

Goose Creek District Newsletter



November 2015

Volume 7, Issue 4

from The Scoutmaster Minute blog, <http://thescoutmasterminute.net/2015/09/09/facebook-and-twitter-and-blogs-oh-my/>



Facebook and Twitter and Blogs oh my!

Part of making change in our World is telling our story. This is all part of the message. The message of Peace and what Scouting is all about needs to be out in front of the public. In Scouting we do a good job of preaching to the choir. We have great internal communication tools that let our Scouts and Scouters know what's going on and share our successes. And by the way, there are far more successes than failures in Scouting.

There are a handful of good Scouting blogs out there and of course the world of Social Media has plenty of Scouting outlets to get your fix of Scouting news. Here is the deal though.. are they telling Scouting's Story. The answer is yes.

I am not an advocate of sugar coating or smoothing out the edges. If something is wrong or being done incorrectly, I feel that it needs to be called out. But there is a time and place. When we want to tell Scouting's story we want to share what is happening in Scouting that leads us to "Creating a Better World." That is Scouting's byline.

When you look at the program of Scouting it all comes down to Character, Citizenship, and Fitness. Those three goals coupled with the Oath and Law are everything in Scouting. A good backpacking trip is full of opportunities to reinforce values, life skills, and connect character to being a part of a high performance team tells Scouting's Story. Complaining about a policy does not share the values and character of the movement.

Again, not sugar coating, but telling the Story how we want it to be told. There are too many great things going on in the Scouting world to let one or two little insignificant things cloud the story. Tales of leadership and accomplishment should always overshadow a Facebook post about how Dad was upset because of the annual pinewood derby race.

Creating a Better World starts at the unit level with each Scout. Telling that story on Twitter, Facebook, and other social media is important.

So what of Social media? It's here and it's here to stay. Electronic media is where our Scouts are and where the vast majority of the public is. We take Scouting where the Scouts are, not the other way around. There is something to be said for the "Good ol Days", but they are just that.. Good and old. We live in an age of instant communication and information. If you look at the demographic of your average Cub Scout Pack, they are young adults with their young boy. These folks are plugged into these media outlets. They are attached to one another with their phones, laptops, and tablets. They crave information and want it now. They are a part of the Scouting Story and the more they get the better they feel about Scouting.

These young Scouters are not shy about posting something on Facebook so we want them to help us tell the story. Providing good program and being consistent in our message will help them to share our story.

At the recent NOAC it was clear that electronic media is where the Scouts are. If you did not adapt, you were pretty much left out. I don't have a problem with that in and of itself. There is certainly a place for this in Scouting, but leaving someone out.. ahhh... let's not leave them out, lets get them on board.

When we do that.. we help share the story.. we help make the world better.

So it's Facebook and Twitter and Blogs... oh my.. we have a great opportunity to tell Scouting's Story.

What do you do to tell our story.

Special Interest:

District

- Charter Renewal – pg 2
- Webelos-o-ree – pg 3
- MBC Rechartering – pg 5

Advancement

- Scout Rank – pg 9

Council/National

- Jamboree Registration – pg 11
- We the Students Essay Contest – pg 15
- Snyder Summer Counselors – pg 21




Training

- Pow Wow – pg 29
- NYLT – pg 30
- Den Chief – pg 31
- Scoutmaster Specific – pg 33

Quick Calendar:

- Nov 7 – SFF Bag Distribution
- Nov 11 - Roundtable
- Nov 14 – SFF Bag Pickup
- Nov 21-22 – Webelos-o-ree
- Nov 21 - PowWow
- Dec 9 – Roundtable
- Dec 16 – Annual District Business Meeting
- Jan 13 – Roundtable
- Jan 29-31 – Freeze-o-ree

Newsletter Key:

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

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

Scouting for Food



Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

- Saturday, November 7 - Bag Drop-off
- Saturday, November 14 - Food Collection

TERRITORIES

The majority of the territories have remained the same and you can see the areas covered by each unit, and their assigned food pantry by going to the District's web site (<http://www.ncacbsa.org/group/GooseCreek>). From there pick the Scouting for Food link (in red, just to the bottom right of the district patch) and from the SFF page look for the map link at the bottom.

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

Also, remember that each unit that drops food at one of the collection sites needs to deliver a single count of volunteers plus hours worked helping their unit on bag distribution and food collection.

Internet Rechartering Change



Be advised that National has created a new capability in Internet Rechartering to print a Summary Charter Renewal Application. In the final stage (5. Submit Roster) of the Charter Renewal Application screen, you see the following buttons:

- 1) Print Renewal Application and
- 2) Print Renewal Report E-Z.

The Print Renewal Application button generates the standard version of the Charter Renewal Application with which we are very familiar. Commissioners will be using this version of the report when checking the unit's Charter Renewal Application.

The Print Renewal Report E-Z option generates a shorter Summary Charter Renewal Report that must be signed, inserted into the Transmittal Envelope and ultimately scanned to the Registrar for posting. The obvious purpose of this report is to reduce the time required to scan more than 1500 Charter Renewal Applications to the registrar.

The envelopes should be turned in to your unit commissioner and should include:

- The signed standard version of the application,
- The signed new E-Z report,
- The Charter Agreement, and
- The 2015 Journey to Excellence form.

