice for campers who can't cope with the confinement of a mummy bag but need more warmth than a rectangular bag has to offer. They're bulkier and heavier than mummies, but give you a bit more thrashing room.

Some sites to look at for sleeping bag guidance are:

www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sleeping-bag.html

www.backpacker.com/sleeping-bag-buying-guide/gear/15219

www.dummies.com/how-to/content/choosing-a-sleeping-bag-for-camping.html

www.mountainwarehouse.com/expert-advice/sleeping-bag-guide/

Sleeping Pads: How to Choose



Many campers, especially beginners, overlook the importance of a good backpacking sleeping pad. Even if you have the best sleeping bag in the world, you can still end up spending a miserable night under the stars if you lack a sleeping pad. Every good sleep system includes a sleeping pad. First, it provides another layer of insulation between you and the cold, hard ground. When you sleep on a sleeping bag only, your body weight crushes the insulation in the sleeping bag against the ground, making it much less effective. Also, sleeping pads are important because they provide cushioning. Let's face it—the ground is usually uncomfortable. The more comfortable you are, the better you will sleep—and the happier you'll wake up in the morning!

There are four types of backpacking sleeping pads on the market today, each with its pros and cons:

Backpacking air mattresses are small, thin inflatable mattresses. They are undeniably comfortable, but they have several drawbacks. The first is the possibility of leaks. Backpackers put their gear through a lot of stress, and even a durable air mattress can spring a leak. Backpacking air mattresses also do a poor job of insulating.

Closed-cell foam pads are the warmest type of backpacking sleeping pad available. They are also the least comfortable -- they provide very little in the way of cushioning. However, they are water-repellent, warm, light and may last forever. They are also cheap, so if you are on a budget, this is the sleeping pad for you.

As the name suggests, **open-cell foam pads** have open air cells. Because open air cells can squish further, they feel softer and have more "cushion", but as a result have to be either larger or heavier to compensate. Not so good for backpacking. Also, the open air cells absorb both water and allow some air circulation, meaning they are poor insulators in cold weather and worse than useless if the ground gets wet. They are also cheap.

Self-inflating pads combine the comfort of open-cell foam pads with the warmth and weather-resistance of closed-cell foam. A self-inflating pad consists of open-cell foam covered in waterproof, airtight material. They tend to be heavier than closed-cell foam and they are not as cheap as foam pads. Nonetheless, these pads are very popular and are probably the best choice for backpacking in terms of comfort and versatility.

Compare Specs and Features

Length: At a minimum, your shoulders and hips need to fit on a pad. Regular (typically 72" long) and long (from 75" to 78") pads will insulate your legs and feet—a big plus on chilly fall and winter trips. A short or 3/4-length pad (usually 47" or 48") weighs less and packs smaller.

Width: Nearly every pad offers a standard width of 20". If you tend to roll around a lot, you may want a width of 25" or 30". Tapered-shape pads reduce volume a bit and pack smaller. Also, consider the size of your tent to ensure you can fit 2 wider pads side by side.

R-value: Insulation is measured according to its capacity to resist (that's the "R") heat flow. The higher a pad's R-value, the better you can expect it to insulate you from cold surfaces. Thicker pads generally offer higher R-values.

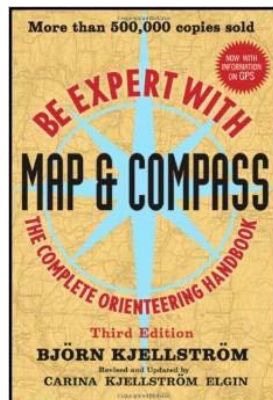
Two sites to look at for sleeping pad guidance are:

www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/sleeping-pads.html

www.backpacking-guide.com/backpacking-sleeping-pads.html

Books

Be Expert with Map and Compass



GPS devices are great, but they can break, get lost, or easily be hampered by weather conditions, making basic map and compass skills essential for anyone who spends time outdoors. This popular, easy-to-use orienteering handbook has been helping people find their way for more than fifty years. Now updated to include information on GPS as well as current Web sites, references, sources, and photographs, it remains the book of choice for professional outdoorsmen, novice orienteers, and outdoor organizations as well as teachers, scout leaders, recreational hikers, hunters, and others around the world.

Coverage includes understanding map symbols; traveling by map alone, by compass alone, or by map and compass together; finding bearings; sketching maps; and traveling in the wilderness.

- Explains basic map and compass skills clearly
- Fully updated edition, including information on GPS
- Includes up-to-date Web site addresses, references, and sources
- Features a fresh, rugged design
- Ideal book for beginners

If you're looking to feel more comfortable in the wilderness, this updated guide is an indispensable reference

Available in both paperback and Kindle for \$11-13 (Note: the Kindle version does not have the map that is often referred to in the text).

