

# Goose Creek District Newsletter



January 2015

Volume 6, Issue 6

by Clarke Green on June 6, 2012, [www.scoutmastercg.com](http://www.scoutmastercg.com)



## Understanding Risky Behavior in Scouts – Part Two

Yesterday we looked at why otherwise intelligent Scouts sometimes make incredibly bad decisions (<http://wp.me/p1qBet-1Su>). We understand that this has a lot to do with their developing brains.

### How do we help them?

Asking adolescents to contemplate trade-offs between risks and benefits is ineffective because their decision making capabilities are underdeveloped. Stating the facts not only won't help but may make them even less able to make good decisions because their decision making is skewed towards overestimating the benefits of an action. What seems rational and well reasoned to us does not have the same effect on them. Experience is a poor teacher for children and younger adolescents who tend to learn little from negative results.

Here are five things we can do to help our Scouts manage risk:

- Risks have less appeal if Scouts see direct benefit from alternative, safer courses of action.
- Promote positive images of healthy behaviors and negative images of unhealthy ones.
- Help them build confidence to recognize and reject risky behavior and to remove themselves from risky situations.
- Monitoring and supervision limit exposure to risky situations.
- Occupy their time with positive activities.

Rules and regulations for punishment (the most extreme example being 'zero tolerance' policies) prevent us from dealing with incidents on an individual basis. Remember, too, that Scouts are much more motivated by the promise of rewards than they are discouraged by the threat of punishment. I have never seen much use in troops establishing codes of conduct or disciplinary rules and regulations. We have the Scout oath and law as our code and we must deal with Scouts individually based on their understanding of this code.

### Special Interest:

#### District

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#### Advancement

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#### Council/National

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- Camp Card – pg 11
- Dremel & Lowe's Pinewood Derby Days - pg 11
- Chess Tournament – pg 12

#### Training

- Univ. of Scouting – pg 17

### Quick Calendar:

- Jan 3 – OA Lodge Banquet
- Jan 14 – Roundtable
- Jan 30 – Freeze-o-ree
- Feb 1 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 7 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 11 – Roundtable
- Mar 5 – AOL Recognition Ceremony
- Mar 7 – District PWD
- Mar 11 – Roundtable
- Mar 25 – District COH

### Newsletter Key:

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

## District News

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

### District Committee



At the Annual District Business meeting on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> the Chartered Organization Representatives voted in the following Scouters to the Goose Creek Committee:

**District Chairman** – Lynn Chapman

**District Commissioner** – Kurt Struder

**Vice-Chair Communications** – Chuck Burkett

**Vice-Chair Finance** – Stacey Noll

**Vice-Chair Membership** – Donna Stuck

**Vice-Chair Program** – John Blackwell

Please join us in thanking Priscilla Martinez, our outgoing District Chairman for her time, energy, and enthusiasm she invested in our District as our Chairman over these last two years. Going forward she can be reached at [priscillamtz@gmail.com](mailto:priscillamtz@gmail.com).

Also at the same time, please take a moment to welcome Lynn Chapman as our new District Chairman. Going forward he can be reached at [chairman@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:chairman@goosecreekdistrict.org).

Lynn is a long time resident of Loudoun County having moved to the county in late 1992. He and his wife have 7 children and 20 grandchildren. Lynn's professional background is in technology and telecommunications where he started out as a young engineer working in the fiber optics industry. He has served in management positions in several telecommunications firms. Lynn holds a graduate degree in Public Policy and has been active in a number of community organizations. He previously served on the LDS Relationships Committee here in the National Capital Area Council and is currently completing staff assignments as Troop Guide for participants in two recent Wood Badge courses.

### Freeze-o-ree



Goose Creek's premier outdoor winter event – the annual Freeze-o-ree - will be held January 30 – February 1. 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 in 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



The 2015 Goose Creek District Championship Pinewood Derby as presented by Legacy Orthodontics and hosted by Venture Crew 7070, with returning sponsors Chic-fil-A, Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles and Appalachian Outdoor Readiness & Essentials, will take place on March 7, 2015.

All participating scouts at this championship event will receive an event patch and a Chic-fil-A coupon redeemable for a free 4-piece chicken meal at the Leesburg location. The top three rank and overall winners will receive trophies. In addition, they will receive prizes provided by Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles.

This year, the event will be open to all Unit Event Rank Winners placing 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup>, in all ranks including Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelo 1 and Webelo 2. (up to 25 scouts per unit)

Returning again this year will be the "Cow Cub" race before the finals. This race is open to all Cub Scout age siblings, or younger, of entrants.

Car Design and Construction Rules are posted on the Goose Creek website (rules are the same as last year).

On-line registrations will open soon. Watch for future updates and emails. Any questions can be directed to Steve Wolfson at [stevewolfson@verizon.net](mailto:stevewolfson@verizon.net)

Unit Pinewood Derby Coordinators: Please forward your unit results to [communications@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:communications@goosecreekdistrict.org), or [stevewolfson@verizon.net](mailto:stevewolfson@verizon.net) to get them posted on the Goose Creek website.