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

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

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

Webelos-o-ree 2015 - REVISED!

The Webelos-o-ree has been rescheduled for Nov 21-22, at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, and it still has an overnight camping option for those who want it. The staff is now practicing their un-rain dance and looking into whether we can sacrifice a weatherman to appease the wind spirits.

This event is designed to introduce Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts, and their parents, to the fun Scouting adventures ahead and to help make the transition into Boy Scouts exciting. Participation in the Webelos-o-ree is open to all Packs in the Goose Creek District (i.e., Loudoun County) and there are three different registration options:

1. Rate A – camping overnight (includes Sat dinner and Sun breakfast),
2. Rate B – staying through till the evening campfire is over (includes Sat dinner),
3. Rate C – just visiting during the day.

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 how Boy Scouts differs from the Cub Scout program. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for Arrow of Light Scouts talking about how troops are run, what to look for in selecting a troop, and what advancements are like in Boy Scouts. There will also be an Introduction to Webelos meeting for Webelos and their parents.

A full information/registration packet is posted on the District website. Requests for the packet can also be emailed to Webelosoree@GooseCreekDistrict.org

NOTE: All registrations from the original, cancelled, date are void and all of the payments checks sent in for it have been destroyed and not cashed. A completely new registration and payment is required for everyone coming to the event, even if they had previously registered for the original date.

New District Troop

Goose Creek would like to welcome our newest unit, Troop 1907 of Ashburn, meeting Monday nights, 7:00 p.m., at Trailside Middle School. New Scouts and Arrow Light Scouts and their families are welcome. Troop 1907 was chartered this past September with 13 Scouts and has since grown to 19 Scouts and 15 adults who are 100% trained. They have already completed one troop weekend campout, a troop service project for Camp Wilson and a weekend dedicated to Patrol Leader Council training.

All 141 Merit Badges!

Eagle Scout **Nathaniel Cummings** of Troop 663, Leesburg LDS Ward, has earned ALL of Scouting's 141 merit badges. Only about 5-10 Scouts a year in the entire nation achieve this.



Featured in the photo from left to right are:

- 1) Bishop Cliff Cummings of the Leesburg LDS Ward and Former Scoutmaster of Leesburg Troop 663,
- 2) Scoutmaster Hal Raffensperger of Lucketts Troop 1910 who was Nathaniel's 2013 National Jamboree Scoutmaster,
- 3) Eagle Scout Nathaniel Cummings,
- 4) Scoutmaster Randy Minchew of Leesburg Troop 998 who was Nathaniel's 2010 National Jamboree Scoutmaster,
- 5) Scoutmaster John Nelson of Ashburn Troop 2970 who was Nathaniel's 2013 National Jamboree First Assistant Scoutmaster.

District Communication



Did you know that the district's email lists for packs, troops, and crews is not limited to just unit leaders. Everyone, including parents and Scouts, may sign up to receive timely notices of upcoming events and to receive the monthly district newsletter. Just send an email to Communications@GooseCreekDistrict.org and say which list you want to be on (and it can be more than one).

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Merit Badge Counselor Rechartering



Just as units must recharter every year so must the district, and that means we not only have to get the listing of all of our committee members and commissioners ready, but also the listing of our merit badge counselors (MBC). With about 600 MBCs in the district this would be a daunting task but we do have a way to make this easier.

All MBCs currently registered with the district, **and that have their YPT training current as of January 1, 2016** (i.e. it didn't expire before this date), will be automatically registered for next year. Anyone without current YPT will be dropped from the roster and will need to send in a new MBC application, after retaking YPT, in order to be added back into the list.

Catholic Religious Awards



We will begin the Scouting Awards programs in November offering up the following award opportunities to our Scouts in the Goose Creek District:

Cub Scouts:

- Light of Christ: Cub Scouts 6 -7 years' old
- Parvuli Dei: Cub Scouts ages 8-10 years' old

Both Cub Scout Awards will be completed with their families starting in November. We will meet as a group in November to hand out workbooks and explain the study and work that needs to be completed. We will collect completed books in February.

Boy Scouts

- Ad Altare Dei: Designed for any youth of the Roman Catholic Faith who is registered in a BSA Troop.

The purpose of the Ad Altare Dei (to the altar of God) program is to help Catholic Youth of the Roman Rite develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community. The program is organized in chapters based on the seven sacraments.

Boy Scouts will meet at Trinity Café the second Wednesday of each month Starting on November 11th. All Scouts that attend and participate in all six classes, complete their workbook, and participate in a Board of Review in May will be eligible to receive this prestigious Scouting award.

If you are interested in earning these awards, please contact Scott Steinkirchner (wells creek@outlook.com) or Mark Voorheis (jmuvo@verizon.net) or call 703.474.2574.

District Executive



National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America is pleased to announce that Matthew Johnson has been selected as the new Goose Creek District Executive, serving Loudon County. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California Matthew was an active scout who earned the rank of Eagle. He is a recent graduate from the University of Wyoming where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business.

During his time in Laramie, he was a supervisor of a coffee shop and a volunteer for the local scout units. While completing his degree Matthew conducted research on college consumer market trends, applied the findings to his work and increased profit margins. He is very passionate about competitive Billiards and was the co-founder of the University of Wyoming Billiard club, which has consistently sent members to conference tournaments including nationals.

