



### Special Interest:

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#### Council/National

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

#### Training

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### Quick Calendar:

- Feb 8 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 11 – Roundtable
- Feb 14 – Scout Sabbath
- Mar 5 – AOL Recognition Ceremony
- Mar 7 – District PWD
- Mar 11 – Roundtable
- Mar 21 – Life to Eagle Seminar
- Mar 25 – District COH
- Apr 8 – Roundtable
- Apr 10-12 - Camporee
- Apr 24-26 – OA Ordeal

### Newsletter Key:

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

# Goose Creek District Newsletter



February 2015

Volume 6, Issue 7

*Posted June 30, 2014 in Bobwhite Blather*



## Placing Process Before Results

A smooth-running troop is the dream of every Scoutmaster. Every Scout doing what he should do, youth leaders firmly in charge, and the senior patrol leader taking direction from the Scoutmaster and leading the other youth.

Most troops don't fit that image, however. Patrols seem to vary from adequately prepared to barely functioning. It can be frustrating for a Scoutmaster to not see the Scouts getting anything done.

The same can apply to the troop committee. You see committee members not doing things the way you'd do them. You're tempted to micromanage or just do things yourself.

When this happens, it's time to step back and understand the real aim and the best approach to let the process take its course, rather than trying to fret about the end result.

The explanation of the process of Scouting being more important than the results has been discussed by Clarke Green and others. One of the reasons Scouting exists is so young people can learn by doing. If all uncertainty is taken away through tight control over how things get done, the result will be closer to the vision of an ideal campout or troop meeting, but the boys will be missing the learning experience.

On the troop committee level, the point is indeed to get things done rather than providing a personal development experience for the committee members, but by agreeing on a vision of the desired end result and providing some basic instruction where necessary (such as how to use troop database software or navigate the online advancement system), committee members will learn not only how to do the job but find better ways to do it.

Business consultant Jesse Lyn Stoner discusses process-driven versus results-driven leadership in a blog article, and much of what she says about the business application of the concept can apply to Scouting as well. For example:

- When people participate in creating a plan, they have a deeper understanding of what's needed and are more invested in its success. The Scoutmaster can give general advice to the senior patrol leader on how to involve the patrol leaders and the rest of the troop in planning an outing. When they do, not only do they learn the process but can point with pride to what they've accomplished.
- Taking the time to involve people can be frustrating when you already have strong ideas or are feeling urgency. Remember to have patience. How important is it really that you pack up the campsite and get out first thing Sunday morning? Sure, it's annoying when the boys don't break camp and clean up as efficiently as the adults, but it's their troop, not yours, and they're learning.
- Trust your people. Have the courage to ask, listen, and let go of control. It takes a leap of faith to think that a 15-year-old can lead a troop, but he can – if you can trust him and give him the training he needs to lead. The same applies to the committee – you must let go of control in order to give your people permission to succeed.

Whether you're a direct leader responsible for guiding youth, or a committee member in charge of administration, think of ways that you can elevate the process to help others better learn their roles, and be patient as they do.

## District News

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

### 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 prizes provided by Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles. Trophies will also be awarded to the top three rank and overall winners.

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 registration is now open on the Goose Creek website under Upcoming Events. 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.

### Journey to Excellence



The unit totals for Goose Creek District for the 2014 Journey to Excellence are in:

- Bronze - 52
- Silver - 12
- Gold - 70

Now is the time to look at the 2015 scorecards

(<http://www.scouting.org/Home/Awards/JourneyToExcellence/scorecards/2015.aspx>) to start planning on where your unit can improve their score.

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)

## 2015 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp



We are happy to announce the 2015 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp with the theme of *Take Flight!* Cub Scouts in grades 1 through 5 are eligible to attend camp – including newly registered (starting June 1, 2015) Tigers. Camp will again be at Morven Park (41793 Tutt Ln, Leesburg) and the dates are:

- **Day Camp**, August 3-7 (9 am - 4 pm M-Th, 9 am – 2 pm Friday)
  - Register by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$175
  - Register by July 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$195
  - Register after July 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$215
- **Twilight Camp**, August 3-6 (6:30 pm – dusk)
  - Register by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$110
  - Register by July 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$120
  - Register after July 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$140

Please notify your pack's families so they can start making plans. Note that the date change is due to the school calendar and Morven Park's availability. Because of the school's half-week schedule before the start of summer vacation, we could not secure our normal June date. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Registration will open shortly. At this time units should be identifying their "Pack Coordinator." Registration for Day and Twilight camp is done as a unit – not individually like Camp Snyder. Your Pack's Camp Coordinator will gather all the registration information, fees, and required paperwork; then register the unit on line. They will also coordinate adult "Den Walkers" who will escort the boys at camp. Remember, the ratio is 1 adult to 5 Scouts. Tiger parents cannot be counted in that ratio. Den Chiefs are encouraged to attend but cannot be counted as a Den Walker.

If your unit would like a camp promotion at an upcoming Pack meeting, please let Dave Carty, the Day Camp Director ([David.Carty@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:David.Carty@GooseCreekDistrict.org)), know and he'll make sure to get a District representative out to your unit to talk about the exciting camps that Goose Creek offers – either Day or Twilight camp.

If you're interested in serving on staff for Day Camp this year, we'd be glad to have you. Help us make a boy's week something they'll remember and cherish for years to come. Please contact Dave if you're interested in volunteering. Adults serving on staff for the week are entitled to a free youth registration. As always – siblings are welcomed.

If you know Boy Scouts who would like to serve on Jr. Staff, please let Dave know who they are. We have many exciting stations for them to work at during the week. Scouts who volunteer at camp for the entire week can earn service hours. Scouts over the age of 14 are eligible for a \$75.00 Goshen camp credit to help defray the cost of camp. Girls are also encouraged to join our youth staff. We accept girls 13 and over and issue service hours that can be used for the Girl Scouts or school.

For those going to one of our Council's camps know that Camp Snyder offers a multitude of options for units. Goshen also delivers awesome Webelos advancement camps.

**Editor's Note:** Goose Creek's Day Camp is by far the most popular one in the Council with about twice the attendance of the next one in the list. When Dave says now is the time to start planning, he REALLY means it!

## Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony



The 13th Annual Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony will be conducted by the Order of the Arrow (OA) on Thursday March 5, 2015 at 7:00 PM, the location is Harper Park Middle School in Leesburg. This very impressive Ceremony is presented by the Goose Creek OA ceremony team, wearing handcrafted native Powhatan Indian regalia.

This event does NOT replace your own Pack's Arrow of Light ceremony, nor will the Webelos receive their actual Arrow of Light badge at the ceremony. The ceremony honors their achievement in a unique way by the older Scouts who are waiting to welcome them into their troops and all of the fun and adventure they will have along the Trail to Eagle Scout! The Webelos will receive a certificate and a special OA-Arrow of Light Ceremony patch, designed by the OA Chapter for this event.