Don't forget to thank the young men and women of Venture Crew 7070 for again hosting this fantastic event and please visit our sponsoring Loudoun County businesses for the support they are giving to the Goose Creek Boy Scouts of America.

## 2104 Tolbert Environment Achievement Award



Cub Scout Pack 982 was the recipient of the 2104 Tolbert Environment Achievement Award for their sustained effort over the years leading cleanups for the Keep Leesburg Beautiful campaign, the Leesburg Environmental Advisory Commission announced.

The award recognizes students, community groups and individuals that conduct or participate in activities that benefit the town's environment.

Over the past several years, the Pack leadership has organized hundreds of Scout volunteer hours, by making sure individuals are registered, that they understand safety precautions, and that they have the bags and gloves to complete their litter pick-up along Leesburg roads.

## Loudoun School Calendar 2015-2016



Loudoun County Public School Board members set the 2015-2016 school calendar at their Dec. 2 Board meeting. This calendar puts the first day of school on Aug. 31 and the final day on June 14 and makes for a longer winter break, going from Dec. 21 to Jan 1.

- August 31: First Day of School
- September 7: Holiday (Labor Day)
- October 12: Holiday (Columbus Day)
- October 30: End of the Grading Period
- November 2-3: Student Holidays (Planning/Records/Conference Days)
- November 25-27: Holiday (Thanksgiving)
- December 21-January 1: Winter Break (Classes Resume January 4)
- January 18: Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- January 28: End of Grading Period
- January 29: Moveable Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
- February 15: Holiday (Presidents' Day)
- March 21-25: Holiday (Spring Break)
- April 14: End of Grading Period
- April 15: Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)
- May 30: Holiday (Memorial Day)
- June 14: Last Day of School/End of Grading Period

## 2015 Resource Guide



With 11 issues a year our newsletter covers a lot of topics and though many of them are related to specific events, a number of them have no expiration date (such as how to do Eagle letters). So at the beginning of each year we compile a Resource Guide of these and organize them by categories, such as Advancement, Camping, Cooking, etc. This way people can quickly find things without having to work their way through previous newsletters and they also get to see articles from before they joined our Scouting Family.

The 2015 Resource Guide is now ready and can be downloaded, after January 5, from the District website from the Newsletter section. It's about 140 pages and about 5MB in size. We've also added sub-categories this year. For example, while there is a section for Advancement, it is also broken down by Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Merit Badges, and Eagle



## “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 Scouts elected. The adults have the same camping requirements as the youth.

To schedule an election, the Scoutmaster must email our Vice Chief, Tyler Wintermute, at [TheKnotmaster@gmail.com](mailto:TheKnotmaster@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 we will email you. You **must** use the OA forms that are sent. National will no longer accept anything from TroopMaster or troop forms used in previous years. Please make sure to have the forms filled out completely before the election team arrives and that you have checked with the Scouts to ensure that they want to join the OA. 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 – Tyler Wintermute, or our Chapter Advisor – 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.

### Annual Dues - 2015



Arrowmen, it is that time of the year again - annual dues are due. Those that have been in the Order for a while, as well as those that did their Ordeal in the spring, need to go to the Lodge web site [www.ncacbsa.org/oa](http://www.ncacbsa.org/oa) and click on the link and follow the direction under the renew your Lodge membership for 2015. Please note the option to buy a passport and have your fees also paid for the Annual Banquet, Spring and Fall Fellowship, and get a neat patch as well. Remember, you have to be registered with a unit (pack, troop, crew or team) or District in order to be considered an active member - even if you pay your dues. Those that did their Ordeal in the fall have paid their dues for this year, but are still eligible to buy the passport as well.



#### Murphy's Laws of Camping

- Any stone in a hiking boot migrates to the point of maximum pressure.
- The number of mosquitoes at any given location is inversely proportional to the amount of repellent that remains.
- In a mummy bag the urgency of one's need to urinate is inversely proportional to the amount of clothing worn. It is also inversely proportional to the temperature and the degree to which the mummy bag is completely zipped up.

## “Onward and Upward”

### On the Advancement Trail

#### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

**Daniel Christman** - Troop 982

**Daniel Thomas Eisert** - Troop 998

**Henry Feil** - Troop 2950

**Benjamin Joseph Fuhrman** - Troop 1910

**Karan Hirani** - Troop 2970

**Harrison G Huggins** - Troop 982

**Josh Jovene** - Troop 969

**Pranava Komaragiri** - Troop 2970

**Andrew C Nicholson** - Troop 950

**Thomas Zachary Shively** - Troop 2970

#### Read This Sample Dialogue with a Life Scout about Eagle Project Ideas



For many young men, the Eagle Scout Service Project is the toughest part of the journey to Eagle. And the first hurdle of this process is coming up with an idea.

This is when a Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster or Eagle coordinator is asked: “What’s a good Eagle project?”

