

#### Special Interest:

#### **District**

- Spring Camporee pg 2
- Day Camp pg 3
- JTE Results pg 5

#### <u>Advancement</u>

• Cub Scout Handbooks - pg 9

#### Council/National

- Eagle Yearbook pg 12
- Scuba BSA pg 19
- High Adventure pg 22

#### **Training**

- Scoutmaster Training pg 31
- CPR and First Aid pg 33

#### **Quick Calendar:**

- Apr 8 Roundtable
- Apr 10-12 Camporee
- Apr 24-26 OA Ordeal
- May 13 Program Launch
- June 6 Soda Bottle Rocket
   Derby
- June 10 Roundtable
- June 20 Life to Eagle Seminar
- June 29 Day Camp Starts

#### Newsletter Key:

Cub Scout Interest
Boy Scout / Venturing Interest
For Everyone

# Goose Creek District Newsletter



**April 2015** 

Volume 6, Issue 9

From Scoutmaster Clarke Green, January 13, 2015 http://scoutmastercg.com/eagle-scout/

# \*

#### What is an Eagle Scout?

 $\label{prop:section} \textbf{Asking "what is an Eagle Scout?" sparks interesting conversations among Scouters.}$ 

This question got me wrapped around my own axle for a few years; but not anymore.

Conversations about Eagle Scout commonly unfold like an operatic libretto. The curtain rises on the chorus singing about how once proud standards have fallen because now *just anyone* can be an Eagle Scout. Stories of overzealous parents, twelve year-old Eagles (good lord *twelve!*), and other "grave concerns and injustices" unfold dramatically to advance the theme.

In the finale the basso-profundo aria; "Well, we really make our Scouts earn Eagle, we aren't an Eagle Factory (the chorus gasps in horror) like that troop across town."

A standing ovation, and the curtain falls until the next performance.

As a new Scoutmaster (mind you, this was thirty years ago) I was in the audience listening to old Scouters sing their aria of complaint. I certainly wasn't going to be one of *those* pariahs, a Scoutmaster who just *gave away* Eagle. No sir, not me! I joined the cast and learned the songs; I built up my own idealized standard of what an Eagle Scout ought to be. Nobody, *nobody* was going to get Eagle unless they met *my standards*.

I hadn't actually answered the question "what is an Eagle Scout?" I had been distracted by a very different question; "who deserves to be an Eagle Scout?"

The answer to the question "who deserves to be an Eagle Scout?" is easy; any Scout who completes the requirements.

That's it. No more and no less. There's no Eagle-plus, and no Eagle minus, only Eagle.

During my tenure as a Scoutmaster I presented somewhere north of 100 and south of 120 Eagle Scout badges.

So how did it go?

Not one of the boys who received an Eagle during my tenure ever *completely* measured up to my idealized, dramatically operatic, and totally unnecessary standard.

Some years ago, thank goodness, I learned that didn't matter.

The important thing to realize is that once a Scout *earns* Eagle Rank he begins the lifelong process of *becoming* an Eagle Scout.

Not one of the 2.7 million or so boys who have earned the rank were an ideal, fully formed, "EAGLE SCOUT" when someone handed them the badge; they have a lifetime of opportunities ahead of them. We have recognized a measure of potential and character in those Scouts, the rest is up to them.

My first Eagles are well into their forties now, and I am privileged that many of them keep in touch with me. Each is busy becoming an Eagle Scout every day.

That's what an Eagle Scout does.

Our job is not defending the holy sanctuary of Eagledom from the unworthy, quite to the contrary;

... we want to see that *every* Scout has a chance to complete the requirements for Eagle, that way they can spend rest of their lives *becoming* an Eagle Scout.

# **District News**

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

#### **Spring Camporee**



The 2015 Goose Creek District Spring Camporee will be held April 10-12 at the scenic grounds of the Harpers Ferry Adventure Center, Purcellville VA. This year's Camporee focuses on outdoor Scouting fun as embodied in the theme, "Tree Tops to River Runs Adventure."

The event consists of two major parts, a Patrol Competition of six events taking place for half of your Saturday, and a Unit Choice session during the other half for Scouts to explore a selection of optional activities meeting their interest, potentially including white water rafting, zip line canopy tour, aerial adventure park obstacle course, or a half day canoeing trip. Team building activities and an archery and rifle shooting range will also be of interest to adventure minded Scouts.

Each registered Unit will have an assigned AM and PM period scheduled for Competition and Unit Choice. This event is for Boy Scout Troops, Varsity Teams and Venturering Crews. Water activities will require BSA Swimmer verification and all participants must present current BSA Medical Forms and Participant Waivers. An Order of the Arrow Callout Ceremony will be the highlight of the Saturday evening Campfire.

The base Camporee Registration Fee (includes campsite) is \$17.00 for each participant, both Scout and Adult. Adventure Choice activities are optional and have (heavily discounted!) individual fees. No cost activities will also be available. There is no fee for Adult Advisors to participate in the Adventure Choice options. Please select the appropriate option when registering

#### To register:

http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\_details.asp?id=619350&group=114098

Volunteers are needed from every Unit to help run events or support Camporee program activities!

Please direct your questions and willingness for your Unit to serve as Camporee volunteers to John Blackwell, 301-346-0551, john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org

#### **Program Launch**



What's a "Program Launch"? Are we sending Scouts into orbit? Not quite, Program Launch is run by the District Committee and is when Council provides us the Council Planning Calendar for the next program year, the various district committees are at hand to discuss what resources/events they have for you, and local vendors are present to show what they can do to enhance your program.

Program Launch will be held in place of the usual May Roundtable, same place (Leesburg United Methodist Church), same time (May 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 - 9).

#### 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 be at the Loudoun County Fairgrounds (17558 Dry Mill Rd, Leesburg) and the dates are:

- **Day Camp**, June 29<sup>th</sup> July 3rd (9 am 4 pm M-Th, 9 am 2 pm Friday)
  - o Register by April 17<sup>th</sup>, \$175
  - o Register by May 15<sup>th</sup>, \$195
  - o Register after May 15<sup>th</sup>, \$215
- Twilight Camp, June 29<sup>th</sup> July 2<sup>nd</sup> (6:30 pm dusk)
  - o Register by April 17<sup>th</sup>, \$110
  - o Register by May 15<sup>th</sup>, \$120
  - Register after May 15<sup>th</sup>, \$140

#### It's time to schedule your Pack's Summer camp presentation.

A camp presentation is an excellent way to get your Scouting families excited about the wide variety of summer camps available to Goose Creek Cub Scouts. Just send Dave Carty (*David.Carty@morganstanley.com*), our Camp Director, a date, time, and location and he'll make sure your unit gets a great camp presentation.

The camp presenter arrives early and sets up display boards. He'll greet families as your unit gathers and discuss camp options. We then ask for 2-3 minutes, after your Pack opening, for the presenter to address the Pack. He'll not only talk about Day and Twilight camp, but the other excellent camps available – like Camp Snyder and Goshen Scout Reservations (Webelos Only.) After a quick Q&A session, the presenter will turn the meeting back over to the Cubmaster, but be available to answer specific family questions. The presenter will have handouts for your families and can tailor the presentation to your unit's desires. If you have already designed a Pack Camp Coordinator, the presenter would avail any time needed to address camp registration questions.

Remember – Siblings who are Cub Scout ages are welcomed and encouraged to participate in camp with their brothers.

We are also looking for camp staff – young and old. An adult volunteering for the week at camp gets to send one child to camp for free. Youths over the age of 14 are entitled to a \$75.00 credit that can be applied at any NCAC Goshen Reservation Summer Camp. Youth under the age of 14 receive service hours to be used for school or rank advancement. We also welcome girls on staff so get the word out to those Venturing crews.

Book your presentation early and help get those boys excited about Camp. Camp registration will be opening soon.