Training Opportunities

Swimming and Water Rescue Training



Safe Swim Defense guidelines recommend that adult leaders have additional training to safely supervise aquatics activities. For activities that include swimming, Swimming and Water Rescue is the specific training needed.

BSA Lifeguard is no longer designed to meet the needs of unit leaders. Swimming and Water Rescue is the training that allows a unit leader to safely and confidently supervise swimming activities. The last Swimming and Water Rescue course for the year that includes the in-water component is September 6 and Camp Snyder. Passing the BSA swimmer classification test is a pre-requisite for the course.

Registration can be done at www.NCACBSA.org/Aquatics.

Upcoming IOLS Training



Outdoor skills are critical to the success of any Scouting program. Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) provides Boy Scout leaders with the basic outdoor skills needed to start a program right and keep it going. IOLS is the **required** outdoor training for all Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Varsity Scout coaches. The course is also ideal for Venturing leaders because it focuses on building confidence and competence in Leaders conducting outdoor camping experiences.

Prerequisites: Youth Protection Training, (available online at www.MyScouting.org).

Date/Location: Oct 25-26, Banshee Reeks. It starts at 4:00 PM Friday afternoon and ends 5:00 PM Saturday afternoon. There is a \$40 fee for this class.

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

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills



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

The target audience is leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, inasmuch as unit shakedown will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure.

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.

Dates: (Participants must attend both sessions to complete the training)

- Session 1: Saturday September 27, 2014, 8AM to 5PM
- Session 2: Saturday October 25, 2014 7:30AM to Sunday October 26, 2014 1:30PM.

Cost:
\$40

Contact:
Dominick Caridi:
DscScouting@aol.com
Phone: 703-625-4196

Online Registration: (available until 9/22)
www.ncacbsa.org/event/BCOLS2014#

Unit Recharter Requires Trained Leaders



All direct-contact leaders are required to complete basic training in order for their units to recharter. Direct-contact leaders are: Cubmasters, Assistant Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Assistant Den Leaders, Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Leaders of 11-Year-Old Scouts, Varsity Coaches, Assistant Varsity Coaches, Crew Advisors, and Associate Crew Advisors.

To be fully trained and earn the Trained Leader emblem, a new leader must complete basic training in the following order:

- **Youth Protection Training:** New leaders are required to take Youth Protection training before submitting an application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time the application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins. Youth Protection Training must be completed every two years to remain current. Venturing Youth Protection is required for Venturing Leaders.
- **Leader Position-Specific Training:** Fully trained leaders changing leadership roles need to take the Leader Position-Specific Training for their new position.
- In addition, Boy Scout Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, and Varsity Coaches and Assistants must complete Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) Training through the district or council

Online Training



In addition to Youth Protection and other program-oriented courses offered through www.MyScouting.org, completing these five online training courses are a worthwhile way for any Scouter to improve their safety IQ.

Safe Swim Defense

All swimming activities in Scouting are required to follow the eight basic principles known collectively as the Safe Swim Defense plan. A unit that follows the plan can expect a safe, enjoyable aquatic experience. Safe Swim Defense is required for BSA tour permits.

Safety Afloat

All boating activities in Scouting are required to follow the nine basic principles of Safety Afloat. With an emphasis on accident prevention through proper preparation and skills, a unit that follows Safety Afloat can expect a safe, enjoyable activity. Safety Afloat is required for BSA tour permits for any trip afloat.

Climb On Safely

Climb On Safely covers eight key safety points about climbing and rappelling and is required training for at least one adult leader on any type of Scouting outing that involves climbing or rappelling.

Trek Safely

"Trek Safely" covers seven key safety points about trekking and is recommended for adult leaders organizing any type of trek.

Weather Hazards

Hazardous Weather training must be completed prior to requesting a tour permit from the BSA. The module presents safety precautions for eight different types of weather, as well as planning, preparation, and traditional weather signs.

Leave No Trace Trainer Course – BSA Outdoor Ethics



What is the purpose of this class? The Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout programs all include outdoor stewardship, care for the environment, and Leave No Trace as part of their programs. This course is offered to train adults and youth aged 14+ to serve their units and districts as Leave No Trace Trainers and as Outdoor Ethics Trainers. Every Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout unit should have at least one Leave No Trace/Outdoor Ethics Trainer. A Boy Scout must complete this course before he can serve in the Troop Leave No Trace Trainer position.

Who should attend? Venturers, Sea Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Boy Scouts aged 14+; adult Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout leaders; and District and Council leaders and trainers.