Marc Dworkin wants to help you. Dworkin is, among other Scouting roles, Eagle coordinator for a troop in New Jersey. He’s written a sample dialogue between himself and a Life Scout looking for Eagle project ideas:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/12/12/read-sample-dialogue-life-scout-eagle-project-ideas/>

As Dworkin proves, this is more than just a 15-second conversation. And the best Scouters do more than simply send the Scout to search for ideas on Google.

#### My Project Finder — A Handy Tool



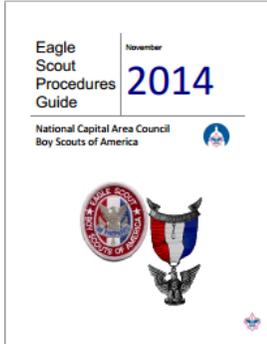
Dave Harkins, who works for the BSA’s National Supply Group, created a Web site to help boys and girls come up with ideas for Eagle Scout or Venturing Gold Award projects.

The site, which was one of Dave’s Wood Badge ticket items, is a “decision tree” that lets users answer two or three simple questions about their interests and passions.

Once they do that, the site suggests several potential project ideas.

It’s a great resource, and it’s available for free at [www.MyProjectfinder.com/](http://www.MyProjectfinder.com/). Check it out!

Updated NCAC Eagle Scout Procedures Guide (ESPG)



As you have heard/known before, the NCAC has a lengthy document known as the *Eagle Scout Procedures Guide* (ESPG). The ESGP has been around for quite some time, but was significantly revamped after National released the initial *Guide to Advancement* (GTA) in 2011. Its purpose however has not changed; to clarify how our Council **implements** the guidelines specific to the Life-to-Eagle process.

Recently, BSA National took a particular interest in our document and suggested some recommended changes to the document. The October 2014 update to the ESGP has now been published and is available at ...

[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)

Please recall, that while available to anyone and loaded with very helpful information for the Eagle candidate himself, the ESGP is primarily targeted for/to Life-to-Eagle coordinators (district & unit) and the unit-level leaders mentoring the Eagle Candidates. By having those people properly familiar with the ESGP and how it implements National's guidelines relative to the Life-to-Eagle process, better counsel can be provided to the boys themselves.

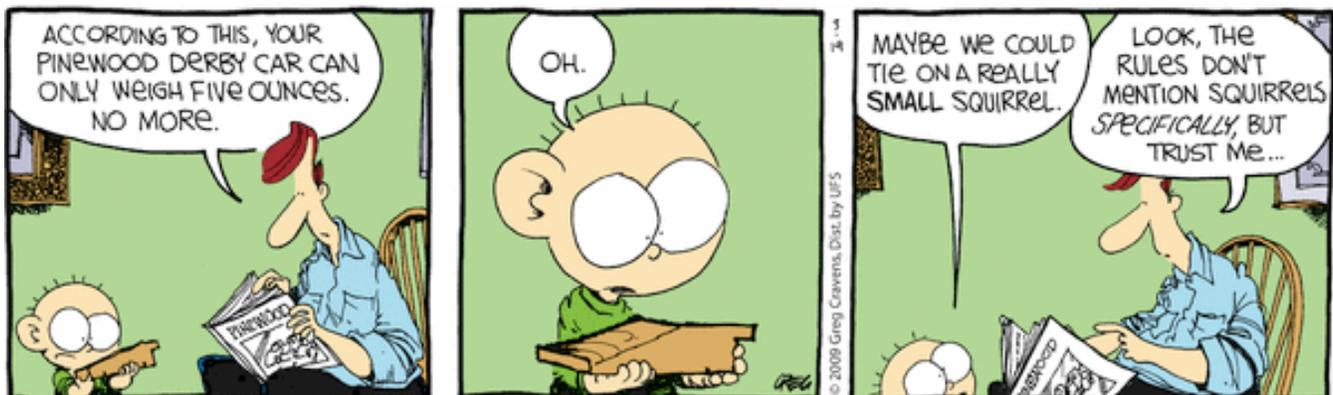
Life-to-Eagle Seminar (Training)



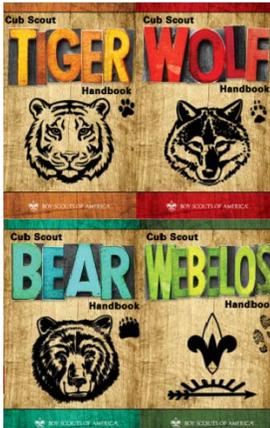
The next installment of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek is coming soon. These training conferences are primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level – but are by no means limited to same. Life Scouts and their parents are encouraged to attend. The 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: March 21, June 20, and Sept 19; all locations and times are TBD.

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.



## Webcasts Will Help Prepare You for the New Cub Scout Program



Hey, did you hear there's a new Cub Scout program launching June 1, 2015? If so, you know it'll be more exciting for boys and easier to implement for unit leaders. But you probably still have questions about how it'll work. There's good news: You can get many of those questions answered by watching a special webcast on Jan. 17.

The webcasts will cover the coming changes, how to prepare and when resources will be available. Sessions are position-specific, but anyone in any role who has an interest in the new Cub Scout program is welcome to attend. No login or special registration is required. Just click the link below at the times listed, and you're all set. If you can't make any of these sessions, don't worry. They'll be recorded for later viewing.