His passion and commitment to scouting has led him to this position where he hopes to continue to support the strong group of volunteers and youths in the Goose Creek District.

Matthew can be reached at Matthew.Johnson@scouting.org and his cell is 301-617-2537



"Cheerful Service Chatter"

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

Scouting for Food Assistance



This year the Goose Creek Chapter of the Order of the Arrow will be working at the "LINK Against Hunger" food drop off location in Sterling, VA. The drop off point will be at Christ the Redeemer Roman Catholic Church (46833 Harry Byrd Highway). Arrowmen are needed to assist in unloading vehicles, weighing food donations, and sorting food. We will be working from 8:00AM - 3:00PM on Saturday, November 14th. Arrowmen who can help should wear their Class "A" uniform and their OA sash. Lunch will be provided for the Arrowmen working at this location. Please come and help for an hour or the whole day. If you need additional information, please contact the Goose Creek Chapter Chief, Nick Stanford (chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org).

Communications



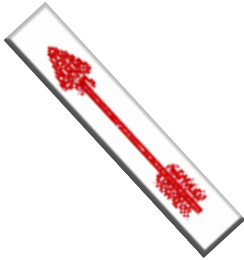
If you missed a Chapter meeting or two, no problem. Information about upcoming Chapter and Lodge events, training opportunities, Troop election schedule, and much more is now posted on the District's Order of the Arrow web page: www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=114098&id=240813. Please bookmark this page and check it often for updated information. If you need additional information, simply drop an email to the Chapter Chief Nick Stanford (chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org).

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Troop Elections



The annual OA Troop Election season runs from November 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016. Troops may hold only one election per season and it is recommended that the election be held prior to April 1, 2016. This will allow all elected candidates to be recognized at the Spring Call Out ceremony (Spring Camporee, April 8-10) and attend the Goose Creek Chapter Ordeal the weekend of April 30, 2016. If you wish to have Arrowmen visit your Troop prior to the elections, to discuss the OA with your Scouts, please contact the Goose Creek Chapter Chief, Nick Stanford (chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org). If you would like to schedule an OA Election, Scoutmasters should send an email to the Vice-Chief for OA Elections (gc_oa_election_request@goosecreekdistrict.org) and provide the following information:

- Scoutmaster Name; email address; phone number
- Troop OA Representative Name
- Troop Number
- Troop Meeting Location & Time
- Requested Election Date
- Alternate Election Date (In case of inclement weather)

The Vice-Chief for OA Elections will confirm the receipt of your request within one week and confirm your election date within one month.

“Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Jeremy Esatto – Troop 39

Nathan Richard Hamm – Team 1106

Grant Henderson – Troop 997

Michael Shane Hintze – Crew 1106

Jackson D Morton – Troop 997

Michael Peter Nolan IV – Team 1106

Emanuel MacLaine Payson – Troop 998

Ewan M Riordan – Troop 761

Christopher A Rost – Troop 997

Siddharth Srivatsan – Troop 1158

Bryce Devon Taylor – Crew 1106

Donal Eoin Whelan – Troop 998 **Hunter Parrish Auch** – Troop 1106

Can One Activity Fulfill Two (or more) Scout Requirements?



Can an activity used to meet one Scout requirement count toward the completion of another? The short answer? It's complicated. The long answer? For that, look at section 4.2.3.6 (page 28) of the *Guide to Advancement* (www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf).

Times when it's OK

There are times when one activity can be used for two Scout requirements. Take camping nights, for example. To earn Second Class, a Scout must participate in five separate troop/patrol activities, two of which include overnight camping. (In 2016, that number jumps to three from two). To earn the next rank, First Class, he must participate in 10 separate troop/patrol activities (other than troop/patrol meetings), three of which include overnight camping. (In 2016, that number jumps to six from three.)

But the most important words of those requirements: "Since joining." That means the five activities used for Second Class count toward First Class as well. That's an example of one activity (or, technically, five) being used toward multiple requirements.

Safety-related requirements are another good example. A Scout who learns CPR for one requirement doesn't need to relearn it for another, as long as his Scoutmaster or merit badge counselor believes he still remembers the skill.

Times when it's not

Some requirements appear to be candidates for double duty but really aren't. Take the merit badges Communication and Citizenship in the Community. Each requires the Scout to attend a public meeting, but that's where the similarities end. From the *Guide*:

For Communication, the Scout is asked to practice active listening skills during the meeting and present an objective report that includes all points of view. For Citizenship, he is asked to examine differences in opinions and then to defend one side. The Scout may attend the same public meeting, but to pass the requirements for both merit badges he must actively listen and prepare a report, and also examine differences in opinion and defend one side.

So while he could attend the same meeting for both requirements, his post-meeting activities are different. For Communication MB, he'll need to prepare the report. For Citizenship in the Community MB, he'll need to have a conversation with his counselor. The distinction is subtle, but it's important.

A challenge

The last two paragraphs of the relevant section in the *Guide* are powerfully written. They challenge both the Scout and his leader to think about their motivations behind counting one activity for two requirements.

The Scout is challenged to consider whether to "undertake a second effort and make a greater difference in the lives of even more people." The Scouter is asked whether he or she wants to "produce Scouts who check a task off a list or Scouts who will become the leaders in our communities."