Registration will be required to attend this event though there will be no registration fee. Information on how to register is now available on the OA page at the Goose Creek web site.

## Scouting for Bricks™



Troop 39 of Purcellville invites you to join them for their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scouting for (LEGO) Bricks event! 100 exhibitors, 20 vendors selling many unique LEGO-related items, photo ops with real, life-sized Star Wars Stormtroopers, the Washington Area LEGO train club, Mindstorms LEGO Robotics clubs and much MORE!

If you are aged 10-adult and interested in exhibiting your LEGO MOCs (my own creations) please check out the exhibitor tab on the website and sign-up to display with them: [www.scoutingforbricks.com/to-exhibit](http://www.scoutingforbricks.com/to-exhibit)

**When:** May 30-31, 2015 ~ 11 - 5 (Note: this is not the Memorial Day weekend)

**Where:** Heritage High School ~ Leesburg, VA

**Cost:** \$5 admission

**Website:** [www.scoutingforbricks.com](http://www.scoutingforbricks.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/scouting4bricks](http://www.facebook.com/scouting4bricks)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/scouting4bricks](http://www.twitter.com/scouting4bricks)

**Contact Us:** Email: [ScoutingForBricks@gmail.com](mailto:ScoutingForBricks@gmail.com) or phone 571-293-1975

Scouting for Bricks™ is NOT affiliated with the LEGO® Group.

## Are You Leave No Trace Trained



If you are a trained Leave No Trace Trainer or LNT Master Educator in Goose Creek, please contact George Birsic at [goosecreek.ccosc@gmail.com](mailto:goosecreek.ccosc@gmail.com). George is Goose Creek's representative on the NCAC Outdoor Ethics Committee.



### Webelos-o-ree 2015!



The date for the Goose Creek's annual Webelos-o-ree is set, it will be held October 3-4 at Camp Snyder. So Bear (who will be Webelos this fall) and Webelos leaders should mark down the date.

This camping event is designed to introduce Webelos and their parents to the fun Scouting adventures ahead and to help make the transition into Boy Scouts exciting.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. Activities will be run by our own Boy Scout troops and 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year Webelos and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> year Webelos and their parents.

### Correction!



In the January newsletter we inadvertently switched the people listed for the Finance and Member chairs. The correct listing for the district committee is:

**District Chairman** – Lynn Chapman

**District Commissioner** – Kurt Struder

**Vice-Chair Communications** – Chuck Burkett

**Vice-Chair Finance** – Donna Stuck

**Vice-Chair Membership** – Stacey Noll

**Vice-Chair Program** – John Blackwell

### 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)

### Journey to Excellence



The Goose Creek Chapter is proud to announce that it has achieved the Gold level in our JTE for 2014. Thanks to all the Arrowmen who worked hard this past year to help us get this honor.

### 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 – Hal Raffensperger ([Hal.Raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:Hal.Raffensperger@earthlink.net)) 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. 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.

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## “Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail

### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

**Harry Winters Buchanan** - Troop 961

**Erik R Hagler** - Troop 1550

**Zachary Thomas Hummel** - Troop 1158

**Matthew Kirkwood** - Troop 712

**Nathan Andrew Rogers** - Troop 58

### A New Resource for Merit Badge Counselors



The Merit Badge Maintenance Task Force, part of the National Advancement Team has begun publication of a quarterly newsletter just for MBCs, The Counselor's Compass. Check out the very first issue here, [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-937\\_Dec2014.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-937_Dec2014.pdf). Volume 1, Number 1 contains much information of interest, including a brief description of the task force's mission, a link to training resources, an overview of the Application for Merit Badge ("Blue Card") and why it's important that Scouts complete the requirements as written. There's also news on new merit badges and a way to subscribe to the newsletter via e-mail.

### BSA Discourages Use of Merit Badge Worksheets



Merit badges aren't easy to earn. They're meant to challenge the mind, to build character, and to educate through trial and error.

Merit badge worksheets hasten this process — but not always in a good way. These printable documents are meant to help Scouts complete requirements by filling in the blanks. Sure, they can be time-saving tools, but too often they're used in the wrong way.

That's why the Boy Scouts of America discourages — but doesn't ban — the use of these worksheets, which are available online.

What does that mean? Look for requirements with verbs like “discuss,” “show,” “tell,” “explain,” “demonstrate” or “identify.” Requirements like those aren't meant to be completed by filling in a blank on some worksheet, says Chris Hunt, team leader of the BSA's Content Management Team.

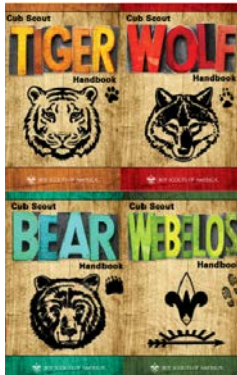
Merit badge worksheets are “permitted only for fulfilling requirements where something is to be done in writing,” he says. And merit badge counselors may never require the use of merit badge worksheets and may, if they choose, refuse to accept them, Hunt says.

This has been a rule in the *Guide to Advancement* for a couple of years.

For more on this topic see the following article:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/01/13/merit-badge-worksheets/>

## Missed the Cub Scout Webcasts? Here's How to Get Up to Speed



Thousands of your fellow Scouters watched the Cub Scout webcasts last weekend, and in doing so they left with a greater knowledge of the incredible changes coming to Cub Scouting this year.

Couldn't tune in? No worries.

Use the links below to view the webcasts at your convenience. In half an hour, you'll get up to speed on the new Cub Scout program and learn some recommended next steps.

Cubmaster Orientation: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3seP16x-L0&x-yt-cl=84503534&feature=player\\_embedded&x-yt-ts=1421914688](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J3seP16x-L0&x-yt-cl=84503534&feature=player_embedded&x-yt-ts=1421914688)

Den Leader Orientation: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eD4PHvSWq70&x-yt-ts=1421914688&feature=player\\_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eD4PHvSWq70&x-yt-ts=1421914688&feature=player_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534)

LDS Orientation: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0-XFt8r3D4&feature=player\\_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0-XFt8r3D4&feature=player_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534)

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

## Tips for Teaching Cub Scouts the Scout Law



Memorizing the 12 words of the Scout Law (16 if you count "A Scout is" and "and"), and getting them in the right order, can be tough for Webelos Scouts working on the Arrow of Light and even more for the Cub Scouts when it replaces the Law of the Pack this coming June. To make it easier for your Scouts you may want to check out the following article for some learning strategies that work better than rote memorization: <http://scoutingmagazine.org/2012/02/tips-for-teaching-cub-scouts-the-scout-law/>



## Six Eagle-Required Merit Badge Pamphlets Now Available in Spanish



For the first time in BSA history, merit badge pamphlets are available in Spanish.