#### **Newsletter Email Address**



The Goose Creek Newsletter now has its own email address: Newsletter@GooseCreekDistrict.org. If your unit has has done something special (unique service project, camping trip, STEM event, ...) or will be an event that others are invited to just let us know and we will put it in the newsletter. We can even include pictures of the event.

#### **District Court of Honor**

On March 25<sup>th</sup> we held the District Court of Honor to recognize those Scouts who made Eagle and the Scouters who have provided outstanding service to their units or to the district.



District Director Peggy Durbin (far left) presenting District Award of Merit to Deanna Solomon (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Steve Wolfson (far right) while District Chairman Lynn Chapman (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) looks on. Deborah Wintermute, the third award recipient was not able to attend.

Unit Volunteers of the Year who were recognized were:

Pack 663 - Blake Jones	Troop 961 - Brad Holdridge
Pack 998 - Christian Johnson	Troop 961 - Mrs. Robic
Pack 1106 - Kimbrely Holtom	Troop 961 - Anne Romine
Pack 1151 - Rich Goodwin	Troop 966 - Judy Jordan
Pack 1152 - Dawn Deaso	Troop 969 - Ann Detrick
Pack 1156 - Teresa Barth	Troop 970 - John Kinas
Pack 1158 - Lynda Clarkson	Troop 998 - Sue Breen
Pack 1550 - Colette Bradley	Troop 1154 - Tim Yehle
Pack 2013 - Erin Long	Troop 1158 - Rob Chenault
Troop 39 - Kenny Reynolds	Troop 1666 - Glen Devenish
Troop 163 - Wendy Testa	Troop 2012 - Dean Leonard
Troop 786 - Tareq Abedin	Troop 2970 - Ryan Nagle
Troop 950 - Andrew Armstrong	

#### 2014 Journey to Excellence Results



Goose Creek had a 100% turn in for JTE awards this year with 56% of our units receiving Gold. At the District level we had enough overall points for Gold but because we did not fully reach our financial fundraising goals our final level is Silver. Council achieved Gold.

Streamers for your unit's flag will be available at the April Roundtable.

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Pack	38	4	9	51
Troop	26	4	12	42
Team	2	1	7	10
Crew	3	3	13	19
Post	1		3	4
Total	70	12	44	126

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Pack 39	Gold	Pack 1162	Silver	Troop 962 Bronze	Team 1106 Bronze
Pack 58	(new)	Pack 1164	Gold	Troop 966 Gold	Team 1165 Bronze
Pack 71	Gold	Pack 1165	Gold	Troop 968 Silver	Team 1167 Gold
Pack 256	Gold	Pack 1167	Gold	Troop 969 Gold	Team 1168 Bronze
Pack 282	Gold	Pack 1168	Gold	Troop 970 Gold	Team 1173 Gold
Pack 311	Bronze	Pack 1173	Silver	Troop 982 Gold	Team 1174 Bronze
Pack 533	Gold	Pack 1174	Gold	Troop 997 Bronze	
Pack 572	Gold	Pack 1445	Gold	Troop 998 Gold	Crew 58 Silver
Pack 663	Gold	Pack 1483	Gold	Troop 1106 (new)	Crew 533 Bronze
Pack 704	Bronze	Pack 1484	Gold	Troop 1154 Gold	Crew 572 Silver
Pack 711	Silver	Pack 1500	Gold	Troop 1158 Gold	Crew 663 Gold
Pack 712	(new)	Pack 1550	Gold	Troop 1159 Gold	Crew 711 Bronze
Pack 743	Gold	Pack 1576	Gold	Troop 1164 Bronze	Crew 743 Bronze
Pack 905	Gold	Pack 1666	Gold	Troop 1165 Bronze	Crew 953 Bronze
Pack 910	Gold	Pack 1733	Bronze	Troop 1167 Gold	Crew 997 Silver
Pack 950	Gold	Pack 1737	Bronze	Troop 1168 Bronze	Crew 1106 Bronze
Pack 953	Gold	Pack 1871	Silver	Troop 1173 Silver	Crew 1154 Bronze
Pack 956	Gold	Pack 2010	Gold	Troop 1174 Bronze	Crew 1164 Bronze
Pack 958	Gold	Pack 2013	Bronze	Troop 1430 Gold	Crew 1165 Bronze
Pack 961	Gold			Troop 1550 Gold	Crew 1167 Gold
Pack 962	Bronze	Troop 39	Gold	Troop 1576 Gold	Crew 1168 Bronze
Pack 965	Gold	Troop 58	Gold	Troop 1666 Gold	Crew 1173 Gold
Pack 975	Bronze	Troop 163	Silver	Troop 1910 Gold	Crew 1174 Bronze
Pack 982	Gold	Troop 533	Gold	Troop 1941 Gold	Crew 1550 Bronze
Pack 997	Gold	Troop 572	Bronze	Troop 2010 Bronze	Crew 1576 Bronze
Pack 998	Gold	Troop 663	Silver	Troop 2011 Bronze	Crew 7070 Bronze
Pack 1106	Gold	Troop 711	Gold	Troop 2012 Gold	
Pack 1148	Gold	Troop 743	Bronze	Troop 2950 Bronze	Post 1041 Bronze
Pack 1151	Gold	Troop 761	Gold	Troop 2970 Gold	Post 1666 Bronze
Pack 1152	Gold	Troop 786	Gold		Post 1912 Gold
Pack 1154	Bronze	Troop 950	Gold	Team 533 Bronze	Post 6140 Bronze
Pack 1156	Gold	Troop 953	Bronze	Team 663 Silver	
Pack 1157	Gold	Troop 956	Gold	Team 743 Bronze	
Pack 1158	Bronze	Troop 961	Gold	Team 953 Bronze	

#### District Championship Pinewood Derby



As another Championship Pinewood Derby hits the history books, its time to thank our sponsors and participants for making this years event the biggest and best so far. 41 Tigers, 28 Wolfs, 42 Bears, 63 Webelos, 25 Siblings and 1 Adult, for a total of 200 participants raced for the championship, with 38 out of 53, or 72% of the packs sending the best of their units. Fantastic participation from Goose Creek Cub Scout Packs.

Thanks to Legacy Orthodontics for their amazing support. Thanks to Leesburg Chick-fil-A, for once again supplying our 'Derby Diner' with concessions, the special coupons all the participants received, and the prizes for the winners. Thanks to Leesburg Hobby & Collectibles for the gifts and prizes, and lastly to Appalachian Outdoor Readiness & Essentials for their support. Please join us and thank those businesses that support Scouting in Loudoun County. And an extra shout out to Best Western Hotel & Conference Center for allowing us to use their facilities at the last minute.

And BIG THANKS to the young men and women of Venture Crew 7070, and all the scouters that pitched in an made this event successful. I'd also like to thank Pack 1500 and Pack 256 for loaning us their tracks for the day.

To find a complete listing of winners, check the Goose Creek website. Congratulations to all the winners and a big "job well done" to all the scouts and their siblings that raced.

#### 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: <a href="https://www.scoutingforbricks.com/to-exhibit">www.scoutingforbricks.com/to-exhibit</a>

**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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/scouting4bricks
Twitter: www.twitter.com/scouting4bricks

Contact Us: Email: ScoutingForBricks@gmail.com or phone 571-293-1975

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

#### 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 Bears (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 Arrow of Light Scouts and an Introduction to Webelos meeting for Webelos and their parents.



# "Cheerful Service Chatter"

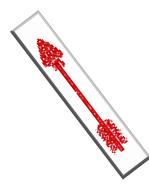
Chapter News for our Arrowmen Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA

#### **OA Elections**



If your Troop has not yet scheduled an Order of the Arrow election, and would like to have one before the Goose Creek Chapter Spring Ordeal, please contact Vice Chief Tyler Wintermute as soon as possible (*theknotmaster@aol.com*). A unit may have their election as late as April 15 and still be able to attend this year's Goose Creek Ordeal, which will be held April 24-26. If your unit is not interested in having an election, please contact OA Chapter Adviser Hal Raffensperger (*hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net*) with this information.