Here's the schedule:

### Cubmaster Webcasts

- 8 a.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17, or
- 3 p.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17

### Den Leader Webcasts

- 9:30 a.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17, or
- 4:30 p.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17

### LDS-Specific Considerations\*

- 11 a.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17, or
- 6 p.m. (Central) Saturday, Jan. 17

\* It is recommended that those interested in the LDS session view one of the role-specific sessions first.

Where to view the webcasts: [www.livestream.com/BSANationalCouncil](http://www.livestream.com/BSANationalCouncil) . (No login is required.)

## A Critical Reminder on Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA) Approvals

 A screenshot of the Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA) form. The form is titled 'EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION' and includes various sections for personal information, project details, and signatures. It features a grid for project completion and a section for council and district approvals.

Before an Eagle Board of Review can be held/scheduled, the ESRA must be approved by Council; that has always been the case. In 2012 however – due to the exorbitantly large number of council-level rejections – an addition was made to the ESPG, requiring a district level pre-validation before the ESRA is sent to council.

Recently, there has been an anomalously large number of cases where Goose Creek units have sent the ESRA for council approval without first securing the pre-validation from the Scout's Eagle Adviser. Any of the Eagle Advisers on Goose Creek's Advancements Committee can provide that validation, but it's usually easiest for the Scout to simply go back to the same district Eagle Adviser who approved his project proposal.

Please remember to work with your district Eagle Adviser to secure his/her pre-validation of the ESRA, and spare yourself – and the Scout – the frustration and angst of a rejected ESRA. Reminders of how to complete the ESRA can be found on pages 41-43 of the newly-released ESPG. Information on the pre-validation process are on pages 46-47.

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

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

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)

## Council / National News

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

### Enlist and Be Heard: The Scouting Research Panels are Recruiting



Ever wonder who signs off on major changes to Scouting, like the revamped Cub Scout program coming next year? It's you. Well, it could be.

The BSA's Testing and Evaluation Team wants you to join the Scouting Research Panels. As a member, your opinion will be solicited about new programs or proposed changes to existing Scouting programs.

You'll get surveys — no more than three a year — that will help determine the future of Scouting. You'll be asked about new merit badges, updated rank requirements or other major changes to the Boy Scouts of America.

The panel is open to all current Cub Scout parents, Boy Scout parents, Boy Scout and Venturing youth members, and registered volunteers (Scouters in any BSA program).

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

Want your voice to be heard? Have your membership card ready, and go here to sign up: [www.scouting.org/about/research/ResearchPanel.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/about/research/ResearchPanel.aspx)

### Boys' Life wins Adweek Readers' Choice award for Hottest Kids/Teen Magazine



The people have spoken, and their message is clear: *Boys' Life* magazine is hot.

The BSA's official youth magazine, which covers everything in a boy's life, was selected by readers as the Hottest Kids/Teen Magazine of 2014, according to poll results revealed by Adweek.

Editors at Adweek, a well-known advertising trade publication, initially selected six finalists as Hottest Kids/Teen Magazine of 2014: *Boys' Life*, *J-14*, *Seventeen*, *Sports Illustrated Kids*, *Teen Vogue* and *National Geographic Kids*.

Next they put it to a vote to let readers decide their favorite. Thanks to strong support from BL readers, *Boys' Life* survived the cut from six magazines to three. In the finals, BL went against *Seventeen* and *National Geographic Kids* — two well-known titles.

The race was close throughout, but the final tally looked like this:

1. *Boys' Life*: 30.6 percent
2. *National Geographic Kids*: 25.2 percent
3. *Seventeen*: 23.5 percent

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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)

## Eagles' Call Seeks Photos Taken by Eagle Scouts



Eagle Scouts: Want to see one of your recent Scouting photos in print? The honor could be yours thanks to a page in *Eagles' Call* magazine.

The "Closing Shot" feature highlights one lucky photographer's work in the glossy-paged magazine. And because *Eagles' Call* is only published four times a year, they select only a handful of the best images for this honor.

They are looking for photos taken by an Eagle Scout that depict the "essence of Scouting." What does that mean? Every Scout defines this differently, but it could be a photo from a recent Scouting event, a landscape that reminds you of a long-ago Scouting trip and much more.

If you have a photo you'd like them to consider, please send it to [eaglescoutmag@scouting.org](mailto:eaglescoutmag@scouting.org). It helps to include your contact information and some details about the photo, such as where and when it was taken and why it's meaningful to you. (Please keep files under 2MB.) They will contact you if your image is selected for their "Closing Shot" page.

Questions? Send them to the email address above.

## Goshen Camp Staff



Every year, the seven camps and programs which make up the Goshen Scout Reservation employ close to 250 highly motivated individuals to participate in the experience of a lifetime. If you are 14 years of age or older by this summer, you could be a part of something huge!