The first wave includes six Eagle-required merit badges. You can add these six pamphlets to the *Boy Scout Handbook* and other BSA publications that have Spanish-language editions. That's big news as the BSA continues its efforts to bring Scouting to Hispanic markets.

What are the six merit badges with Spanish editions available now?

- Campamento (Camping), No. 619133, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-camping-sp.html#.VKrA82TF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-camping-sp.html#.VKrA82TF8eA)
- Civismo Comunitario (Citizenship in the Community), No. 619134, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-cit-n-community-sp.html#.VKrBDGTF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-cit-n-community-sp.html#.VKrBDGTF8eA)
- Comunicación (Communication), No. 619137, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-communication-sp.html#.VKrBK2TF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-communication-sp.html#.VKrBK2TF8eA)
- Vida en Familia (Family Life), No. 619142, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-family-life-sp.html#.VKrBR2TF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-family-life-sp.html#.VKrBR2TF8eA)
- Excursionismo (Hiking), No. 619144, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-hiking-sp.html#.VKrBnWTF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-hiking-sp.html#.VKrBnWTF8eA)
- Bienestar Personal (Personal Fitness), No. 619146, [www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-personal-fitness-sp.html#.VKrBvWTF8eA](http://www.scoutstuff.org/mbp-4c-personal-fitness-sp.html#.VKrBvWTF8eA)

The pamphlets are \$4.99 — same as their English counterparts and are available from ScoutStuff.org:

## Life-to-Eagle Seminar (Training)



The next installment of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek is coming. 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, 10:30 – 1:15, Cascades Library.

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.

## Reinforcing Scout Skills



From Ask Andy, Jan 7, 2015 (<http://netcommissioner.com/askandy/2015/01/issue-430-january-7-2015/>)

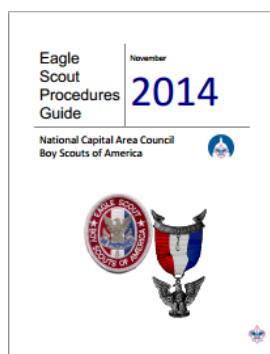
**Dear Andy**

***Back in your column No. 424 (December 2, 2014), a Scoutmaster asked, “If the purpose of the Scoutmaster conference and the board of review are not to retest a Scout, where is the check and balance...?” and you provided your usual sage perspective. To augment your answer, there definitely is a built-in “retest;” it’s the EDGE Method for Scouts teaching Scouts. If the troop as a whole employs the EDGE Method, chances are that the Scout who might have “slid by” on tying a Bowline will sooner or later be in a position to Explain-Demonstrate-Guide-Enable a younger Scout on this skill. So, if Star Scout Sammy slid by without really learning the knot, he’ll need to either learn it PDQ or else he’s not going to look very sharp when it’s his turn to teach it. A Scoutmaster can facilitate this by arranging with the SPL that Star Scout Sammy will be teaching knot-tying to younger Scouts at next week’s troop meeting. So, Sammy finally learns his Bowline so he doesn’t embarrass himself next week. That’s the “retesting”!***

Yes, the EDGE method is just about perfect for reinforcing Scout skills. We learn best when we teach others. Of course, one doesn’t “slide by” with most of the Scoutcraft skills: He can either do them, or he can’t. There’s no such knot as a “sorta-bowline.” But teaching others definitely means the Scout has mastery. Just be sure to give him plenty of notice. It would be pretty unfair to tell him, with a 5-minute warning. “Oh, you’re teaching flint n’ steel fire-starting tonight.” This is why the EDGE method is included in several rank requirements.

Of course, another way—one which reinforces and is not intended to be a replacement for EDGE—is to (here’s really weird concept...) at troop meetings and on camp-outs, **PLAY GAMES THAT USE THE SKILLS!**

## 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 ESPG 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 ESPG 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 ESPG 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 ESPG and how it implements National’s guidelines relative to the Life-to-Eagle process, better counsel can be provided to the boys themselves.

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)

### Digitizing Medical Records? BSA says Please Don't



Digitally storing photos, books and music means everything's at our fingertips wherever we are. It's convenient, but anyone who follows the news knows it's not exactly secure. That's why there's one thing for sure that doesn't belong in the cloud: Scout medical records.

The rule is clear: Boy Scout Annual Health and Medical Records are not to be digitized, scanned, sent by email or stored electronically by unit leaders.

From Richard Boulton, the BSA's authority on health and safety:

Districts and councils are discouraged from keeping any medical records, whether digital or paper, unless required by local or state ordinances. However, the electronic version of the Annual Health and Medical Record is intended to be filled out and saved by individual Scouts and Scouters. The electronic version of the Annual Health and Medical Record should not be transmitted via email or stored electronically by units, districts or councils. Units are encouraged to keep paper copies of their participants' Annual Health and Medical Records in a confidential medical file for quick access in an emergency and to be prepared for all adventures.

We have evaluated the risks associated with digitizing and have made a conscious effort not to do it. What you may think seems like such a good idea has many implications on privacy, data transmission, loss, etc., that we are not ready to address. So as an organization have chosen to avoid the risk. Please don't digitize

To see the FAQs for all things related to medical records go to:  
<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/ahmr.aspx>

### 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.

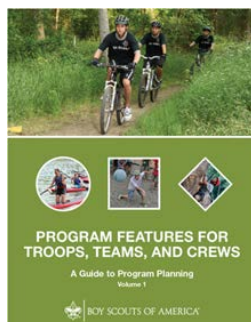
Getting involved in "America's national day of play" is easy. Just head to a park with your Scouts, and have fun! You can even register your event on the National Park Trust website (<http://parktrust.org/kidstoparks/national-kids-to-parks-day>) to be a part of this massive movement.

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)

## The Next-Gen Program Features for Troops, Teams and Crews



*Program Features for Troops, Teams, and Crews* is a three-volume set containing a total of 48 unique topics that a Scouting unit could use as either the core of its activities, or as a way to round out what's already on the calendar.

The features cover six general categories: Outdoor, Sports, Health & Safety, Citizenship & Personal Development, STEM, and Arts & Hobbies. You can find program ideas for SCUBA, Science, Multimedia, Fitness & Nutrition and more.

The idea of having a “go-to” resource for youth leaders isn’t new. Many of us recall the old *Woods Wisdom*, which evolved into the *Troop Program Features* and the *Varsity Team Program Features*. Each of these publications provided introductions and outlines for unit level program. Even the first *Venturing Leader Manual* contained a number of tools to help plan activities.

While each of these publications provided great resources, they were aimed at our adult leaders, rather than the youth. And to be quite honest, they needed a facelift. That’s where the new Program Features for Troops, Teams and Crews comes in.