Scout, Currently a Joining Badge, to Become its Own Rank



Scout, previously a badge a young man received upon joining and completing a few other requirements, will become its own rank — complete with a new patch — beginning Jan. 1, 2016.

By moving from a “joining badge” to an actual rank, Scout joins Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star and Life as the ranks a young man must earn on his way to the highest rank in Scouting: Eagle Scout.

The requirements for the Scout *rank* are intentionally tougher than the ones for the Scout *badge*. Don't expect completion of the new requirements for the Scout rank to happen overnight, particularly for boys who were not members of a Cub Scout pack. Depending on the maturity of an individual boy, it may take a few weeks for him to memorize the Scout Oath and Scout Law, as well as to learn some basic Scout skills.

But well-prepared Scouts — especially those who have recently earned the Arrow of Light — should be able to complete the Scout rank during the first few weeks after joining.

The Scout badge/rank is changing, but the age requirements to become a Boy Scout are not. A boy must be 11 years old, or have completed the fifth grade, or have earned the Arrow of Light Award and be at least 10 years old. He cannot yet have turned 18.

Webelos Cast Iron Chef Nutrition Goals



In the Webelos Cast Iron Chef adventure, our Cub Scouts will learn about good nutrition. For requirement 2, they will set “personal nutritional goals,” keep a food journal for a week and review the journal to see if they've met their goals. For some assistance in setting up a food journal and how to set realistic goals see this article from CubScoutIdeas.com: <http://cubscoutideas.com/5137/webelos-cast-iron-chef-nutrition-goals/>

LOL



Lessons learned from firebuilding

1. Eyebrows grow back (slowly).
2. Lighting a fire triggers a thunderstorm.
3. Smoke is attracted to bodies, even if you are upwind.
4. Matches break, easily.
5. Just as you get the fire going you run out of wood.
6. The paper you used to start the fire turns out to be the directions to the next activity.
7. The only way to start a fire with one match is if all of the wood in the pile are also matches.
8. When blowing on a fire to get it going it's 50-50 that you'll blow it out.
9. On cold campouts no one will come out until the fire is going, and it's your turn to be the firestarter.
10. After you get the fire just right everyone else thinks they have to add more wood to it.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

101 Great Unit Service Project Ideas



These good turns are some of our best marketing tools. They send the message that Scouts are here, making life better for others.

But where to start? Bryan on Scouting has collected 101 Scout service project ideas (<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/09/101-great-scout-service-project-ideas/>). These should get you started, but really anything that fulfills a community need (and follows the BSA's Guide to Safe Scouting) can count for service hours.

And those service hours count toward your Journey to Excellence, or JTE, score.

At the pack level, you can achieve JTE bronze status by completing two service projects in the year — and entering them on the JTE website

(www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/JourneyToExcellence.aspx).

Complete three service projects, and you'll get silver. If at least one of those three is conservation-oriented, you'll get gold.

At the troop and team levels, it's three projects a year for bronze, four for silver and five for gold. At the crew and ship levels, it's two for bronze, three for silver and four for gold.

Why the Cub Scout Uniform Matters



The importance of the uniform — at all levels of Scouting, but especially in those early Cub Scouting years — cannot be overstated.

It's a tool for recruiting other young people into the program. It's a way for boys to show off their accomplishments. It provides a sense of belonging.

Andrews, a professional Scouter for 32 years and now the Scout executive of the Northern Star Council, shares more of his insight in the latest episode of CubCast, the monthly podcast about Cub Scouting.

"That little blue uniform is pretty familiar to most people," Andrews says. "It might depend upon what community you're in and what the cultural tradition of Scouting in that community is. But anything that we can do to help the community know that Scouting is an organization that cares about kids and teaches kids to care about each other and to be citizen servants and to grow up as people who are going to take care of the world they live in and play leadership roles — all of those things are important."

He tells the hosts about the importance of a uniform, how to set a pack uniform policy and how to help families afford uniforms for their Scouts.

That and more in the October 2015 episode of CubCast, available to read or listen to here: www.scouting.org/Scoutcast/Cubcast/2015.aspx

2017 National Jamboree Registration is Now Open



Registration for 2017 National Scout Jamboree, to be held from July 19 to July 28, 2017, is now **OPEN!**

Scout Participant Qualifications

- Scouts and team members **MUST** have a current BSA membership with a Boy Scout troop or Varsity Scout team.
- **MUST** be at least a First Class Scout.
- **MUST** be at least 12 years of age by the first day of the Jamboree or an 11 year old that has graduated the 6th grade, but has not reached their 18th birthday by the last day of the Jamboree.
- Be approved by the unit leader and local council.
- **MUST** have appropriate parent/guardian to complete the online parental consent. (An email will be sent to the parent/guardian during the application process.)
- Participate in pre-Jamboree training experience with local council and unit leader.
- Filed a BSA Health & Medical Record with their council within one year of attending the Jamboree. (The local council will provide specifics closer to the Jamboree.)
- Submit all registrations fees per the local council's payment schedule.

To submit an application, you will need your My.Scouting username and password. If you do not have a My.Scouting account, please go to <http://My.Scouting.org> and follow the directions to create an account.