Interviews for 2015 summer staff will take place on January 3th and 10th. The location will be the Marriott Scout Service Center (9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814). Interviews will be held between 12PM and 3PM. An appointment is necessary and can be made by emailing Gary Carroll at [Gary.Carroll@Scouting.org](mailto:Gary.Carroll@Scouting.org).

Staff must be able to work from June 13 until August 5, 2015.

For application forms and job descriptions go to: [http://ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/group\\_content\\_view.asp?group=119323&id=282490](http://ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/group_content_view.asp?group=119323&id=282490)

## Download these Cub Scout Smartphone Backgrounds



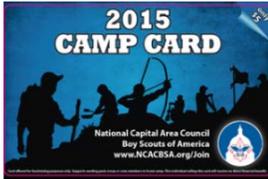
Cub Scout Spirit is alive and well, but until now that's been limited to T-shirts, bumper stickers and Facebook profile photos. Not anymore.

Six new Cub Scout smartphone backgrounds let you display your Cub Scout pride on your iPhone, Android phone or Windows phone.

Visit <http://cubscouts.org/smart-phone-backgrounds/> on the Cub Hub to download your favorite background and set it as your smartphone's lock screen, background or wallpaper. They'll work on any smartphone, including iOS, Android, Windows Phone and Blackberry devices.

The free smartphone backgrounds tell others that Cub Scouting is always with you — just like your smartphone itself!

## 2015 Camp Card - Helping Scouts Earn their way to Camp!

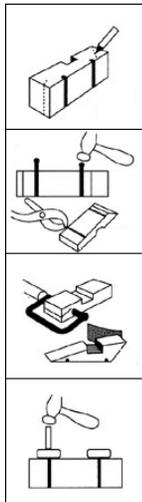


National Capital Area Council is pleased to announce the "Camp Card" fundraising program. People who buy the card for \$5 from Scouts get recurring discounts from SportClips, Sports Authority (online), JiffyLube, CiCi's Pizza, Washington Nationals, Domino's, Harris Teeter (\$5 off per \$50 purchase), and Menchie's (frozen yogurt).

This initiative is designed to help Scouts earn their way to Summer Camp and Day Camp. Units participating in the 2015 program will earn up to 50% commission, (\$2.50) on each \$5 Camp Card they sell. The 50% commission is contingent on closing the settlement account no later than April 1st. Mid March will be an opportunity to turn in money and get more cards, or turn in cards. The Camp Cards will be distributed after February 1st at February Roundtables or at the Scout Office. The sale will end on April 1st, but it may extend based on results and available cards. This program is RISK FREE, simply return any unsold cards. Lost cards are assumed as sold and charged the \$2.50 rate.

To Sign up and for a bit more information, visit: [www.NCACBSA.org/CampCard](http://www.NCACBSA.org/CampCard)

## Dremel and Lowe's Pinewood Derby Days



The 2015 Dremel Pinewood Derby Days Program, brought to you through Lowe's Home Improvement Stores, aims to provide you with a source for all of the materials and know-how you need to create a winning Pinewood Derby car you can be proud of – regardless of your skill level.

Starting in mid-January and running through mid-February, local Lowe's stores will be hosting Pinewood Derby® car clinics to share their tips and tricks for making the fastest cars on race day.

Everyone who attends an event will be given a:

- How-to demonstration
- Step-by-step instructions for building your car at home
- Pinewood Derby® Days patch
- 10% off Dremel coupon, which can be applied to your entire Dremel purchase (tools, accessories and attachments)

Please see below for dates (all demos are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.) of all the clinics & give your store a call prior to attending an event to verify one is taking place.

- Jan 17
- Jan 31
- Feb 7
- Feb 21

**Important!!!** Before building your car make sure you check your Pack's construction rules. If your car is to race in the District derby then it must also follow the District's Derby Construction rules posted on the district website.

## Kids to Parks Day



In Scouting, we'll take any excuse to get outside and explore neighborhood parks. There's a wealth of science, history, nature and adventure right around the corner or just across town.

That's why the Boy Scouts of America is encouraging you to mark your Scout calendars for the next Kids to Parks Day: Saturday, May 16, 2015.

The BSA — along with the National Park Service, NFL Players Association, American Hiking Society and others — is a prominent collaborator on Kids to Parks Day, organized by National Park Trust.

Getting involved in "America's national day of play" is easy. Just head to a park with your Scouts, and have fun! You can even register your event on the National Park Trust website (<http://parktrust.org/kidstoparks/national-kids-to-parks-day>) to be a part of this massive movement.

## Akela Chess Classic Cub Scout Chess Tournament



The Akela Chess Classic is a five-round touch-move chess tournament. There are two competitive brackets: Tiger/Wolf and Bear/Webelos.

**When:** 2/7/2015, 8AM-4PM

**Where:** Trinity Presbyterian Church  
651 Dranesville Road  
Herndon, Virginia 20170  
United States

**Fee:** \$15 per scout. Includes: Participation patch, rocker patch, and engraved awards for top finishers.

**Schedule:** Check-in starts at 8 AM. Rounds are at 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM, and 2 PM. Bring your own lunch; lunch is 12-1. The award ceremony is at 3:30 PM.