#### Goose Creek OA Spring Ordeal & Brotherhood Conversion



Arrowman mark your calendars for this year's Spring Ordeal, which will be held at the Leesburg Izaak Walton League facility on April 24-26. In addition to the induction of our newly elected candidates we will also be holding a Brotherhood Conversion to allow Arrowman who have been an Ordeal member for over 10 months to "seal" their membership in the Order of the Arrow. Newly elected candidates will receive a Candidate Notification Letter either at the Call Out, which will be held at the Goose Creek Camporee, or the Monday immediately following the Camporee.

The online registration for the Ordeal will open in early April. Please check the Goose Creek OA web page or the Council OA web page in the coming weeks for registration information. If you have any questions, please contact the Chapter Chief Patrick Freeman (*chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org*) or the Chapter Adviser Hal Raffensperger (*hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net*).

#### **Section NE-6A Annual Conclave**



This year's NE-6A Order of the Arrow Conclave will be held at the Rodney Scout Reservation in Del-Mar-Va Council on May 15-17. The weekend will be filled with OA fellowship, training, ceremony team competition, dance team competition, and inter-Lodge sports competition. On-line registration is now open at <a href="https://www.ne6a.org">www.ne6a.org</a>. Contact Hal Raffensperger (<a href="https://hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net">hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net</a>) if you need additional information.

#### Goshen Order of the Arrow Trail (GOAT) Crew



The Order of the Arrow Lodge organizes and sponsors a trail crew at the Goshen Scout Reservation each summer. The trail crew performs a week of trail building and trail maintenance activities for the reservation; this week of service is followed by a second week at the Council's Lenhok'sin trail camp. This year's GOAT crew is scheduled for June 21 to July 4, with a total cost of \$160. This is an outstanding service and educational opportunity for Order of the Arrow members. A brochure is located here: <a href="www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/54616884-78b7-41f8-9303-aab47d9c2066/goat/GOAT\_Brochure\_2015.pdf">www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/54616884-78b7-41f8-9303-aab47d9c2066/goat/GOAT\_Brochure\_2015.pdf</a>

Youth and adult application links and further information are available here: <a href="https://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=115700&id=24736">www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=115700&id=24736</a>

# "Onward and Upward"

On the Advancement Trail

#### **New Eagles**



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

William Mackenzie Ensor – Troop 163 Benjamin Robert Kellogg – Troop 163 Harrison Tyler Sink – Troop 163

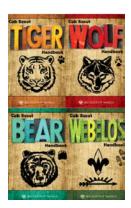
#### **Key Cub Scout Program Change Dates**



Here are some key dates to keep in mind for the Cub Scout Program changes:

- **May 1**: Handbooks and key leader resources will be available in Scout shops and as ebooks via Amazon.com (English). Spanish language resources will be available 45-60 days later.
- June 30: Insignia supporting rank advancement adventure loops and pins – will be available in Scout Shops and on www.scoutstuff.org

#### **Getting the New Cub Scout Handbooks**



Though the new handbooks will be out starting May 1<sup>st</sup>, going into one of the council Scout Shops (Marriot and Springfield) and being able to just pick one, or more, off of the shelves will probably be a fruitless effort because they won't be there in any meaningful number.

If you want your new Cub Scout boys manual in a timely manner, you will have to **PRE ORDER** your books at one of the shops. You can call in, but we believe the order has to be made in person. The new manuals are also going to cost almost twice the current price.

Thanks to one of our valiant Unit Commissioners, however, we have found out that Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles is also going to stock the new Cub Scout handbooks. They are currently taking pre-orders for "any" mix of 30 books and the customer will receive a 10% discount. They said they should be in the store by the end of April or 1st of May.

Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles Inc. 9 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176
703-779-8600
http://www.leesburghobbies.com
info@leesburghobbies.com

As for the Leaders Guide book, we were strongly advised to load the .pdf version as the most economical way. (IT'S FREE)

#### **Buying Buy Cub Scout Adventure Loops and Pins without an Advancement Report**



Belt loops have always been the "bling" of Cub Scouting. Boys love these shiny symbols of their accomplishments.

That fundamental part of Cub Scouting remains when the new Cub Scout program debuts on June 1. In fact, it'll only get better. Adventure loops will replace belt loops. Boys must earn at least seven adventure loops on their way to each of the first three ranks: Tiger, Wolf and Bear. They must earn at least seven adventure pins on their way to Webelos and Arrow of Light.

But rather than wait until a pack meeting to present the loops and pins boys have earned, Cub Scout leaders should present them as soon after earning as is reasonable. Immediate recognition is important with boys of Cub Scout age.

That's why the BSA has just announced (Mar 24<sup>th</sup>) that an advancement report is not required to purchase Cub Scout adventure loops and adventure pins at local council service centers, national Scout Shops, or via ScoutStuff.org.

Also, advancement reports won't be required to purchase certificates (pocket or full-size) to be used to recognize boys who have earned their adventure loops and pins.

You'll still need signed advancement reports to purchase rank badges, though.

#### Merit Badge Counselor Lists and Registration



Greetings from your friendly neighborhood Merit Badge Dean! I'm Tom Hill, and it's my job to keep the Goose Creek District list of Merit Badge Counselors (MBC) current. You can find the most recent lists (February 2015) on our District web page, under Advancement and Recognition

(http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=114098&id=272523) . The two lists (one sorted by counselor name, the other by merit badge) contain only those counselors who, according to my records, said they'd serve all scouts or scouts in Goose Creek. Counselors who specified troops they want to work with are expected to work with those troops themselves. Also, this latest posted list only includes people for whom I have current YPT information, so it's possible that some people were left off the list who are YPT current, but I wasn't informed.

**Counselors Needed**: In our list of "any scout" counselors, we are missing counselors for the following badges: American Labor, Archaeology, Chemistry, Climbing, Dentistry, Drafting, Landscape Architecture, Mining in Society (I've got a lead on someone for this, but more is more), Pulp and Paper, Rowing, Sculpture, Small-Boat Sailing, Sports, Surveying, Truck Transportation, Veterinary Medicine, and Water Sports. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a counselor in one or more of these badges, please apply using the process listed below.

Anyone wishing to become a Merit Badge Counselor, even people who are already registered as volunteers, need to submit the following items:

- An Adult Registration form (with position code 42 selected) and yes, you must fill in another even if you are already registered with a unit because a MBC is a Council level position and requires different signatures for approval,
- A current YPT certification,
- A Merit Badge Counselor Application form.

We do this mainly due to the difficulties of the computer system involved but also to keep the application process consistent for all applicants. The easiest way to submit the forms, with the least chance of them getting lost, is to scan them and email them to <code>MeritBadgeDean@GooseCreekDistrict.org</code>, which will send a copy to me for recording the merit badges and to our district executive who handles the adult application. Since the systems are separate, it helps a lot if already-registered adults include their BSA ID on all paperwork. I will reply to counselors after updating their records saying that they're in the system.

I attend most district round tables, and am always available if you have any comments or questions. The best way to contact me is through the email address listed above. Thank you for volunteering, and let's make it a goal to expose our boys to the wide experience out there through our merit badge program!



#### Murphy's Laws of Camping

- The area of level ground in the neighborhood tends to vanish as the need to make camp becomes finite.
- Your side of the tent is the side that leaks.
- Propane/butane tanks that are full when they are packed, will unexplainably empty themselves before you can reach the campsite.

#### 5 Tips for Helping Scouts Reach Eagle Before Time Runs Out



Some Life Scouts race against the clock to earn the Eagle Scout award before they turn 18, including a handful who complete their board of review on the eve of their 18th birthday. It doesn't have to be that way.