If you need technical support, call Member Care Services at (972) 580-2489.

A handful of things to be sure of:

- The My.Scouting account needs to be in the name of the person attending the Jamboree, not the parent/guardian that is completing the application for a youth participant.
- The My.Scouting account you use should also be linked to your current BSA membership number.
- The membership number that you linked to your Jamboree application will be linked to the entire process, including your BSA Health & Medical Record.
- All applicants must have a current, non-expired, BSA membership.
- Use Chrome, Firefox or IE 10 or above to access the Jamboree application. Other browsers may not be compatible with this system.

For more information about the Jamboree and to register to to:

www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/

Tufts Study Confirms: Scouting Builds Character in Six Critical Areas



From *Bryan on Scouting*, Oct 22, 2015, <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/22/tufts-study-confirms-scouting-builds-character-six-critical-areas/>

You and I know Scouting builds character in young people. Now we have the scientific evidence to prove it.

In a groundbreaking two-and-a-half year study, Dr. Richard M. Lerner and his team at Tufts University surveyed nearly 1,800 Cub Scouts and 400 non-Scouts in the Philadelphia area to analyze the effects of Scouting.

What did they find?

As first reported on Scouting Wire (<http://scoutingwire.org/how-scouting-promotes-positive-character-development/>), the study proved boys in Cub Scouts became significantly more cheerful, helpful, kind, obedient, trustworthy and hopeful about their future than non-Scouts. (Recognize any of those attributes from the Scout Law?)

How they did it

The Scouts and non-Scouts were surveyed at five separate times during the two and a half years.

In the first survey, conducted right after the start of the study, researchers found no significant difference between Scouts and non-Scouts. If the Scouts had entered the program with unusually high character attributes, one could argue that Scouting merely attracts better young people instead of helping make them.

Instead, researchers were confident their study began with both groups on equal footing.

In the next few surveys, things got interesting.

- Gains were made in those six critical areas I mentioned above: cheerfulness, kindness, hopeful future expectations, trustworthiness, helpfulness, obedience
- Scouts were more likely than non-Scouts to embrace positive social values. Ask a Scout what's most important to him, and he was more likely to respond with answers like "helping others" or "doing the right thing." Ask a non-Scout the same thing, and he was likely to say "being smart," "being the best" or "playing sports."
- There were even variations within Scouting. For example, Scouts who attended meetings regularly reported higher character attributes than those who attended infrequently. In a nod to the importance of tenure, Scouts who stayed in the program longer reported higher character attributes.

These findings are spectacular. We should shout them from mountaintops and approach strangers on the streets to say: "Did you hear? Now we have proof that Scouting builds character!"

Removing a Certain Four-letter Word from Scouting



Michael Montemarano, a Scoutmaster in Staten Island, N.Y., is on a mission. His goal: eliminate a particularly irksome word from the Scouting vernacular. He has heard this four-letter word used quite a bit in his time as a volunteer. What's the word?

"Kids."

Montemarano was struck by how often adult leaders use that word to refer to Scouts — even older Scouts. Some of these young men are nearing their 18th birthdays and will soon enter college or the workforce or the military. And yet many of us still call them kids.

That's why Montemarano put his foot down. Out of respect for these young men, he'll call them "Scouts" regardless of age.

If Scouts are thought of as kids, then that's the mindset that they will be treated with and the expectation that they will be expected to live up to. As you know, we're trying to develop leaders and leadership demands a level of maturity beyond what a normal "kid" could demonstrate. Referring to them as Scouts, gentlemen, young men, or other more mature terms helps transfer a level of respect and maturity that the Scouts should rise to.

'Families Like Mine' Videos Will Inspire You, Recruit Others



Brand awareness, that mountainous obstacle facing new companies and organizations who feel lucky if a quarter of Americans have heard of them, isn't a problem in Scouting.

It seems everyone knows about Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and sees the value our organization offers to youth.

Our problem is a different one. It's that some families out there don't think Scouting is for them.

Let's show them it is. Start by watching, downloading and sharing one or more of the BSA's new "Families Like Mine" videos:

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/13/grab-the-kleenex-families-like-mine-videos-will-inspire-you-recruit-others/>

Night Hike



When's the last time you went on a night hike, without flashlights? Nighttime is a great opportunity to learn about wildlife, to conquer fear of the dark, and to understand how our eyes work. Night hikes build important outdoor skills and hone your powers of observation. When one of the five senses is diminished the other senses compensate for the loss. During a night hike, sight (the sense most heavily relied on to orient ourselves) is reduced. A diminished sense of sight is disorienting so we will compensate by using hearing and touch.

Scoutmaster Clarke Green has prepared an outline to using in preparing for a night hike with some experiments/activities to go along with it:

<http://scoutmastercg.com/night-hike/>

Controlling Chaos at Cub Scout Meetings



Let us face the hard truth: Cub Scouts have a natural affinity for chaos. Not only are they easily led into it, but they love it. In fact, the more out of control the situation is, the more Cubs like it. If you ask a Cub Scout whether he enjoyed a chaotic pack or den meeting, he will likely say "yes." If you ask the attending parent the same question, you will likely get the opposite answer. Sadly, if parents think meetings are out of control, they will be likely to not attend or keep their Cub home the next time. So, if a Cub leader is not a schoolteacher, trained in the art of classroom management, how does he or she maintain an appropriate level of control to accomplish the goals of the meeting, while at the same time allowing the Cubs to have fun?