Any Tiger, Cub Scout, or Webelos Scout with a clear understanding of the rules of chess may participate. Participating scouts must know the basic rules of chess:

- how the pieces move
- the object of the game
- and castling rules,
- and should be mature enough to handle victory and defeat.

No instruction on the basic rules of chess will be given as part of the tournament. A brief description of the tournament rules will be explained before the start of the tournament. These include touch move - if a piece is touched it must be moved.

Scouts should wear uniforms and bring a bag lunch.

Chess board and pieces will be provided.

Please contact either: Roger Claff, [reclaff@aol.com](mailto:reclaff@aol.com), or Peter Snow, [chessacademician@aol.com](mailto:chessacademician@aol.com), if you plan to attend, would like to volunteer or need additional information.

## James E. West Hike Registration Now Open



The History of Scouting Trail (HOST) has gone national: registration is now open for the 2015 James E. West Hike. As the last installment of the HOST hikes, this hike will kickoff on Memorial Day weekend, May 23-25, 2015, with the special inaugural launch on Saturday, for the oldest troops in the council.

Don't miss your opportunity to hike alongside Scouts from around the country, learning about Native American culture as the Order of the Arrow History celebrates its 100th anniversary and more. Visit [www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\\_content\\_view.asp?group=125566&id=298522](http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=125566&id=298522) to register today.

## Virginia Boy Scout License Plate



State Delegate Randy Minchew of Loudoun County is sponsoring a bill in the 2015 General Assembly to authorize a Scouting license plate.

In order for it to make it through this session, he has a deadline of January 15 to have 450 pre-paid applications. As of 11/19/2014 we have 94 pre-paid on file.

Sign up for a license plate ASAP:

1. Have your vehicle's VIN and Title # ready.
2. Complete and sign the DMV application at this link: <http://scoutingvirginia.doubleknot.com/document/license-plate-dmv-application/143940> Payment of \$10 or \$20 (personalized plate) is due with submittal of application. Mail the form with check to: Heart of Virginia Council, P.O. Box 6809, Richmond VA 23230.
3. To pay online, go to <http://scoutingvirginia.doubleknot.com/event/virginia-scouting-license-plate/1635649>. Then email signed application to [Robin.rush@scouting.org](mailto:Robin.rush@scouting.org) or mail signed application to above address.

## Tips for Deducting Scouting-Related Expenses on Your Income Tax Return



When Baden-Powell said "Be Prepared," We're pretty sure he wasn't talking about income tax returns.

But still, there's no better advice than that two-word phrase during tax time.

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

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

If you don't know the answers to those questions then you might want to check out Bryan On Scouting article about what is and is not deductible and for some helpful tips from others on how to keep everything organized:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2011/03/03/tax-time/>

## Sign Up for 2016 Florida Sea Base Lottery



The lottery for 2016 trips is open from Jan. 15 to Feb. 16, 2015. A few facts to keep in mind while preparing for Sea Base's lottery for 2016 trips are:

- You don't improve your chances in the lottery by entering right when the window opens. Any entries received during the month long opening count the same.
- You do improve your chances in the lottery if you're flexible in two areas: the type of adventure you want to take and the dates you're available to go. Of course, don't put down any dates you aren't actually available (check those school calendars now).
- Access to the Sea Base lottery is through the Sea Base website, <http://bsaseabase.org/>.
- A Scout unit must create an account to access the reservation site. If the unit already has an account, another one cannot be created.
- You can prioritize your requests to increase the chances that you'll get one of your top choices. Requests can be added, deleted or reprioritized as much as you want during the lottery period.
- Units will be notified of the lottery results by March 1, 2015. At that point, you'll have 30 days to send a \$100-per-person deposit to secure your spot.
- After that, all remaining vacancies will be made available on the reservation site on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more registration tips (and at least one pirate-themed joke), check out Capt. Billy's FAQs: <https://scoutnet.scouting.org/seabase/popup/popHelp.aspx>

For a brochure about Sea Base see [www.bsaseabase.org/filestore/seabase/pdf/FSBBrochure.pdf](http://www.bsaseabase.org/filestore/seabase/pdf/FSBBrochure.pdf)

## Bill of Rights Institute Essay Contest



The Boy Scouts of America, the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence form a terrific trio.

So it's no surprise, really, that the nonprofit Bill of Rights Institute holds an essay contest each year that's just for Scouts. Well, and former Scouts.

Current and former Scouts, age 14 to 19, can write a short essay (800 words or fewer) for a chance to win \$1,000 for themselves and \$500 for their Scout unit.

**Who's eligible:** The contest is open to U.S. citizens or legal residents who are current or former Boy Scouts at least 14 years old but no older than 19.