The development team has worked closely with the other program task forces to make sure that the information in these new books aligns with the changes to Venturing and the upcoming 2016 changes to the Boy Scouting program.

Volume 1 (item No. 616351), which includes the first 16 program features, is available at your local Scout shop or at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org). Volume 2 is due out in the next couple of months with Volume 3 to follow by the middle of 2015.

### Volume 1

- Camping
- Climbing and Rappelling
- Communication
- Cycling
- First Aid
- Games
- Geocaching
- Hiking
- Outdoor Ethics
- Paddle Sports
- Pioneering
- Rifle Shooting
- Safety
- Science
- Snowboarding and Skiing
- Spectator Sports

### Volume 2

- Archery
- Backpacking
- Citizenship
- Engineering
- Fishing
- Fitness and Nutrition
- Living History
- Mathematics
- Mentoring
- Music
- Orienteering
- Scuba Diving
- Soccer
- Special Needs Awareness
- Wilderness Survival
- Wildlife Management

### Volume 3

- Caving
- Cooking
- Duty to God
- Emergency Preparedness
- Ethics
- Financial Management
- Multimedia
- Nature and Environment
- Project COPE
- Project Planning
- Shotgun Shooting
- Skateboarding
- Sustainability
- Swimming
- Technology
- Winter Camping

For a sample (first page only) of the First Aid program feature go to:

<http://i1.wp.com/blog.scoutingmagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2015/01/Science-program-features-first-page.jpg>

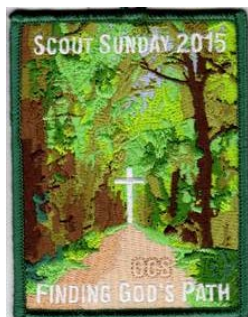


## Annual Diocesan Mass for Scouting and Camp Fire



The annual Diocesan Mass for Scouting and Camp Fire (celebrated by Bishop Loverde) is 7 February at 10:20 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More.

## Arlington Diocese & Washington Archdiocese Scout Sunday Observance Patch



The Scout Sunday Observance Patch is sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting and Camp Fire, Diocese of Arlington. The embroidered patch is available to all Scouts and their program sponsors. The purpose of the patch is to support and encourage regular practice of religion among our youth.

Cost is \$2 per patch and orders will be accepted through 2014, but please order early because supplies are limited and may be exhausted by April.

The order form is located at:

[www.ncacbsa.org/resource/collection/50CE6AD3-E4E7-423C-938D-5A46C41775F3/ScoutSundayOrderForm-2015.pdf](http://www.ncacbsa.org/resource/collection/50CE6AD3-E4E7-423C-938D-5A46C41775F3/ScoutSundayOrderForm-2015.pdf)

## Scout Shabbat Patches 2015/5775



The National Jewish Committee on Scouting is proud to present its official Scout Shabbat patch for 2015 (5775). The patch features traditional Shabbat images of candlelights, challah and a Kiddush cup and bears the year according to both the Hebrew and Gregorian calendars and the NJCOS logo.

These colorful Scout Shabbat patches are available exclusively through [www.jewishscouting.org/scout-shabbat-patches/](http://www.jewishscouting.org/scout-shabbat-patches/) and will be shipped immediately upon receipt of \$4.00 per patch (plus shipping).

This 2015 (5775) Scout Shabbat patch should be utilized by Scout leaders and parents to increase interest and attendance at Scout Shabbat.

## Watch This: 'A Brief History of Cub Scouting'



One of the many highlights of the Cub Scout webcasts going over the new advancement requirements was the opening video.

The title of the three-minute piece — "A Brief History of Cub Scouting" — says it all. It's a nice overview for new Cub Scouters and Cub Scouting veterans alike.

Go to the following site to view it:

[www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534&x-yt-ts=1421914688&v=ogc94pF1U5U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&x-yt-cl=84503534&x-yt-ts=1421914688&v=ogc94pF1U5U)

### Cub Scout Resident Camp



Camp Snyder will conduct four sessions (Thursday 6 PM – Sunday 9 AM) for Cub Resident Camp in 2015. Cub Resident Camp is your introduction to what Boy Scout camp can be like. Scouts and their adult leaders/parents will live in 5-person BSA wall tents with cots and platforms, eat at the camp dining hall (Friday breakfast to Sunday breakfast) and experience a wonderful program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Achievements, Pins, Belt Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or den's self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well being.

Session 1: July 9-12	Cost: \$205 – register by April 15
Session 2: July 16-19	\$225 – register by May 15
Session 3: July 23-26	\$249 – register after June 15
Session 4: July 30-Aug 2	\$95 – adults

### Cub Adventure Days



Camp Snyder will conduct four Adventure Days sessions for Cub Scouts in 2015. Cub Adventure Days is a great Day Camp experience for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their families to experience a campout without the overnight sleeping. Each day will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude at 4:00 PM with lunch included in the cost of camp. Every day will be different from the one before with Scouts visiting all of the Camp Snyder program areas by the end of the week.

Session 1: July 6-9	Cost: \$190 – register by April 15
Session 2: July 13-16	\$210 – register by May 15
Session 3: July 20-23	\$230 – register after Jun 15
Session 4: July 27-30	\$30 – one adult for a week (may be a different adult each day)

### Webelos Camp



Camp Snyder will conduct two Webelos Resident Camps in 2015. Webelos camp is a big step for the Webelos I or II working on Activity Badges. Scouts will camp overnight just like when they become Boy Scouts to get the full summer camp experience in a shorter setting. Most of your time will be spent working towards advancing in your Webelos trail on the way to becoming a Boy Scout. There are plenty of other fun activities to fill your week including games, trips to the pool and more. Webelos will also be able to work on some free time activities that will include the more advanced pins from the Cub Scout Academic and Sports program. Camps go from Sunday 6 PM to Friday 9 AM.

Session 1: Aug 2-7	Cost: \$240 – register by April 15
Session 2: Aug 9-14	\$260 – register by May 15
	\$280 – register after Jun 15
	\$60 – adults

## Goshen Summer Specialty Week



Specialty Week will be held during the week of July 26<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle, Beach & Yacht, and Field & Stream are the featured programs for this year, with the new addition of The Marriott Project (STEM Program). Scouts attend these specialty programs provisionally, as lone Scouts, rather than with their home Troops. Participants will spend the entire week earning merit badges and engaging in activities focused around the program theme. Specialty week is open to Scouts ages 13 and up as well as Venturers, Varsity Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Explorers.

**The Marriott Project (STEM Program)** - The program includes a mix of Merit Badges, STEM NOVA Venturing Explorations, and activities. Use forensic science to solve an at-camp mystery, explore energy and forces on the COPE course, put your engineering skills to the test building catapults, examine the natural world, and much more! Participants will have the opportunity to earn one of BSA's NOVA Awards.