Dial down the drama of eleventh-hour Eagles with these five tips for helping Scouts reach Eagle with plenty of time to spare.

The ideas were adapted from Mark Ray's *Scouting* magazine article called "Game of Life to Eagle: Helping Scouts reach the finish line." Find more great ideas there: <a href="http://scoutingmagazine.org/2014/04/game-life-eagle-helping-scouts-reach-finish-line/">http://scoutingmagazine.org/2014/04/game-life-eagle-helping-scouts-reach-finish-line/</a>

#### 5. Set a target date.

Everyone needs a deadline. Encourage Scouts to set target dates for completing key requirements. For example: Have all Eagle-required merit badges completed by age 16. Have the Eagle Scout service project completed by age 17. An Eagle coach (known in some troops as a "Life-to-Eagle coordinator" or an "involved parent") can help the Scout come up with these dates.

Make sure the target dates are several months before the Scout turns 18.

#### 4. Manage expectations.

Hope for the best but plan for the worst. Emphasize to Scouts that every step along the journey will take longer than they think.

Then if they finish the requirements early, everyone wins. (And everyone gets to eat cake at the court of honor even sooner!)

#### 3. Take it one step at a time.

The journey to Eagle isn't easy. So it's best taken one step at a time. That's why you suggest that Scouts concentrate on merit badges first and then the service project (or vice versa), so they won't feel overwhelmed.

#### 2. Finish the time-sensitive merit badges ASAP.

The Eagle-required Family Life, Personal Fitness and Personal Management merit badges have requirements that take several months. Urge Scouts to get those time-sensitive requirements out of the way early.

Those requirements can't be altered in any way, so a Life Scout starting on Family Life requirement 3 — "Prepare a list of your regular home duties or chores (at least five) and do them for 90 days" — two months before he turns 18 would not be able to earn the Eagle Scout award.

#### 1. Remember your role.

A basketball coach encourages and guides his players from the sidelines, but he doesn't take the shots himself.

Similarly, encouragement along the journey to Eagle Scout is fine — and preferable to not paying attention at all.

But don't take the shots for them.

And never work harder than the Scouts you're working with. After all, they're the ones who get the Eagle Scout badge once all requirements are completed — not you.

#### 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 prevalidation 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 prevalidation process are on pages 46-47.

# **Council / National News**

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

#### 2014 Eagle Scout Yearbook



The 2014 Eagle Scout Yearbook, which will showcase the 51,820-member 2014 Eagle Scout class. If you or someone you know is a member of the 2014 Eagle Scout class, here are the details you need.

Like any school or university yearbook, the 2014 Eagle Scout Yearbook will feature names and pictures of members of the 2014 class. But like any class yearbook, it's only as good as the information provided.

2014 Eagle Scouts will receive a postcard, email and/or phone call from PCI, the company producing the yearbook for NESA. Eagle Scouts will be asked to submit a photo and answer questions like, "Whom do you most admire?" "What was your toughest merit badge?" "What does the Scout Law mean to you?" They'll also describe their Eagle project. The yearbook will be available for purchase when providing this information. Eagle Scouts who do not participate will have only their first name and last initial and troop number included.

Proceeds from the yearbook help fund the NESA scholarship endowment. Over the past seven years, the NESA scholarship fund has increased from 75 scholarships valued at \$250,000 to more than 250 scholarships valued at \$650,000 through projects like the Eagle Scout Yearbook.

Eagle Scouts who submit a photo for the yearbook get a patch like the one seen to the left of this article. You don't have to buy a yearbook to get your name and photo in the yearbook or get a patch.

#### **Special Needs Scouting Resources**



The basic premise of Scouting for youth with special needs is that every boy wants to participate fully and be respected like every other member of the troop. While there are, by necessity, troops exclusively composed of Scouts with disabilities; experience has shown that Scouting usually succeeds best when every boy is part of a patrol in a regular troop.

Every unit leader ought to take the time to read *The Guide to Working With Scouts With Special Needs and Disabilities* (http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/510-071.pdf)

You can reach the National Disabilities Awareness Committee task force for answers to questions about special needs Scouting at **disabilities.awareness@scouting.org**.

For a PowerPoint presentation about Including Scouts with Disabilities see: <a href="http://www.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/ppt/Including\_Scouts\_with\_Disabilities.ppt">http://www.scouting.org/filestore/boyscouts/ppt/Including\_Scouts\_with\_Disabilities.ppt</a>

The Committee publishes *Abilities Digest* a quarterly newsletter full of information and resources (for the Winter 2015 edition: <a href="https://files.ctctcdn.com/137c2ed6201/420b86c5-0375-46e6-b286-cf19c8b1c635.pdf?utm\_source=2015+Abilites+Digest+Winter+Issue&utm\_campaign=2015+Winter+Abilities+Digest&utm\_medium=email). Any Scouting volunteer or professional may subscribe by sending a message to <a href="disabilities.awareness@scouting.org">disabilities.awareness@scouting.org</a> – put "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line and put your name, email address, and council in the message text.

There's a Scouts with Special Needs Web Page for now, an expanded set of resources will be offered at a new web page that should go live soon.

#### **Update to Camp Scout App Makes It Easy To Share Your Favorite Camps**



Camp Scout, the free camp-finding app from *Boys' Life*, keeps getting better and better. More local council camps are being added all the time, and there is now an exciting update to this essential Scouting tool.

Camp Scout app version 1.0.2 adds social-sharing features that make sending info about your favorite camps to fellow Scouters and Scouts a breeze. The app uses the same sharing interface as your other favorite apps, so there's zero learning curve. See a cool council camp your senior patrol leader should know about? Email it to him with a couple of taps. It's so easy.

The other big change simplifies the feedback process. Maybe you want to leave a comment about the app. Or perhaps you see an inaccurate or missing piece of information about one of your favorite council camps. Either way, simply tap the speech bubble at the bottom of the screen to send your message directly to the Camp Scout app team. This feedback helps make the Camp Scout app an even better resource for Scouts and Scout volunteers.

Camp Scout is a free download on iOS devices. Click on this link <a href="http://itunes.apple.com/app/id831047810?mt">http://itunes.apple.com/app/id831047810?mt</a>=8 from your iPhone, iPod Touch or iPad to download Camp Scout on the App Store.

#### **Eagle Career Day**



Every year, the Gathering of Eagles offers young Eagle Scouts, Quartermasters, and Venturing Silver Award recipients the opportunity to be mentored by a professional in an industry or career field they are interested in pursuing. All Scouts through age 21 who have earned one of these awards are encouraged to participate.

**When**: May 30, 2015, 1:30 to 4:00 PM. Online registration will be available soon! Visit **www.NCACBSA.org/ECD** to learn more.

#### Want to be an Eagle Career Day Mentor?

Mentors from a variety of businesses, social and civic organizations are needed to help familiarize youth with his/her workplace and industry. To learn how to be a mentor, go to <a href="https://www.NCACBSA.org/ECDMentor">www.NCACBSA.org/ECDMentor</a>.

#### **Cub Scout Graphics and Logos for the New Program**



The new Cub Scout program arrives June 1, and with it come some cool new Cub Scout graphics.

But you won't need to search Google Images and wonder whether you're using the right version of the rank badges, handbook covers and adventure loop icons. Instead, the BSA has made it incredibly easy to find all the new Cub Scout imagery in one place:

www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Marketing/Brand/logos/Programs/cubscouting.aspx

You're free to use these high-res Cub Scout graphics and logos to update your handouts, PowerPoint presentations and web pages.

As first reported on the all-new Scouting Wire (<a href="http://scoutingwire.org/">http://scoutingwire.org/</a>), the images live on the BSA's Marketing Toolbox, which has long been a useful resource for Scouting logos, recruiting tools, social media guidelines and more.