Addressing this issue are some articles you should look at.

- The September-October 2012 Scouting magazine had an article that has tips from two veteran Scouters on maintaining good behavior during den meetings: <http://scoutingmagazine.org/2012/08/quell-cub-scout-chaos-with-these-good-behavior-techniques/>. At the bottom of the article are replies from other Scouters on some techniques they have used.
- An article by Kimberly Cook (a past Cubmaster and Unit Commissioner) that was done in November 2014: <https://gcook1868.wordpress.com/2014/11/19/controlling-chaos-at-cub-scout-meetings/>
- And check out the Survival Hints for Den Leaders, a PDF file located at: <http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=25&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CC4QFjAE0BRqFQoTCJa9j9i7rsgCFUhUPgodHFALDQ&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ocbsa.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2013%2F05%2FSurvival-Hints-for-Den-Leaders.pdf&usg=AFQjCNF00u78Px9SM22JcTKH5xOwezFD1w>

Pinewood Derby – For Adults



Three Rivers District is hosting a Pinewood derby challenge for adults! No Class A uniforms.

When: November 14, 2015, 6:30-9:00 PM

Where: All American Harley-Davidson, 8216 Old Leonardtown Rd. | Hughesville, MD 20637

Cost: Entry Fee - \$35

Spectator Fee - \$15

Join us for a free hors d'oeuvres buffet, entertainment, arcade, door prizes, trophies and a silent auction all to support Scouting!!!

- For more information, rules, and to register go to: WWW.NCACBSA.ORG/PINEWOODCHALLENGE

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

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

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

2016 We the Students Essay Contest



Boy Scouts analyze and discuss the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights as part of the Eagle-required Citizenship in the Nation merit badge.

Now one Scout's interpretation of the role of the Bill of Rights in modern society could result in some free cash for college — and for his troop.

One Boy Scout will receive a \$2,500 scholarship for himself and \$500 for his troop by winning the 2016 We the Students Essay Contest, sponsored by the Bill of Rights Institute.

The essay competition challenges students age 14 to 19 to write a 500- to 800-word essay about the Bill of Rights. It's open to anyone — young men and young women, Scouts and non-Scouts. But there's a special prize that's only available to Boy Scouts.

Deadlines: The deadline for a student to submit his or her essay is Feb. 7, 2016. Winners will be announced April 12, 2016.

How to enter: Learn more and enter at:

www.billofrightsinstitute.org/engage/students-programs-events/scholarship/

The prompt: "The Founders believed in the sanctity/vital importance of the individual liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. To what extent (or in what ways) has our government compromised on these liberties in the name of security or the general welfare? In your answer, incorporate the principles and specific examples (including current events) that support your conclusion."

Winter Safety



As we go through the snowy season of the year we would like to advise all of our Scouts to help keep their neighborhood safe by doing the following:

- Make sure the hydrant in your neighborhood is visible. Adopt your fire hydrant. It needs to be uncovered from snow and there needs to be a clear path for access. In the instance of a fire, firefighters need to be able to quickly locate the fire hydrant, or lives and property could be lost.
- Make sure your house number is visible. Fire and Rescue responders use maps to get them to the area, but they need to be able to see house numbers to ensure they are at the correct location.
- Make sure you have at least two clear exits out of your house. Keep an eye on snow build up. When the snow melts and refreezes, it could prevent you from being able to open the door and exit from your house.

Check on your elderly neighbors. Do a good turn and make them a path through the snow to the street and to their mailbox.

Journey to Excellence 2016



Each year, the team of volunteers that manage the Journey to Excellence process evaluate the previous year's statistics, correlate the results with the aims and goals of our movement, and make adjustments to try to help move closer to the ideal goal of a well-run unit.

In contrast to the first couple years where the checklist items changed substantially, we seem to now be at a point where the list has stabilized. There have been a few tweaks but they are generally minor in nature and are intended to better reflect the actual performance of successful units.

Cub Scout Packs, here's what has been changed for 2016:

- Item 1 – Planning and Budget. The Gold level now asks the pack to conduct a planning meeting involving the den leaders. Previously, the annual program only needed to be presented by October 31. The date has been deleted.
- Item 3 – Retention. Previously, a pack could have a lower level of retention than the target if it could show an improvement in order to qualify at each level. Now, the metric must be met (60, 65 and 75 percent for the three levels).
- Item 4 – Webelos to Scout transition. Gold level formerly required the pack to have at least one active Den Chief. Recognizing that Den Chiefs can be hard to come by, the 2016 checklist deletes that requirement.
- Item 5 – Advancement. Clarifying wording during the year has been added to the percentages of Scouts required to advance. Year refers to calendar year, not Scouting year.
- Item 10 – Leadership recruitment. Silver level previously required the committee to identify the next program year's den and pack leadership prior to May 31. Now, it just has to be prior to the recruiting event. And there's a little more time to recruit den leaders for Gold level; where formerly October 15 was the cutoff, it's now October 31.
- Item 11 – Trained leadership. For Bronze level, completing position-specific training is now required for the Cubmaster, an assistant Cubmaster or the Pack Trainer. The requirement that all leaders complete "orientation" (presumably Fast Start Training) has been dropped. The hope is that trained top leaders and the pack trainer will encourage other leaders to become trained as well.