**Trail to Eagle** - gives each scout the opportunity to earn up to 6 Eagle-required Merit Badges and learn valuable leadership skills to bring home to their home troops and communities. This program is designed with a focus on both advancement and development as a leader.

**Beach & Yacht** - Come hang out and enjoy the sun at the Camp Marriott waterfront while earning Sailing, Swimming, Lifesaving, Water Sports, and other aquatics merit badge during this week.

**Field & Stream** - This program is being offered to those Scouts and Venturers who love fishing and shooting. Rifle Shooting, Archery, Trap Shooting, NRA qualification shooting for rifle and shotgun, lake and stream fishing, and other outdoor sportsman skills and activities are featured. Field and Stream is intended to open the door to a lifetime hobby or skill enhancement in the shooting sports and related fields.

Go to

[www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\\_content\\_view.asp?group=119323&id=282474](http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=119323&id=282474) for additional information on registration and fees.

## 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

## Order Flag Flown Over the Capitol



In the November District newsletter we told how to order a flag flown over the Capitol. At that time Frank Wolf, the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Congressman was retiring and his site was inactive. Now Barbara Comstock, our new Congresswoman, has officially opened her government website (<https://comstock.house.gov/>). You will find the order form under the Services menu option.

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)

## 2015 Goshen Summer Camp Availability



Key:  Available  Almost Full  Full

Camp (as of 11/06/2012)		Week					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>Bowman</b> (Patrol Cooking)						
	<b>Marriot</b> (Patrol Cooking & Heater Stack)	LDS Week					
	<b>Olmsted</b> (BS Dining Hall)						
	<b>Lenhok'sin High Adventure</b>						
	<b>PMI</b> (Dining Hall)						
	<b>Ross</b> (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/21 to 6/27

Week 2 – 6/28 to 7/4

Week 3 – 7/5 to 7/11

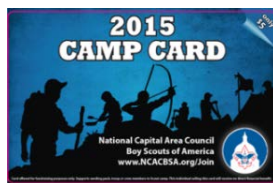
Week 4 – 7/12 to 7/18

Week 5 – 7/19 to 7/25

Week 6 – 7/26 to 8/1

Specialty Week will be held during the week 6, July 26 to August 1, at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle, Beach & Yacht, and Field & Stream are the featured programs for this year. Scouts attend these specialty programs provisionally, rather than with their home troops and will spend the entire week earning merit badges and participating in activities focused around the program theme. Specialty week is open to Scouts ages 13 and up.

## 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)



## Sports or Scouting — or Both?



Tufts University doctoral candidate Dan Warren studied 4,000 kids in the Philadelphia area, including some who are in Scouting and some who aren't. In part of his study Warren used his research to address the age-old question of whether a kid gets more out of Scouting or sports, and the answer may surprise you.

He found that a young person's best bet might be participating in both.

Few kids are in only one after-school program anyway, but if they're in just one, it's typically sports. Some 80 percent of American youth have some sort of sports involvement, Warren says.

The jury is still out on the benefits of sports participation. Some studies show pros like better grades, improved self-esteem, enhanced leadership skills. Others show cons like increased aggression, reduced ability to see right and wrong, and more chance for risk behaviors.

But if a kid is only doing sports, he might not be living up to his potential.

"What we found was that if kids are participating in sports and nothing else, things didn't seem to go well," Warren says. "If they were participating in some type of youth-development program like a Boy Scout, when you add sports onto that, there is this amazing result. It catapulted."

Sports and Scouting combine to create a character-building environment. The benefits of convergence seem to go against the concept of Scouting and sports being competitors. Instead, Warren says, they should be teammates.

"I think if the leaders of these organizations are going to not see this as a competition, start reaching a hand over there and saying, 'How can we work together to make sure our games and our camporees can work at the same time because we're benefitting each other?' That's really important," he says.

## 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/>

## ScoutStrong 5K/10K Run/Walk



The Old Dominion District is holding its third ScoutStrong run/walk at beautiful Camp Snyder on April 11, 2015. Open for competitive runners and kids, scouters, scouts, family and friends.

**Contact:** [odd5k@oddbsa.org](mailto:odd5k@oddbsa.org)

**Online RSVP:** [www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\\_details.asp?id=473039#](http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=473039#)

**Details:**

- Check-in: 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
- Start/Finish: The Race begins at 10 a.m.

**Course:** The cross-country course through the beautiful Boy Scout Camp Snyder over various terrains – gravel, packed dirt and grass. Distance 5k (3.1 miles) and 10k.

**Events:** Regular 5K/10K for runners and walkers. There will be one mile non-competitive course laid out.

**Awards/recognition:** Top 3 males and females overall. Medals for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each category.

**Age Categories:** 10 and under, 11-13, 14-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40 and older

What is SCOUTStrong? The SCOUTStrong Presidential Active Lifestyle Award Challenge helps you add activity to your life and rewards you when you do. This challenge is for everyone. For more, go to [www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala](http://www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala)

## Scout Engineering Day



The fourth Scout Engineering Day event will be held at Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Va., and is open to registered Cadet, Senior, and Ambassador-level Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Sea Scouts who are at least 11 years of age. Classes are based on Boy Scout STEM related merit badges, including Astronomy, Aviation, Game Design, Programming, Robotics and Sustainability. All participants will receive a Completion Certificate that can be used to obtain a Boy Scout Merit Badge or Girl Scout Award.

**WHEN:** March 14, 2015 from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

**WHERE:** Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale, Virginia, Campus

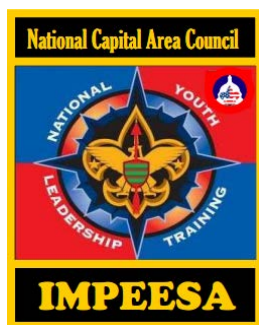
**COST:** not yet posted on site. Fee will include classroom materials and lunch

**Online Registration:** Registration is on a first come first serve basis. Classes have a limited number of seats. Registration opens February 2, 2015, 7:30 PM. (Note, in the past registration was completely filled in less than two hours after the opening.)

**For more information:**

[http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\\_details.asp?id=589055](http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=589055)

## National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)



NYLT (Impeesa) is the National Capital Area Council's presentation of the National Youth Leadership Training. The objective of our NYLT program is to equip our young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their scouting program and in LIFE. NYLT brings together scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice the leadership techniques in a risk free, scout friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.

The course is presented primarily using a Boy Scout model as the vehicle which allows all attendees to SEE how leadership skills fit into the scouting program. These Leadership skills are applicable to all scouting programs.