The addition of the logos for the new Cub Scout program makes the Marketing Toolbox even better. You'll find these Cub Scout graphics there:

- The Cub Scout program logo in color and black and white (this logo didn't change)
- The rank badges (only Tiger, which was formerly Tiger Cub, is new; the rest haven't changed)
- Youth handbook covers
- Den leader guide covers
- · Covers for other leader resources
- Tiger adventure loop icons
- Wolf adventure loop icons
- Bear adventure loop icons
- Webelos and Arrow of Light pin icons

#### **Pre Camp Swim Tests**



This is an opportunity for your unit to have your annual BSA swim classification check done under the supervision of NCAC-approved aquatics personnel at the Camp William B. Snyder pool.

**When**: June 6. 30 min blocks starting at 1pm, last session starting at 4:30pm. Up to 20 tests per 30 minute session

Where: Camp William B. Snyder

Cost: \$2 per participant

**Note**: Although these swim tests are being conducted prior to summer camp, the camp aquatics director is expected to review or retest any Scout or leader whose skills appear to be inconsistent with his classification. Additionally, the camp aquatics program director is authorized to retest any Scout or group of Scouts at his discretion. Goshen Scout Reservation waterfronts require swim classification tests be conducted at Goshen in Lake Merriweather.

A unit swim classification record will be issued by NCAC Aquatics personnel to each unit showing the swim classification (swimmer, beginner, non-swimmer) of each participant.

This event is open to all NCAC units.

Registration: www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\_details.asp?id=524091#

#### Falcon Webcam



The public can get up-close and personal with Baltimore's famous peregrine falcons with the click of a button, thanks to the new Chesapeake Conservancy camera: www.ChesapeakeConservancy.org/peregrine-falcon-webcam.

The camera gives a live feed a peregrine falcon nest located on the 33rd floor ledge of the Transamerica skyscraper at 100 Light St. in downtown Baltimore. The falcon cameras comes after the nonprofit saw popularity with its osprey webcam (<a href="https://www.ChesapeakeConservancy.org/osprey-cam">www.ChesapeakeConservancy.org/osprey-cam</a>), says Joel Dunn, executive director of the Chesapeake Conservancy.

"Our popular osprey cam had thousands of followers from all over the world. Now, we're very excited to bring the wonder of these majestic peregrine falcons to the public," Dunn said in a news release.

The camera also brings awareness to the species.

"Many people know Baltimore for our Ravens, but few realize that peregrine falcons have been living on the ledge of one of our most iconic skyscrapers for decades," Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake said in a release.

The birds of prey have been living near Baltimore's Inner Harbor for more than 35 years and prefer man-made structures for nesting. In addition to the 100 Light St. skyscraper, peregrine falcons have built nests on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Francis Scott Key Bridge and U.S. 301 Potomac River Bridge.

#### **Food Safety Practices for Outdoor Cooking**



Excerpt From http://cubscoutideas.com/4131/food-safety-practices-for-outdoor-cooking/

In the new Cub Scout Adventure program, our Webelos will complete the Cast Iron Chef adventure. This will help them learn how to cook outdoors which has some challenges that we don't have when cooking indoors. [GC Editor's Note: This is also good information for new Boy Scouts who didn't have to do the Iron Chef].

One of the challenges is how to keep your food safe when you don't have the luxury of a refrigerator. Our boys need to learn good food safety practices while cooking outdoors.

It's important to **keep food at the correct temperature** to avoid bacteria. Most bacteria do not grow rapidly at temperatures below 40 °F or above 140 °F. The "**Danger Zone**" is any temperature between 40 °F and 140 °F. Bacteria multiply rapidly at these temperatures and can reach dangerous levels after 2 hours. If the outdoor temperature is 90 °F or above, it only takes 1 hour for bacteria to reach a dangerous level.

Since it's difficult to keep food hot for very long without a heat source, it's **better to cool the food you'll take on your camping trip**. If you're "car camping," taking a cooler will be easy. Blocks of ice will last longer than ice cubes. Fill empty milk cartons with water and freeze them to make ice blocks. While you're at the campsite, **cover your cooler** with a blanket to keep it insulated.

Consider taking 2 coolers—one for food and one for drinks. The drink cooler will be opened and closed a lot which will cause the ice to melt more quickly. Food will stay colder in a cooler that isn't opened often.

Take a food thermometer. It's hard to tell when meat or poultry is done if you're cooking on a grill or camp stove, so use a thermometer to ensure that food is cooked to the correct temperature. You can order one through my Amazon affiliate link.

#### **Keep Everything Clean**

Raw meat and poultry contain bacteria that can be spread to other foods through the juices dripping from packages or your hands. The boys should make sure they double wrap or bag uncooked meat to avoid contaminating other food. Use different platters and utensils for raw and cooked meat.

They also need to remember to **wash their hands well** before and after handling raw poultry or meat. Your campsite may not have running water, so make sure you take soap and water for clean up.

Their fruits and vegetables also need to be washed and dried before packing them in the cooler.

#### **BSA & American Red Cross Lifeguard Training**





Do you need training for your Lifeguarding job for the summer? NCAC is holding a lifeguard course starting this May.

This course will use the Red Cross blended learning option that requires approximately 7 1/2 hours of online study before May 30. This allows us to reduce the amount of time needed for the pool-side classes. You will earn the following certifications by successfully completing this course:

- American Red Cross Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED
- BSA Lifeguard

Dates/Times: (5 sessions)

- May 17 3-6 pm, Freedom Aquatic Center, Manassas VA Prerequisite swim test and orientation
- May 30 9am-5pm, Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket VA
- May 31 9am-5pm, Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket VA
- June 6 9am-5pm, Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket VA
- June 7 9am-5pm, Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket VA

Note: You must attend ALL sessions to complete the course

#### What are the requirements:

- You must be at least 15 years old
- You must demonstrate the following at the prerequisite swim test: swim continuously for 550 yards, including at least 100 yards of each of the following strokes in good form: front crawl, breaststroke, elementary backstroke, and sidestroke. Immediately following the swim you must tread water for two minutes using no hands (your hands must be under your armpits).
- You must be able to, starting in the water, swim 20 yards using a front crawl or breaststroke, surface dive 7-10 feet, retrieve a 10-pound object, surface, swim with the object 20 yards back to the starting point, and exit the water, all within 1 minute, 40 seconds.

#### What do you need to bring:

- You must supply a BSA Annual Health and Medical Record form signed by a physician. You must be approved for swimming activities
- You will need to furnish a swim mask, snorkel and fins (all other equipment is provided)
- You will need to bring a bag lunch for each day of the weekend sessions.

**Cost**: \$120

**Registration**: www.ncacbsa.org/events/Sessions.aspx?id=524114. Register early since the course is limited to the first 16 participants. Online registration closes on May 11.

**Contact**: Mike Meenehan

mmmeenehan@cox.net Phone: 703-400-2176

#### On the Relationship between BSA and World Scouting



In physical size, that purple patch above your left pocket is one of the smallest items on your Scout uniform.

But in significance, it's one of the biggest.

The purple patch — official name: World Crest — represents the Boy Scouts of America's membership in the World Organization of the Scout Movement, or WOSM.

It's worn by registered youth and adult leaders in all of the 161 National Scout Organizations around the world.

To find out more about this check out *Bryan on Scouting* blog: http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/03/26/purple-patch-relationship-bsa-world-scouting/

#### Scuba Certification and Scuba Diving Merit Badge



**What**: PADI open water scuba certification and the BSA Scuba Diving merit badge.

**Who**: This course is for Scouts and Adults least 11 years old.

- Participants younger than 15 years old will receive PADI Junior Open Water Diver Certification.
- 15 years and older receive PADI Open Water Diver Certification.