Overall, point values are the same as last year and the total number of points has remained unchanged.

Boy Scout Troops, there are only a couple changes at the troop level:

- Item 3 – Retention. As with the Cub Scout pack checklist, the provision to show improvement at a lower level of retention has been eliminated.
- Item 5 – Advancement. Again, showing improvement at a lower level is no longer an option.
- Item 11 – Trained leadership. Similar to the Cub Scout change, the Scoutmaster or an assistant Scoutmaster must have completed position-specific training – not just the Fast Start orientation. And for Gold, the requirement that one person has attended Wood Badge is changed to an advanced training course. Any course that continues a Scouter down the road past his or her basic training could be considered advanced. Some examples are Powderhorn, Wilderness First Aid, Okpik or presumably any of the advanced courses conducted at Philmont.

As you complete your 2015 evaluation, look ahead to 2016 and see where you can improve. Get your adult leaders trained! Work with your commissioner if you have any questions about Journey to Excellence.

SCOUTStrong Be MedWise Award Encourages Responsible Use of Medicine



Here's a scary stat: Each year, roughly 10,000 children and teens require emergency room visits because of errors in self-medicating. Worse yet, surveys show that 22 percent of teens take over-the-counter medicine without asking an adult.

Something must be done, and the Boy Scouts of America and National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) are stepping up and have launched the SCOUTStrong Be MedWise award, which encourages young people to learn about the responsible use of medicine.

Scouts and Venturers who earn the award will learn about the danger of misusing medicines by not following the directions on the label. Once they've done that, they'll receive a nice-looking patch (with an owl on it!). Here's what you need to know:

Who is it for?

This activity and award is recommended for Boy Scouts and Venturers ages 11 to 17; Cub Scouts are probably too young for this discussion. This award is designed to complement existing Boy Scouting and Venturing programming.

How is it earned?

This award's training curriculum consists of four lessons that could be reviewed at the start of a unit meeting, taking no more than 12 to 15 minutes each. The program is self-paced, which allows the unit leader to determine how quickly it is completed.

The SCOUTStrong Be MedWise award is earned through these steps:

1. Review the Curriculum: Have your unit review each of the four lessons in the curriculum (www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BSAFit/MedWise_Award.aspx). This curriculum has been prepared specifically for ages 11-17, and each lesson must be followed specifically as written.
2. Complete the Exercises: Where applicable, have all unit participants successfully complete the activity and/or supplemental exercises for the corresponding SCOUTStrong Be MedWise lesson.

What will Scouts and Venturers learn?

Upon completion of the SCOUTStrong Be MedWise curriculum, youth will be able to do the following:

- Understand what prescription and OTC medicines are, and the ways they are the same and different.
- Learn how to use medicines safely.
- Know what's on the Drug Facts label.

What about the patch and certificate?

- To download a certificate you can print, www.scouting.org/filestore/scoutstrong/pdf/MedWise_Certificate.pdf
- To order your SCOUTStrong Be MedWise patch, www.scoutstuff.org/emb-scoutstrong-medwise.html#.VhavALEo6Uk

Northern Tier - Individual Registration Options for Summer 2016



Northern Tier opened its lottery for summer 2016 crew reservations early in 2015. Those openings are now scarce, but you can check www.ntier.org/reservations.aspx to see if any spots are still available.

While not everyone can attend Northern Tier with their Troop or Venturing Crew, there are still a wide variety of opportunities for individual Scouts and Venturers to get to the Northwoods this coming summer (2016). And registration for them has just opened:

- **NAYLE:** The National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) is an exciting program where young men and women enhance their leadership skills through team building, ethical decision-making, problem solving and service to others.
www.ntier.org/About/Summer%20Canoe%20Trips/IndividualPrograms/Next%20Generation%20NAYLE.aspx
- **OA Wilderness Voyage:** The Order of the Arrow Wilderness Voyage program is an experience like no other. For two weeks, you will join Arrowmen from around the country and experience all that the Border Lakes region of Northern Minnesota and Ontario has to offer.
www.ntier.org/About/Summer%20Canoe%20Trips/IndividualPrograms/OAWV.aspx
- **Forest Corps:** Forest Corps is a coed, two-week leadership training course for outdoor enthusiasts. The course consists of 10 days of canoeing and camping in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and includes training in conservation, Leave No Trace, field science and outdoor education.
www.ntier.org/About/Summer%20Canoe%20Trips/IndividualPrograms.aspx
- **Lone Voyageur:** Want to attend Northern Tier but your Troop or Venturing crew can't make it this year? No problem. The Lone Voyageur program allows Boy Scouts (at least 14 years of age) and Venturers to attend Northern Tier as part of a provisional crew.
www.ntier.org/About/Summer%20Canoe%20Trips/IndividualPrograms.aspx

As for summer 2017 crew reservations, you still have time. Once again those spots will be allocated using an online lottery. Registration for the lottery opens **Jan. 5, 2016, and closes Jan. 8, 2016**. Do it all at the Northern Tier website: www.ntier.org/northerntier.aspx

Wreaths and Roses



Come and join in our celebration of Veterans! We gather at the BSA Memorial (East side of the Ellipse) Nov 8th at 1:00pm, depart by 1:05pm, placing wreaths at the World War 2 Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial, Korean War Memorial, and end at the DC War Memorial. All along the way we hand out roses to veterans, spouses, and others. Full families invited! Class A uniform encouraged!