**How to enter:** Answer one short essay question on the ideas of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

**Deadline:** Jan. 30, 2015

**Prizes:** The Bill of Rights Institute will award three prizes:

- One Grand Prize: \$1,000 for the Scout and \$500 for his Scout unit
- Two Honorable Mentions: \$500 for the Scout and \$250 for his Scout unit

Apply online and get more details: <http://billofrightsinstitute.org/programs-events/students-programs-events/boyscout/>

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

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

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)

## NCAC 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Scout Orienteering Meet



NCAC's annual Scout Orienteering Meet will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. It will be held at Prince William Forest in Dumfries, VA. For information about this event contact James Chaplin, [jhchaplin@comcast.net](mailto:jhchaplin@comcast.net), (703) 380-9631

## On-Line Resource of the Month

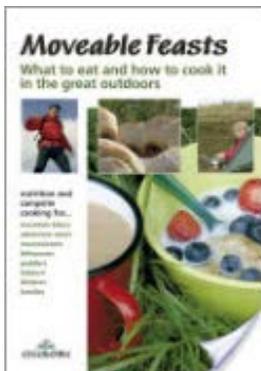


*The Wirecutter* (<http://thewirecutter.com>) is a listing of the best gadgets—like cameras and TVs—for people who don't want to take a lot of time figuring out what to get. Most gear they choose isn't top-of-the-line models that are loaded up with junk features or overpriced; most of the ones picked are of the "great enough" variety, because this is generally where people's needs and the right prices smash into each other. They reference all the data they can find from their work and from around the web and build tests using whatever it takes to raise the bar on the subject, often employing engineers, physicists, chemists and other experts to work in a team.

Though *The Wirecutter* covers a number of categories including electronics, music, and cars they also have an Outdoor category appropriate to those looking for camping gear and accessories.

## Books

### Moveable Feasts: What to Eat and How to Cook it in the Great Outdoors



Moveable Feasts: What to eat and how to cook it in the great outdoors is a unique guidebook to optimal nutrition and camp cooking for anyone who wants to cook or eat outdoors. So whether you're a seasoned mountaineer, backpacker, paddler, mountain biker, adventure racer or completely new to the outdoor life; whether you're camping on an official site or in the wild; whether you're competing, hanging out with mates, or exploring with the family, there's something here for you.

Presented in two parts, Moveable Feasts is all you need to plan your catering for your next camping trip, whatever your camping style.

Part one is crammed with practical advice in 10 chapters on topics such as: nutrition, camp cooking equipment, water storage and treatment, camp larder basics, packing, storing and transporting food, running your camp kitchen, camping with children and sourcing wild and seasonal foods.

Part two describes nearly a hundred easy-to-follow recipes for nutritious, mouth-watering camp meals - snacks, main meals, puddings, cakes and drinks - that will fuel you well into the next day's action. And there's an index to help you find the high-energy, lightweight, child-friendly, vegetarian, prepare-at-home or super-quick recipe options.

Paperback for around \$19. No reviews yet on Amazon yet.

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

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

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)

## Equipment / Gear

### Stoves? What you can use.



Excerpted from The Scoutmaster Minute, <http://thescoutmasterminute.net/2014/12/09/stoves-what-you-can-use/>

As with many other things in Scouting, some “rules” get made up as they go. Cell Phones? NO.. No electronics on Scouting Outings. Not written down anywhere from the BSA, but ask many Scouters and they will proclaim this as gospel.

Knives, same thing. Throw that subject out at a Round Table and you will get 50 different “policies” on what can and can not be used.

So, lets talk about stoves.

The official BSA policy is simple. As long as you did not make it, you can use it.

You can use alcohol, as long as you use denatured alcohol. You can use White gas, Diesel, kerosene, and solid fuel like the Esbit fuel tabs.

You can not make a pop can stove. In fact the policy says you can’t make your own stove period.

Fuels are to be used as intended and carried in a fuel container that is designed for that purpose. For example, if you are using Denatured Alcohol, you need to carry it in a fuel bottle. Putting your fuel in an old pop bottle or generic bottle is not authorized.

So the myth of Alcohol stoves being banned is just that.. a myth.

The myth that you can not use wood stoves.. just that... a myth.

Liquid fuel stoves too dangerous for Scouts and therefore banned.. a myth.

Allow the Scouts to seek adventure and try new things. When it comes to stoves, really there are not many restrictions other than making your own.

Here is what it comes down to. Training. You teach the Scout to use the Coleman two burner stove right? Then teach him to use an alcohol stove properly.

Teach him to use his MSR pocket rocket or Dragon fly the right way and it will serve it’s purpose without anyone getting hurt.

When the Scout is properly trained and trusted, he will do the right thing and have fun in his outdoor experience.

Technology and research have produced some really cool stoves. Let them try it.

## Training Opportunities

### University of Scouting



**When:** February 28, 2015

**Where:** Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Rd, Alexandria VA

Purpose of the 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.

- The College of Cub Scouting Science provides a wide variety of courses from pack administration to planning for an outdoor program.
- The College of Boy Scouting Science provides an exciting variety of troop, patrol and outdoor planning supplemental courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience.
- The College of Adventure Scouting Science is an interesting combination of courses for those who wish to learn more about Scouting's "senior" level programs and the challenges of an active high adventure experience.
- The College of Elective Programs offers many "general studies courses" that cut across all the programs. Just about everything from diversity and special needs to using technology can be found in the Elective Programs.