**Where**: Camp Snyder (orientation, classroom, pool session) local quarry (open water training dives)

**Required form**: Each participant must complete a PADI Medical questionnaire available at: <a href="http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/padi.pdf">http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/padi.pdf</a>

#### When:

- (Day 1) Orientation Jul 26 1-3pm;
- (Day 2 and 3) class/pool sessions Aug 15 & 16 9am-5pm,
- (Day 4 and 5) open water training dives Aug 22 & 23 10am-1pm;
- (Also Day 5) Scuba Diving merit badge counseling session Aug 23, 4-6pm

**Cost**: Scuba certification class and merit badge session - \$450 (includes all equipment); Scuba diving merit badge session fee is included.

Registration: http://ncacbsa.site-

ym.com/events/event\_details.asp?id=524096# , Online registration is

available until July 20

Contact: Mike Meenehan

mmmeenehan@cox.net Phone: 703-400-2176

#### Scuba BSA



Scuba BSA introduces participants to the special skills, equipment, and safety precautions associated with scuba diving, encourages aquatics activities that promote fitness and recreation, and provides a foundation for those who later will participate in more advanced underwater activities.

The Scuba BSA experience contains two parts— Knowledge Development and Water Skills Development. During the first part, participants learn basic dive safety information and overview skills to be used during their water experience. The Water Skills Development session introduces essential dive skills, such as mask clearing, regulator clearing, and alternate air source use.

NOTE: This is an introductory, try-it scuba experience. It does not result in certification for diving on your own. It covers the requirements of the Scuba BSA award. It is not the BSA Scuba Diving merit badge. Many people decide to go on and take a certification course after trying scuba.

Who: Any Boy Scout-aged youth or adult. Maximum 8 participants per session

**Preregistration is required**: Each participant must complete a PADI Medical questionnaire available at:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/padi.pdf

When: June 14. 1.5 hour sessions at 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30pm

Registration: http://ncacbsa.site-

ym.com/events/event\_details.asp?id=524109#, Online registration is available

until June 8. To view the sessions: http://ncacbsa.site-

vm.com/events/Sessions.aspx?id=524109

Cost: \$25 (includes all equipment). All you need to bring is your swimsuit and a

towel!

Contact: Mike Meenehan

mmmeenehan@cox.net Phone: 703-400-2176

#### **Passport DC Embassy Days**



Once a year the diplomatic community from around the world throws open the doors of the various Embassies, Consulates and Missions for the public at large to stop in and visit. The "Embassy Days" are coordinated by Passport DC and take place on Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>. There is no associated cost and no need to register. Activities range from informal tours of the grounds, to local food, music and culture. It's a great family event and wonderful for Scouts looking to get a little international flavor. Participating nations on May 2<sup>nd</sup> span the world while European nations make up the bulk of the May 9<sup>th</sup> participants.

For a full list of which nations are taking part, a map of the city and more information as to specific activities, look to the Passport DC website at <a href="https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portal/passport-dc1">www.culturaltourismdc.org/portal/passport-dc1</a>

# 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Cherry Blossom Festival



Every year the Japan-America Society of Washington DC hosts the annual Cherry Blossom Festival ("Sakura Matsuri") to celebrate Japanese culture, music, food and the long fruitful connection between our two great nations. Scouts of the National Capital Area Council may elect to serve as "Scout Ambassadors" during a portion of the event and provide direction to visitors. It's a great way to provide service to an international forum, put Scouting's best foot forward and obtain free admission to the festival. Scouts will hand out programs or provide directions from the Metro stations to the festival. Scouts work a shift helping out and then attend the event themselves. It's a great experience!

For more detail look to the International Committee of the NCAC or to to: <a href="https://www.ncacbsa.org/event/sm2015">www.ncacbsa.org/event/sm2015</a>

Registration IS required, so log on soon.

When: April 2015 9AM-4PM

#### **National Capital Area Sporting Clays Tournament**



When: May 7-8, 2015

Where: Camp Snyder.

**Teams**: 4 shooters per team, shoot 100 targets at 12 stations each. Each shooter will receive shells and ear protection. Shooting glasses will be available

Cost: Individual Team \$800. Individual Shooter \$300

**Prizes**: Prizes for the top shooting teams and individuals will be presented at the conclusion of each flight.

VIP Shooters: Dave Butz of the Washington Redskins

**Information**: Contact Phillip Duggins at 540-220-9904 or online at **www.NCACBSA.org/ClayShoot**. Registration is open until 5/4/2015

#### **Venturing, Sea Scouting Application Changes**



New Venturing and Sea Scouting participants who are 18 but not yet 21 must complete an Adult Application and Criminal Background Check/Disclosure/Authorization form.

To support this change, the youth and adult applications have been revised. The new youth application and the new adult application should now be used.

In addition, unit adult applications will no longer require council approval, unless the applicant has answered "yes" to any of the background questions. Council approval will still be required for adults in district and council-level positions. This change is documented on page two of the adult application under the sectin titled "Approval Required-Unit Adults".

#### **Cub Family Campouts 2015**



The Family Campout is for all Cub Scouts and family members.

#### When

- April 11-12, 2015
- May 9-10, 2015

Where: Camp William B. Snyder, 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA 20169

#### Times:

- Optional Friday night camping: 6:00 9:00pm
- Official Check-in: Saturday 8:00 9:30 am
- Program Areas open at 10:00 am 5:00 pm

#### Cost:

Cub Scouts/Cub Scout age youth: \$25

• Adults: \$5

Children 5 and under are free

**Meal Plan**: Optional meal plan is \$10 per person, (kids 5 and under no charge).

Includes meals from Saturday lunch through Sunday breakfast

Housing: Participants should plan on bringing their own tents. Showers and

restrooms will be available.

**Registration**: Accepted on a first come first serve basis. Registration due 7

days prior to event. Additional late registration fee of \$5 per person applied to all registrations received afterwards.

#### **Activities Available:**

- BB Gun and Archery
- Handicrafts
- Nature Projects
- Outdoor Skills Activities
- Slingshots
- Field Games
- Fishing
- Both Weekends Different!

#### **Camp Snyder Events**



Saturday May 9, 10 noon to 4pm come for previews of summer camp, STEM programs, summer activities and more. The cost is \$5 for Family Campers and \$10 for Scouts in uniform.

Saturday June 13, watch a movie while floating in the pool. Gates open 730pm and the movie starts at dusk. Concessions will be available. The cost is \$5 for Scouts and \$10 for non-Scouts.

Information on these events and more may be found online at www.GoToSnyder.org

#### **High Adventure Opportunities**



For units with older Scouts (i.e., 14 and older), NCAC has three great high adventure opportunities:

**FLORIDA SEA BASE**. Want to sail on a 40- to 50-foot sailing yacht for a week? Want to learn navigation, fishing and sailing in the Florida Keys? We have openings for just seven more youth and two adults **this summer!** Contact Dana Abrahamsen, Sea Base program liaison (*dabrahamsen@ftc.gov*, 703-280-9782) with questions.

**NORTHERN TIER** Want to go canoeing deep in the wilderness of Canada? NCAC is starting provisional treks to Bissett, Manitoba, in **July 2016**. Sign-ups are now being accepted for 12 youth and 4 adults to experience the "Most extreme High Adventure in Scouting." Be a part of NCAC's inaugural provisional treks to Manitoba. Questions? Contact Craig Reichow, Northern Tier program liaison, (sctmstr@verizon.net, 703-478-0660),

**PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH**. NCAC provisional opportunities in 2015 are no longer available, but are available for 2016. Still want to go this summer? See the paragraph below. Questions? Contact the Philmont program liaison, Ed Graydon (ed.graydon@verizon.net, 703-680-6550).

FREE REFERRAL SERVICE. Have a high adventure opening? Have someone who wants to do High Adventure this summer? Full crews maximize the experience, so contact the High Adventure Committee program liaison (names above) and we'll help interested trekkers find spaces we know are available. No promises, but it might just connect your trekkers with the trip of a lifetime. Contact the High Adventure Committee now if interested or have space available.