While it remains the responsibility of the unit leaders to train the youth leaders, this course is designed to supplement the adult leaders' role in the training process. NYLT skills build on the fundamental leadership skills presented in the unit basic leadership training in their home unit. This training conference has six specific objectives:-

- To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run their unit.
- To give participants the most contemporary, successful, and useful leadership tools available and allow them to "experiment" with them to help them better relate these skills to their unit responsibilities.
- To give participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with Scouts from other scouting programs.
- To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience Scouting at its best.
- To enhance the relationship between the participant and their adult leaders. • To have fun!

In order to attend the course each participant must certify that they have have now (or will have by June 1st ) met the following qualifications to attend NYLT:

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Unit Leader Training
- At least 13 years of age (or have Unit Leaders approval to attend)
- Home Unit Leader approval

**Dates:** (each date is a separate course)

- 21 - 27 June 2015
- 12 - 18 July 2015
- 26 July - 2 August 2015

**Information flyer:** [http://www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/405727e6-f289-4f85-8e62-a8b0f5857afa/NYLT/Impeesa\\_Flyer2015.pdf](http://www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/405727e6-f289-4f85-8e62-a8b0f5857afa/NYLT/Impeesa_Flyer2015.pdf)

**Cost:** \$225 until midnight April 30, 2015 then \$275

**Registration:** <http://www.ncacbsa.org/event/nylt20153>

## What are Scouts Seeing on your Facebook Page?



From Bryan on Scouting, <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/04/16/what-to-do-when-your-scouting-and-personal-worlds-collide-online/>

Your boss views your tailgating photos on Instagram, your Facebook friends see you complaining about your job or your Scouts read your tweets in favor of a politician.

You've just encountered context collapse. That's the phrase for something intended for a specific audience that becomes seen by a much wider, unintended audience.

It happens in the real world, like if you run into a coworker, Scout or Scouter at church or a political rally. But it happens even more frequently online, where we can instantly share sometimes-controversial views with a few simple taps on the keyboard.

Eagle Scout Mark Ray, skilled author and regular contributor to both *Scouting* and *Eagles' Call* magazines, writes on his blog about this phenomenon:

*Thanks to context collapse, your boss can see your vacation photos, your friends can see what you're saying about work, and — most importantly for our purposes — your Scouts can see what you're liking on Facebook, whether that's Lolcats, a political cause or your favorite microbrewery.*

We know that more than two-thirds (71 percent, to be exact) of online adults use Facebook, meaning chances are good you're dealing with context collapse even if you don't know it. So it's a good idea to take a second to think about your online existence and who in your life sees what. That's especially relevant when Scouts are involved.

Mark shares three strategies for dealing with context collapse and making sure you don't reveal more about yourself than you're comfortable sharing. Ranging from the most extreme to the simplest, they are:

### **1: Keep Scouting contacts out of your social networks altogether.**

This is the most radical approach and would mean not communicating with Scouts and Scouters at all online.

Though I wouldn't recommend this isolationist approach, social networking certainly is not mandatory in Scouting, and this would prevent context collapse.

### **2: Create separate social media accounts for Scouting.**

I've seen several Scouters use this strategy. They have one Facebook or Twitter account for their Scouting life and another for their personal life.

Only friending non-Scouts/Scouters on Facebook and making your Twitter profile private would facilitate this approach.

### **3: Adopt a lowest-common-denominator approach where everything you post online is safe for all audiences.**

This is the strategy Mark uses. "You'll never see me post anything online that wouldn't be appropriate for the youngest Scout to read, and if you want to know about my political leanings or adult-beverage preferences, you'll have to ask," he writes.



## The Importance of Hydration



When the well is dry, we know the worth of water. – Benjamin Franklin, *Poor Richard's Almanac*

So you're four or five miles down the trail and you've been better. The day started off nice enough – birds singing, beams of sunshine coming through the trees, all was right with the world. Now, it's several hours later, the day has turned hot and humid and the trail is more gnarly than you thought it would be.

Your breathable, fast drying shirt is soaked with sweat, your head hurts, you find yourself frequently tripping over rocks, you're weary and irritable. What to do? Stop, rest and drink. You're probably dehydrated. Dehydration can sneak up on any of us, at any time. It's more acute in extreme weather, either heat or cold, but can happen in any climate. The Rule of Three ([www.ruleof3survival.com/](http://www.ruleof3survival.com/)) suggests that a person can live for three days without water but that's only a guideline. The truth is that in a hot, arid climate, dehydration can turn fatal in as little as one day. And, in a cold climate, dehydration intensifies the onset and severity of hypothermia.

Water is essential to human life. Every bodily system we have depends on it to function properly. Our bodies are constantly using water to digest food, regulate our temperature, lubricate joints and filter blood along with many other critical tasks. Yet, every time that we breathe, we lose water.

Drinking water is the single best thing that you can do to maintain top form in the outdoors. Even slight to moderate dehydration will result in decreased physical performance, headaches, irritability, decreased mental capacity and reduced heat regulation. Drink early and often. Drink like your life depends on it, because it does.

### How Much is Enough?

Try to pre-hydrate, that is, drink water before you start an activity. One half to one liter of water is a good start, then drink small amounts often throughout the activity. Don't rely on a feeling of thirst to drink. Make it a habit. If you aren't watering the weeds regularly and your urine isn't mostly clear, you aren't drinking enough water. There isn't an exact formula to determine how much water a person needs. There are just too many variables – exertion levels, climate and body mass to name a few. But, most expert opinions seem to fall within this range:

- One to two liters per day just to replace water lost to normal body functions.
- Two to four liters per day to maintain hydration during moderate activity.
- Four to eight liters per day to maintain hydration during strenuous exertion.

The dry air common to high altitudes will also exacerbate dehydration. Even normal respiration while at rest in this environment results in a significant amount of lost water.

It is possible to drink too much water, a condition known as hyponatremia. This is a condition where a normal level of sodium in the blood is lowered to a dangerous level by the combination of sweating and excessive water intake. The common sense approach to preventing this is to eat some salty snacks when engaged in activity that produces heavy perspiration and perhaps including the occasional sports drink with your water.

## Preventing Dehydration in Winter



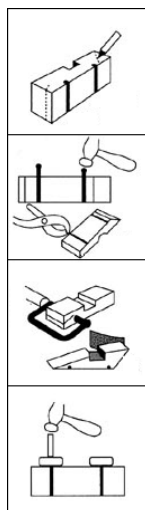
If you're not careful, it's very easy to become dehydrated in the winter particularly if you're engaged in sports like snowshoeing, backcountry skiing or mountaineering. Under these conditions, it's not enough to be on the lookout for yellow pee; you need to hydrate before exertion and regularly during all outdoor activities.

Dehydration is accelerated in cold weather or at higher altitudes because the air we breathe is drier. Normally, people lose between one to two quarts of water a day via evaporation from the lungs. When we breathe, our bodies humidify dry air and heat it up to our body's temperature, which is why your exhalations look like fog in cold weather.