Standalone Courses are those that are BSA national syllabus courses such as BALOO, VLSC(Y), VLSC(A), VCLST, or are courses that lead to certification recognized and/or needed by the BSA. Note that standalone courses do not meet any degree requirements in any College.

**To register:** call Margee Egan, 301-214-9197 (NCAC Service Center)

### Religious Emblems Orientation & Training



**When:** March 14, 2015: 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Lunch provided.

**Where:** Groveton Baptist Church, 6511 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA

**Cost:** \$20 per participant.

Announcing an orientation and training course for adult leaders interested in using the the God and Country/PRAY Awards Program with their unit. This training covers the awards, responsibilities of program leaders and counselors, and an overview of the Religious Emblems Coordinator position. Participants will get a bunch of resources to use with their units!

To register: [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/Files/2015\\_God\\_&\\_Country\\_training\\_.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/Files/2015_God_&_Country_training_.pdf)

## Wood Badge



Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters, in all leadership positions for the BSA. The Wood Badge course incorporates the traditions of over 80 years of Wood Badge, while adding the management and leadership training necessary to become a successful leader in the 21st Century.

Wood Badge is more than a classroom; it's entertaining, fun games, hands-on projects, team building, and inspirational events. You will come away with an appreciation of Scouting's heritage, as well as a vision of the role you will play in its future, and the impact you will make on the youth in your own unit, the district and our council. Participation in this course will provide skills to help you achieve success in other aspects of your life or in your career! The course starts with a 2-weekend, fun-filled practical training period where the Scouter lives as a member of a team progressing through Scouting, and learning the skills of leadership. The outdoor experience is followed by a period of up to eighteen months during which the Scouter applies the skills learned during the practical experience in his or her Scouting position – at the unit, district, or council level. Through this period, each Scouter is assigned a counselor who acts as a resource, evaluator, and Scouting mentor to assist the participant in putting into action those points discussed during the course. This is demonstrated by the process known as “working your ticket.”

### **Prerequisite Training for Wood Badge:**

Complete the basic training courses for your primary Scouting position. Cub Leaders must have completed New Leader Essentials and the position specific training for their position. Boy Scout and Varsity leaders must have completed New Leader Essentials, their position specific training as well as Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Venture advisors must complete New Leader Essentials, their position specific training and Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills. Other unit, district, and council leaders must complete New Leader Essentials, plus their position specific training.

### **Spring 2015:**

Session 1: March 20-22, 2015

Session 2: April 17-19, 2015

### **Summer 2015 (Sunday Friendly):**

Session 1: April 30-May 2, 2015

Session 2: May 28-30, 2015

### **Fall 2015:**

Session 1: September 11-3, 2015

Session 2: October 10-12, 2015

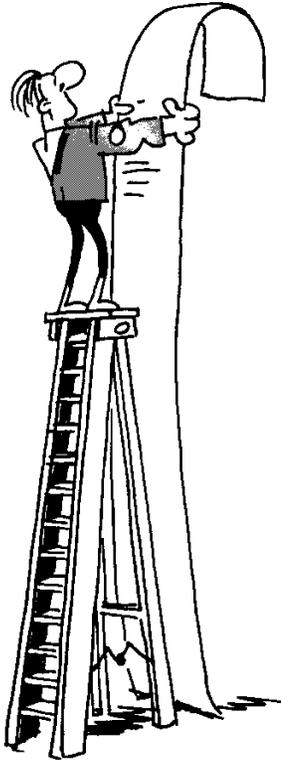
**Location:** Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

**Cost:** Total cost for Spring & Fall courses is \$300.00 (participants sleep in tents). All registration fees are due at NCAC 30 days prior to the start of each course.

**For more Information:** check Programs → Training on the Council website

**To register:** call Margee Egan, 301-214-9197 (NCAC Service Center)

## District Calendar



### January 2015

- 2 Winter Break Ends
- 3 OA Lodge Banquet
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 20 MLK Jr. Day
- 28 District Committee
- 26 Moveable School Holiday
- 30,31 **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
- 21 **Life-to-Eagle Seminar**
- 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
- 10-12 **Spring Camporee**
- 22 District Committee

### May 2015

- 1-3 **OA Spring Ordeal (TBD)**
- 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
- 20 **Life-to-Eagle Seminar**
- 22-26 **Day Camp**
- 24 District Committee

### July 2015

- 4 Independence Day

### August 2015

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 26 District Committee
- 31 School Starts

### September 2015

- 7 Labor Day
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 19 **Life-to-Eagle Seminar**
- 23 District Committee

### October 2015

- 3-4 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 12 Columbus Day
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 28 District Committee

### November 2015

- 2-3 Student Holiday
- 7 **SFF Bag Distribution**
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 14 **SFF Food Pickup**
- 18 District Committee
- 25-27 Student Holiday

### December 2015

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 16 **Annual District Business Meeting**
- 21 Winter Break Starts