More Questions? Our GCD High Adventure Representative is John Blackwell (*john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org*,540-822-4395). Note: See the NCAC HAC contact list for base program liaisons if you have questions about other high adventure bases.

#### ScubaJam Virginia 2015



**What:** The ScubaJam Virginia program was created to provide a great SCUBA diving experience to BSA registered youths, boys and girls, ages 11-20. The event has been created by interested divers representing dive shops, scuba training operations, and various BSA Troops and Venturing Crews.

Where: Lake Rawlings, VA (in Rawlings, VA; roughly 1 hour south of Richmond)

When: Sept 4-7, 2015

**Cost and Registration:** *www.scubajam-va.org* (Note: ScubaJam is not a BSA sponsored event but rather an event provided for BSA Units and Crews).

**Registration**: Youth must be 11 -20 years of age. All participants must be registered with a participating groups and the group must (1) register themselves and their members with the event, (2) take responsibility for meeting youth protection and control requirements of their respective organizations and (3) must have a dive professional attached to the registration

#### **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
Session 2: July 13-16
Session 3: July 20-23
Session 4: July 27-30
Session 4: July 27-30
Cost: \$190 - register by April 15
\$210 - register by May 15
\$230 - register after Jun 15
\$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

\$200 Toglotor artor t

\$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

**8522** to register today.

www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=119323&id=28
2474 for additional information on registration and fees.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=125566&id=29">www.ncacbsa.org/members/group\_content\_view.asp?group=125566&id=29</a>

#### 2015 Goshen Summer Camp Availability

. .



Key:	Available Almost Full	F	ull					
		Week						
	<b>Camp</b> (as of 03/25/2015)	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	Bowman (Patrol Cooking)							
	Marriot (Patrol Cooking & Heater Stack)	LDS Week						
Olmsted (BS Dining Hall)								
	Lenhok'sin High Adventure							
	PMI (Dining Hall)							
	Ross (Dining Hall)					5		

Week 1 – 6/21 to 6/27 Week 4 – 7/12 to 7/18 Week 2 – 6/28 to 7/4 Week 5 – 7/19 to 7/25 Week 3 – 7/5 to 7/11 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.

#### **Kids to Parks Day**



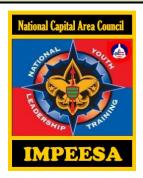
In Scouting, we'll take any excuse to get outside and explore neighborhood parks. There's a wealth of science, history, nature and adventure right around the corner or just across town.

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 (<a href="http://parktrust.org/kidstoparks/national-kids-to-parks-day">http://parktrust.org/kidstoparks/national-kids-to-parks-day</a>) to be a part of this massive movement.

#### **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

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

Registration: http://www.ncacbsa.org/event/nylt20153

#### 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

Online RSVP: 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 <a href="https://www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala">www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala</a>

#### SCUBA Diving Merit Badge Counseling Session



When: 8/23/2015, 4:00:00 PM - 6:00:00 PM

Where: AB Sea's Diving

10416 Hampton Road

Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039

**United States** 

Contact: Mike Meenehan

mmmeenehan@cox.net Phone: (703) 400-2176

Registration: \$5,

www.ncacbsa.org/events/event\_details.asp?id=524108

Event is limited to 36 Boy Scout

# **On-Line Resource of the Month**



It's been said that the Boy Scouts of America is the largest user of dead trees anywhere in the world. The number of printed publications has been legendary – handbooks, pamphlets, forms, guidebooks, magazines – seemingly one for every purpose and sometimes several.

The BSA seems to have adopted the same philosophy with websites. There are at least a dozen different national websites, each dedicated to a specific purpose, but none were designed to deliver news and information to everyone with a stake in the program. Professionals have had <a href="https://www.Scout-Wire.org">www.Scout-Wire.org</a> for some time, and while it carries news of use to volunteers, it's primarily aimed at those who are paid employees of the BSA or one of its local councils. There's <a href="https://www.Scouting.org">www.Scouting.org</a>, of course, which provides general information, membership, policy and procedures, and its subsites <a href="https://www.my.scouting.org">www.my.scouting.org</a>, which provide training, profile, unit and commissioner tools and other self-service resources. The three magazines and four high-adventure bases each have their own websites. And most of us are familiar with <a href="https://www.scoutstuff.org">www.scoutstuff.org</a>, the online presence of the Supply Division.

To provide a central site for current information, the BSA has announced the opening of yet another website providing news for everyone involved in Scouting. *www.ScoutingWire.org* has gone live, has a slick appearance and easy navigation, and sorts articles into categories for the various programs as well as for local council staff.

Stories appear in one or more of the topics of Activities, Finance, Fundraising, High Adventure, Leadership, Marketing, Training and Recruiting. There are links to yet more websites: <a href="https://www.ScoutingNewsroom.org">www.ScoutingNewsroom.org</a> which publishes official press releases, <a href="https://www.BSAChief.org">www.BSAChief.org</a>, Chief Scout Executive Wayne Brock's own website, and the sites of the three magazines Boys' Life, Scouting and Eagles' Call.



# **Equipment / Gear**

#### **Choosing the Right Insect Protection**



Excerpted from an article by Buck Tilton in the pages of Camping Life magazine

In a galaxy here and now, the camper's war against the bugs continues, as it has for eons, ever since something sort of human swatted something mosquito-like. Bugs bite with their front parts or sting with their back parts, and sometimes it itches, sometimes it hurts and sometimes we get sick later. At all times we need to be armed - with knowledge and weapons - to put up the good fight. We'll never completely vanquish the dark hordes, but we can do our very best to win a few battles.

**Mosquitoes** - You can fight the itch with topical anti-itch products, such as Sting-Eze. If the product contains benzocaine, expect some pain relief as well. Oral anti-histamines like Benadryl will also reduce the itch. Steroid creams have little to no effect. Bites scratched open, especially on kids, should be monitored for the increasing redness, swelling and pain that indicate infection. And those bites should be washed well and bandaged.

You can prevent many 'skeeter bites. Clothing thick enough or tightly woven enough keeps their mouthparts from reaching our skin - and if the sleeves and pants are long, so much the better. Mosquitoes show a preference for dark colored clothing, so go light with, say khaki. You can use an insect repellent, and be sure the mosquito netting in tents remains in good repair. Mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk - good times to be behind netting. And try to avoid mosquito prone areas: standing water, dense vegetation and places where people say, "wow there sure are a lot of mosquitoes over there."

**Ticks** - All ticks should be removed as soon as they are found. Don't touch the tick with bare hands, but, if possible, put it in a bottle or some such container, saving it for lab tests in case of later illness. After removal, the wound should then be cleaned with soap and water or a disinfectant and an adhesive bandage applied. Tweezers should be cleaned after use.

An article in the *Journal of Wilderness and Environmental Medicine* revealed that 20 percent of tick attachment sites on humans are places where the biter (tick) cannot be seen by the bitten (you). The sites, in order of preference by ticks, were lower limbs, the lower abdomen and genital area, the back at chest level and the buttocks. The message: During tick season, the twice-a-day tick check we need to perform will require a mirror or someone we know well.

Wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants, with light colors more useful, allows us the chance to see a tick before it reaches our skin. Tucking long pants into high socks gives us even more protection. And we should try to avoid contact with tall grass and low bushes where they like to hide and wait.

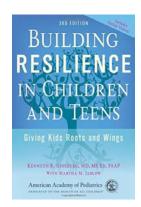
#### **Insect Repellents That Work**

- DEET (N, N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide): Continuing studies show it to be the best. The New England Journal of Medicine (2002) reported a concentration of 23.8% DEET kept bugs away completely for about five hours. People occasionally react negatively to DEET on their skin. Very rarely is the reaction serious.
- Picaridin: A chemical alternative to DEET that works well but not as long as DEET. Unlike DEET, no negative reactions are known.
- Lemon Eucalyptus Oil: Products with this oil offer complete protection for about two hours. And it smells kind of nice.
- Soybean Oil: Products with this oil keep bugs off for about an hour and a half.
- Permethrin: This is a potent insect neurotoxin synthesized, and proven safe, for human use. Apply it to clothing, not to skin, and bugs are killed after contact.