In cold weather, your body has to work harder to humidify the air you breathe and to warm it up, meaning that you need to drink more water and eat more if you are outdoors. A good rule of thumb is to drink at least 4 quarts a day, but many people will drink twice that under high exertion levels or over 10,000 feet of altitude.

Psychologically, it's easy to skip hydration breaks during winter activities because you are less likely to feel thirsty. But the consequences are much higher, as dehydration can accelerate hypothermia, frostbite or fatigue. Therefore, you need to pace yourself accordingly and drink and eat at frequent intervals to keep up with the demands of your body.

## 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.

- 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.

## 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.

## 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)

## On-Line Resource of the Month



If it's in a boy's life, then it's in *Boys' Life*. And if it's in *Boys' Life*, there's a good chance Mike Goldman, managing editor of *Boys' Life* magazine, will Tumbly about it ... and just about anything else that strikes his fancy.

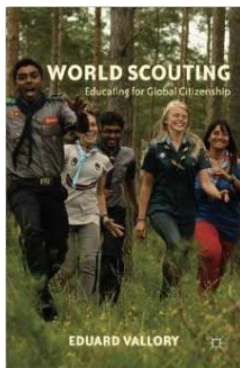
When you get bored here, check out our website for lots of fun games, videos, news and more: <http://boyslife.org>

Tumblr is a microblogging platform and social networking website owned by Yahoo! Inc. The service allows users to post multimedia and other content to a short-form blog. Users can follow other users' blogs, as well as make their blogs private. Much of the website's features are accessed from the "dashboard" interface, where the option to post content and posts of followed blogs appear.



## Books

### World Scouting: Educating for Global Citizenship



This is the very first book to look at scouting worldwide and explain in a comprehensible way the largest youth movement on the planet, with a presence in over 165 countries on 5 continents. Based on the first academic research on world scouting, it covers the history of boy and girl scouting from its origins to the present, its structure and recognition policy, and its role in developing ideas of global citizenship and belonging. Using new data and storytelling, Eduard Vallory discusses the main elements that distinguish the scout movement all over the world; explains its origin, evolution, operating system, and values; and deals with its controversies.

The book is divided into three parts. The first part deals with the history of World Scouting; the second part is about the ideology of the Scout Movement (WHY and HOW we do Scouting today) and how Scouting is organized in the two world organizations; and the third part deals with the citizenship education of the book's sub-title.

Cost is about \$25 for Kindle, \$26 for paperback, and \$90 for hardcover.

## Equipment / Gear

### Choosing the Best LED Flashlight



As you know, LED Flashlights are enormously popular across the world with everyone from law enforcement/military personnel through to campers, hikers, dog walkers and children enjoying their sheer brightness. But how do you choose the right one for you from the thousands listed? Try looking at the following articles and see what they say about finding that 'perfect' light:

8 Easy Steps To Choosing The Best LED Flashlight - [www.ebay.com/gds/8-Easy-Steps-To-Choosing-The-Best-LED-Flashlight-/10000000176473790/g.html](http://www.ebay.com/gds/8-Easy-Steps-To-Choosing-The-Best-LED-Flashlight-/10000000176473790/g.html)

A Flashaholic's Guide to LED Flashlights - [www.coastportland.com/assets/cp/ebooks/led-flashlight-guide.pdf](http://www.coastportland.com/assets/cp/ebooks/led-flashlight-guide.pdf)



#### Murphy's Laws of Camping

- Tent stakes come only in the quantity "N-1" where N is the number of stakes necessary to stake down a tent.
- All tree branches in a forest grow outward from their respective trunks at exactly the height of your nose. If you are male, tree branches will also grow at groin height.
- Tents never come apart as easily when you're leaving a site as when you're trying to get them set up in the first place.

## Sleeping Bag Liner Should I Choose?



There are basically three reasons why you would want to use a sleeping bag liner:

1. **Protect your investment:** Using a liner will keep your bag cleaner, which will mean washing it less often. It's easy to come home from a backpacking trip and throw the liner into the washing machine (much easier than washing a sleeping bag). Your sleeping bag doesn't have to smell like a student dorm room, and the oils from your skin don't have to migrate into the insulation. There's another often overlooked aspect to keeping the sleeping bag clean, though. Fine-grain sand (which is famous for sticking to your feet when you're backpacking) can make its way through the sleeping bag fabric and act like sandpaper on the insulation. You pay good money for quality down or synthetic insulation – a liner is an inexpensive way of preventing this kind of damage.
2. **Change your sleep environment:** Using a liner in a sleeping bag will add warmth – even the silk or silk/cotton models trap an extra layer of air; the hollow-core Thermolite™ Reactors trap a lot more.
3. **Provide a hygienic sleeping environment:** A liner guarantees you a clean, hygienic sleeping environment wherever you are

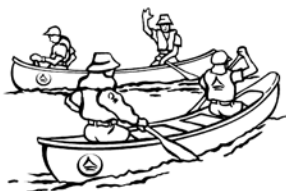
Which liner is right for me? Here are some pointers:

- Silk Liners are the lightest and most compact; they wick moisture well and dry quickly. Ideal (in mummy form) for backpacking or (as a Traveler) for hostel/budget hotel use. Sea to Summit's Silk Liners are now equipped with an exclusive Comfort Stretch Panel – a stretch panel which runs the length of the side seam, and provides a greater level of comfort than has previously been possible in a silk liner. Also available as a double-wide version.
- Silk/Cotton Blend Liners are very light and compact, and are great for the same uses as pure silk liners. Their less-shiny surface makes them more suitable for active sleepers who might get tangled in a pure silk liner.
- Expander Liners are a good budget choice if you're less concerned with packed volume and weight, but their Jersey Knit construction means that they will stretch to almost twice their normal width. Expanders are knitted as a tube, so they do not have side seams (with the exception of the Mummy shape). They also feature an anti-microbial treatment, which keeps them fresh and odor-free. Great for Boy Scouts, for groups, and for car camping – they're also available as a double-wide version.
- Coolmax® Liners wick moisture well and dry quickly – ideal for hot, humid environments. They're also really stretchy – so if you've ever felt constricted in a liner, this is the liner to go for. Available in both a mummy shape and a rectangular Traveller version with a pillow slip, in both untreated and Insect Shield-treated versions.
- Thermolite Liners add warmth – perfect if your sleeping bag doesn't bring the promised performance, or if you're trying to add a season to your existing bag. Check out the blog post 'Adding warmth with a liner'. You can even use a Reactor as a stand-alone summer 'sleeping bag', although you'll need a bag cover of some kind to prevent heat loss due to moving air.