What will I learn? This course is designed to enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace practices and outdoor ethics, and to increase your level of expertise and confidence in teaching Leave No Trace skills. This class is both active and highly interactive. You will be introduced to concepts and methods that will advance your knowledge of Leave No Trace issues in both developed and high adventure environments, expand your repertoire of low-impact skills, and increase your effectiveness in teaching these important skills to others.

On completion of this course, participants will be registered as Leave No Trace Trainers with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics and with the BSA. Students will receive Leave No Trace teaching materials, a certificate of course completion, a Leave No Trace Trainer lapel pin, and a BSA Leave No Trace Trainer card.

This course is instructed by nationally designated Leave No Trace Master Educators and Trainers. Attendance for the entire duration of the training is required.

Location: Izaak Walton League, Germantown MD

Dates: October 10, 2014 (5 pm) to October 12 (10 am)

Cost: \$38, non-refundable, which includes fees and materials. Meals are not included.

Registration deadline for this course is September 26, 2014.

Registration is via the NCAC website.

(Campsite location, equipment list, and other course details will be emailed to participants upon registration. Each participant will have an assignment to prepare for the training.)

For additional information, please contact course director Paul Schimke at

paul@schimke.org or 301.906.0069

Cub Leader Pow Wow



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.

When is Pow Wow?

Pow Wow is Saturday, November 15, 2014. Doors open at 7:30 am. Walk-in registration and pre-registered pack pick-up starting at 8:00 am. Please, no early arrivals.

Opening Ceremony begins at 8:40 am. The first training session starts promptly at 9:00 am. Some courses are 50 minutes long, some are 90 minutes long, some are 2 hours long and some are all morning or afternoon. BALOO is an all day course. We'll stop along the trail for Lunch, which is provided at noon.

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. 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.

How Much Does Pow Wow Cost?

Last year pre-registration was \$35.

All courses have limited enrollment and many fill very quickly. Courses that reach maximum enrollment will not be available to be selected when you electronically pre-register or at walk-in registration. So register as soon as it is posted on this page!

What's Included for the Registration Fee?

Registration fee includes a day of training (as many as six courses, a patch, a Pow Wow CD, lunch, and as much Scout fellowship and spirit, and Cub Scout networking as you can take-in during the day!

LOL

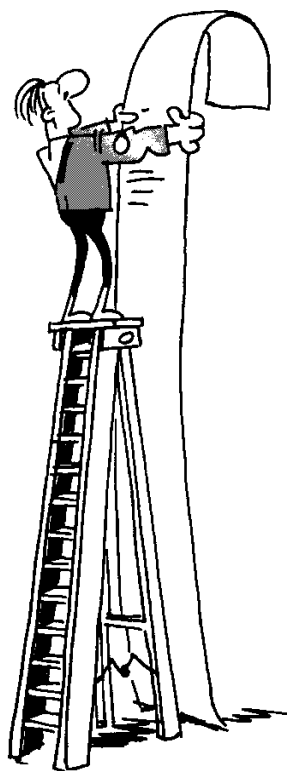


Are you a Wood Badger?

Some people have great difficulty in determining if they are a Wood Badger, the following should help.

- If you've ever been driving at 60 MPH and suddenly slammed on the brakes because you thought you saw a Patrol critter at a yard sale ...You Might Be A Wood Badger!
- If your babys' first words were, "Back to Gilwell" ...You Might Be A Wood Badger!
- If you list tin foil cooking as a skill on your resume...You Might Be A Wood Badger!

District Calendar



September 2014

- 1 Labor Day
- 2 First Day of School
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 17 Join Scouting Night
- 24 District Committee

October 2014

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 8 Commissioner RT
- 13 Columbus Day
- 18 **Training – Life to Eagle**
- 22 District Committee
- 25-26 **Webelos-o-ree**

November 2014

- 1 **Scouting for Food Bag Distribution**
- 3-4 Student Holiday
- 8 **Scouting for Food Bag Pickup**
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 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

January 2015

- 2 Winter Break Ends
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 20 MLK Jr. Day
- 28 District Committee
- 26 Moveable School Holiday
- 30 **Freeze-o-ree**

February 2015

- 1 **Freeze-o-ree**
- 1 Scout Sunday
- 7 Scout Sabbath
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 16 President's Day
- 25 District Committee

March 2015

- 5 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**
- 7 **District Pinewood Derby**
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 25 **District Court of Honor**
- 30 Spring Break Starts

April 2015

- 3 Spring Break Ends
- 6 Student Holiday
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 8 Commissioner RT
- 11 **Spring Camporee**
- 22 District Committee

May 2015

- 13 **Program Launch**
- 25 Memorial Day
- 27 District Committee

June 2015

- 6 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 16 Last Day of School
- 24 District Committee

July 2015

- 4 Independence Day

August 2015

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 26 District Committee