Nothing else, suggest many experts, is worth taking the time to smear on, swallow, or hang near your campsite - it just plain doesn't work.

### **Books**

#### **Building Resilience in Children and Teens**



Extract of review by Scoutmaster Clarke Green, http://scoutmastercg.com/building-resilience-seven-cs-and-scouting/

An author was being interviewed on the radio in the background as I was working away at my desk. He was discussing building resilience in young people. As I listened I thought "Hey! Who is this guy? This sounds a lot like Scouting!"

It turned out Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg was being interviewed and after listening I got a copy of his book *Building Resilience in Children and Teens*. As I read I recognized Scouting explained with greater definition, clarity, and order; a "high resolution" version of familiar landmarks.

As the title indicates Ginsburg begins by introducing resilience;

If we want our children to experience the world as fully as possible—unfortunately with all its pain, and thankfully with all its joy—our goal will have to be resilience. Resilience is the capacity to rise above difficult circumstances, the trait that allows us to exist in this less-than-perfect world while moving forward with optimism and confidence.

"Resilient" is the best one-word answer to the question "what do we want our children to be?"

We know that Scouting is aimed at building character. How do we define character? I think the character we are aimed at and the qualities of resilience are one and the same. Ginsburg expands on this short-hand term by defining the "Seven Crucial Cs of Resilience";

**Competence**: When we notice what young people are doing right and give them opportunities to develop important skills, they feel competent. We undermine competence when we don't allow young people to recover themselves after a fall.

**Confidence**: Young people need confidence to be able to navigate the world, think outside the box, and recover from challenges.

**Connection**: Connections with other people, schools, and communities offer young people the security that allows them to stand on their own and develop creative solutions.

**Character**: Young people need a clear sense of right and wrong and a commitment to integrity.

**Contribution**: Young people who contribute to the well-being of others will receive gratitude rather than condemnation. They will learn that contributing feels good and may therefore more easily turn to others, and do so without shame.

**Coping**: Young people who possess a variety of healthy coping strategies will be less likely to turn to dangerous quick fixes when stressed.

**Control**: Young people who understand privileges and respect are earned through demonstrated responsibility will learn to make wise choices and feel a sense of control.

See what I mean? The 7 Cs are a good definition of the Scout law and the Scout oath. Dr. Ginsburg has crafted a practical, compelling tool for building character; the main aim of Scouting (and parenthood). If you strive to be a better Scouter and/or better parent I recommend studying *Building Resilience in Children and Teens*.

# **Training Opportunities**

#### Scoutmaster Training (S24) during the Spring Camp-O-Ree



Goose Creek District will be conducting Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Specific Training (S24, SMST) during the Spring Camp-O-Ree. The Training is open to all, even if your Troop is not participating in the Camp-O-Ree.

Online registration: www.ncacbsa.org/events/Sessions.aspx?id=621598

Includes sessions for Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster

#### Topics:

- Role of the Scoutmaster
- The Outdoor Program
- Troop Administration
- The Advancement Program
- Program Planning

Prerequisites is Youth Protection (training available online at myscouting.org).

Registration and the class starts promptly at 8:30 am.

All participants should wear their Scout Leader Field Uniform. Also please bring a bag lunch, or eat with their Troops.

If you have questions, please email Walt.Johnson@goosecreekdistrict.org

#### What is Needed for Training



There are several training courses that must be taken by all leaders and renewed every two years. Most positions also require specific training to be done in order to be a registered Scouter. If you are not sure what these are then you may want to check the following sites:

The primary training web page at Scouting.org is: <a href="http://www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx">http://www.scouting.org/training/adult.aspx</a>

The breakdown for each of the positions and course requirements is: http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/BasicTrainingCourseRequire ments.pdf

The graphical version is this link:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/What\_makes\_a\_trained\_lead er.pdf

This link is a list of the older courses that top leaders may have completed, and shows the date range that the courses are valid:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/Top\_Leader\_Trained\_Date\_Course\_Criteria.pdf

#### **Swimming and Water Rescue**



**What**: This is the hands-on, in/on water training for supervisors of any scouting swimming or boating activity. It covers the skills needed to meet Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat policies applied at the unit level. This is the training referenced in BSA's Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat guidelines. The training consists of a classroom portion and water sessions.

**Prerequisites**: Safe Swim Defense (available online at <a href="https://myscouting.scouting.org/">https://myscouting.scouting.org/</a>)

The Swimming and Water Rescue course has 4 major components:

- 1) BSA Swim test
- 2) Classroom session
- 3) Written test
- 4) In-the-water session

Who: Older youth (min. 15 years old) and adult leaders.

Where: Camp Snyder.

Registration: http://ncacbsa.site-

ym.com/events/event\_details.asp?id=524085# Online registration is available

until 8/24/2015

**Cost**: \$40, \$10 if already own required course book.

Contact: Mike Meenehan, mmmeenehan@cox.net, Phone: 703-400-2176

#### **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

Register: http://ncacbsa.site-

ym.com/events/event\_details.asp?id=526200&group=120917# (available until

4/20/2015)

#### **CPR/AED Pro and First Aid Training**



What: This the CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid training that is required for BSA Lifeguard requirement #6. This training is usually not included in non-Red Cross BSA Lifeguard training courses. The course will use the Red Cross blended-learning versions of CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid. That means you will do on-line work before the in-person skills session so we can minimize the classroom time. Successful completion of course requirements will result in 2 American Red Cross certifications.

You will have a 2 week window (????) to complete the 3 hr 20 min online components. The in-person skills session will be Saturday, 19 September 2015 from 9am-Noon at Camp Snyder.

In order to attend the in-person session, students must pass the assessment at the end of the online session and print a copy of their online completion certification to submit to the instructor at the in-person session.

Certifications that will be issued upon successful completion:

- American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers
- American Red Cross First Aid

**Course materials**: Participant Handbooks for both courses will be furnished in digital form to the students.

A CPR mask is required for the course. Bring your own or purchase one here and we'll have it for you at the course.

Where: Camp Snyder, VA

When: Saturday, September 19, 2015

Registration: http://ncacbsa.site-

ym.com/events/event\_details.asp?id=524120#, deadline is September 8<sup>th</sup>. Maximum number of registrations is six.

Cost: \$40 or \$50

- \$30 payable to NCAC
- \$10 for CPR pocket mask (if you don't have one)
- \$10 payable to the Red Cross (Instructions for this payment will be sent to you by email after registration)

Contact: Mike Meenehan

mmmeenehan@cox.net Phone: 703-400-2176

#### **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)

• 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=

#### **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=
Class sizes are limited, so register early!

For more information please contact Victor Bieniek at *vbieniek@gmail.com* or 703-855-8428.

#### **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 shakedowns 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.

#### 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

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.

#### **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

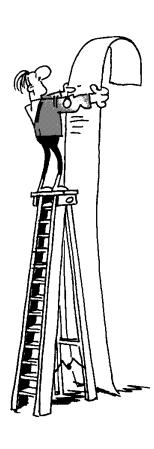
**Location**: Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

**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**



#### **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
- 24 District Committee
- 29-30 Day Camp Starts

#### **July 2015**

- 1-3 Day Camp
  - 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

#### February 2016

- 7 Scout Sunday
- 13 Scout Sabbath
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 15 President's Day
- 24 District Committee

#### March 2016

- 3 AOL Recognition Ceremony
- 5 District Pinewood Derby
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 21-25 Spring Break
  - 23 District Committee