**How to care for your liner:** This is the easy part almost all liners are machine washable using standard laundry detergent. If you're using a top-loader machine, it's worth putting the liner in a pillowcase to stop the drawcord getting tangled in the impeller (the spiral plastic device at the center of the drum). Just make sure to keep fabric softeners away from your liner – the softener will reduce the wicking performance. Air-drying is best, there's no need to put a liner in a dryer.

## Training Opportunities

### Canoeing Merit Badge Counselor Training



Are you a BSA canoeing merit badge counselor who must find a certificated helper to supervise your canoeing activities? The NCAC Aquatics Committee in cooperation with the NCAC Advancement and Recognition Committee is offering training sessions conducted by a BSA Aquatics Instructor where you will learn and can demonstrate your canoeing and instructional competence so you won't have to look for that additional help any longer.. This training meets the requirements for Canoeing MB Counselors listed in BSA' s *Guide to Advancement*.

The cost for the course is \$10.00 which includes use of all paddling equipment. This training is held as an extension to BSA ' s Paddle Craft Safety course. The water session starts about 11:30am and runs until about 5 pm. Wear clothes and shoes that can ( and will ) get wet, a towel and change of clothes, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, water bottle, and lunch. Dress for the weather – bring rain gear if necessary.

Upon successful completion of the you will be issued a pocket card indicating that you have completed the Canoeing Merit Badge Counselor Training.

**When:** 04/25/2015, 11:30 AM to 5:00 PM

**Where:** Camp William B. Snyder

**Contact:** Mike Meenehan, [mmmeenehan@cox.net](mailto:mmmeenehan@cox.net)

**Register:** [http://ncacbsa.site-ym.com/events/event\\_details.asp?id=526200&group=120917#](http://ncacbsa.site-ym.com/events/event_details.asp?id=526200&group=120917#) (available until 4/20/2015)

### Religious Emblems Orientation & Training



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

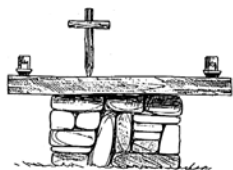
**Where:** Groveton Baptist Church, 6511 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA

**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)

### Catholic Religious Emblems Counselor Training



Catholic Religious Emblems Counselor Training is 7 March. For moer info go to <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth/scouting.aspx>. If you are a trained and active Catholic Religious Emblems Counselor in Goose Creek District, please contact George Birsic, Goose Creek's representative on the Arlington Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting, at [goosecreek.ccosc@gmail.com](mailto:goosecreek.ccosc@gmail.com).

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)

## Leave No Trace Trainer Courses and Master Educator Course



The **LNT Trainer** course is designed to enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace practices and ethics and to increase your level of expertise and confidence in teaching Leave No Trace skills. Through focused activities, hands-on field experience and both formal and informal discussions, you will be introduced to concepts and methods that will advance your knowledge of Leave No Trace issues, 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 national Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics and will receive a certificate of course completion as well as their Leave No Trace Trainer lapel pin.

The **LNT Master Educator** course is a five-day course (split over two weekends) trains Scouts and Scouters ages 18 and up to serve as Leave No Trace Master Educators. Master Educators can conduct Leave No Trace Trainer courses (two-day) and awareness workshops (one-day or shorter).

This invaluable training is recognized and highly regarded throughout the world, especially by the outdoor industry, as well as government land management agencies. Successful graduates are certified to train others in Leave No Trace skills and ethics. The Master Educator Course provides participants with a comprehensive training in Leave No Trace skills and ethics through practical application in a field-based setting. The first weekend is a mix of classroom and outdoor instruction, introducing the course and schedule, providing in-depth information on the overall Leave No Trace program, how to conduct training courses, and the science behind the Leave No Trace principles. The second weekend is spent in the field on a short backcountry trip, learning and practicing Leave No Trace skills and techniques hands-on.

### Virginia LNT Trainer Courses:

**Location:** Northern VA (location emailed upon registration)

- Spring 2015: Mar. 13 (indoor) + Mar. 21-22 (outdoor)
- Fall 2015: Oct 16 (indoor) + Oct 24-25 (outdoor)

**Cost:** \$75, non-refundable, which includes fees and materials. Meals are included.

[http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\\_details.asp?id=580742&group=](http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=580742&group=)

### LNT Master Educator Course:

**When and Where:** April 10-12, 2015, Blackburn Trail Center, Round Hill, VA, and April 23-26, 2015, Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, VA. Attendance at both weekends is required.

**Cost:** \$260, which includes meals for both weekends and a year's membership with LNT's Center for Outdoor Ethics.

[http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\\_details.asp?id=583123&group=](http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=583123&group=)

Class sizes are limited, so register early!

For more information please contact Victor Bieniek at [vbieniek@gmail.com](mailto:vbieniek@gmail.com) or 703-855-8428.



## 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)



## 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.

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

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

### **Spring 2015 BCOLS (Maryland)**

Part 1 - Sat. 3/14/2015 from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
Community Center (Alder Rd. and Acacia Rd.)  
3500 Alder Road Port Republic, MD

Part 2 - Sat. 4/25/2015, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 04/26/2015, 1:30 PM  
American Chestnut Land Trust  
676 Double Oak Rd Prince Frederick, MD 20678

To register: <http://www.ncacbsa.org/event/BCOLS2015>

### **Fall 2015 BCOLS (Virginia)**

Part 1 - Sat. 9/27/2015 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA

Part 2 - Sat. 10/25/2015, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 10/26/2015, 1:30 PM  
Camp Highroad, Middleburg, VA

**Cost:** \$45

**Contact:**

Margee Egan  
[margee.egan@scouting.org](mailto:margee.egan@scouting.org)  
Phone: 301-214-9197

## 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 11-13, 2015

Session 2: October 10-12, 2015

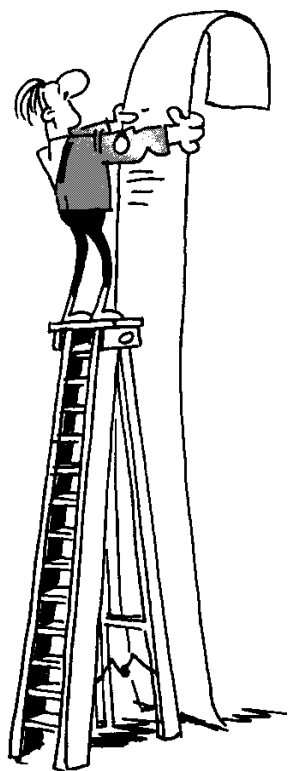
**Location:** Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

**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



## February 2015

- 1 **Freeze-o-ree**
- 8 Scout Sunday
- 14 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
- 24-26 **OA Spring Ordeal**

## 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
- 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

## January 2016

- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 18 MLK Jr. Day
- 27 District Committee
- 29 Moveable School Holiday