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

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

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

Northern Tier - OKPIK - Individual Registration Options for Winter 2015-2016



OKPIK Cold Weather Camping, Northern Tier's winter offering, is the BSA's premier winter camping program. At OKPIK, Scouts experience a true Northwoods winter: learning how to thrive in subzero temperatures, travel across frozen wilderness lakes and construct their own sleeping structures out of snow. All trips are fully outfitted and provisioned, including almost all of the personal gear necessary to stay warm in the winter. A highly trained staff member, called an Interpreter, accompanies all crews on their trek.

The Individual program allows Boy Scouts and Venturers to attend Northern Tier as part of a provisional crew. Offered out of the Charles L. Sommers Wilderness Canoe Base near Ely MN, there are 4 programs to choose from. All participants must be at least age 14 or age 13 and currently in 8th grade at the time of their trip.

Musher Camp

Stay in a heated cabin on base, and take the dogs out for half-day and day-long runs. Take ownership of a team of dogs and learn to feed, house, harness and otherwise care for them.

Session 1: January 22-25, 2016

Session 2: January 29-February 1, 2016

Cost: \$475 per participant (an airport shuttle is available for an additional \$120)

Dog Sled Trek

Head out into the wilderness with the dog teams and camp with the dogs out on the ice. Take ownership of a team of dogs and learn to feed, house, harness and otherwise care for them.

Session 1: January 3-6, 2016

Cost: \$475 per participant (an airport shuttle is available for an additional \$120)

OKPIK Sampler

Learn the basics of winter camping. Crews will pack their gear onto sleds (or "pulks") and head out into the wilderness, spending their nights camping on the snow and ice. Scouts will learn how to set up a winter campsite, how to build snow shelters and how to cook meals at low temperatures. In addition, they will get to try out a full array of winter activities.

Session 1: December 29, 2015 -January 3, 2016 (5 nights)

Cost: \$440 per participant (an airport shuttle is available for an additional \$120)

Session 2: January 22-25, 2016 (3 nights)

Cost: \$270 per participant (an airport shuttle is available for an additional \$120)

Cold Weather Leader Training

Cold Weather Leader Training is also an individual option for those who want to learn how to run a great Cold Weather Program back home!

Download the application at:

www.ntier.org/filestore/NorthernTier/pdf/OkpikIndividualprogramsRegistration.pdf

Now's the Time for Advanced Leadership Training



You'll notice the difference right away.

A fellow Scouter who has returned from Wood Badge brings back a quiet confidence. He or she is ready for anything Scouting — or life — might bring.

A Scout or Venturer freshly back from National Youth Leadership Training stands a little taller. He or she now has tools to improve the troop or crew, making your job easier.

It's all within reach for adults and youth who sign up for advanced leadership training. The time is now to begin (or expand on) a culture of training in your unit. The expectation is lofty but attainable: Every adult leader takes Wood Badge. Every youth leader takes National Youth Leadership Training, or NYLT (*Editor Note: See NYLT training opportunity in the Training Section of the newsletter*).

The importance of advanced leadership training, that next step after basic training, is the subject of the latest episode of ScoutCast, the monthly podcast for Boy Scout and Venturing leaders. The guest this month: Don Wendell, former chairman of the National Advanced Leadership Task Force.

In the ScoutCast, Wendell shares several reasons why advanced leadership training is so crucial:

- It results in better programs and a better experience for the youth, helping them get the most out of the program.
- It improves retention. If you give Scouts a better experience, they'll stay in longer.
- It gives Scouts and Venturers leadership skills they can use in Scouting and school.
- It helps adults feel at ease and better prepared to be effective leaders.
- It makes everyone more effective in dealing with other people.

The list continues from there. Just ask any Wood Badge or NYLT graduate; they'll tell you.

The beauty of Scouting's advanced leadership training courses, Wendell says, is in their alignment. Courses for adults and courses for youth, while conducted separately, are designed to fit together once everyone gets back to their troop or crew.

"The courses are aligned so that the Scoutmaster who has been to Wood Badge and his senior patrol leader who's been to NYLT are speaking at the same language of leadership," he says.

Take the next step toward improving your pack, troop, team, post, ship or crew. Contact your council to register for Wood Badge or learn more about National Youth Leadership Training.

And get much more insight on this subject in the October 2015 edition of ScoutCast, available to read or listen to here:

www.scouting.org/Scoutcast/Scoutcast/2015.aspx

2016 Summer Camp Counselors at Camp Snyder



Camp Snyder is looking for some friendly, outgoing, fun and responsible individuals age 15 and up to be camp counselors, and age 18 and up to lead our Fort, Big Dig, Ship, Nature, and Handicraft program areas. If you are 21 and up you are eligible to receive training to become a director of our popular BB and Archery ranges, or Waterfront and Pool activities.

To apply go to www.GoToSnyder.com or contact Shirley Couteau for more information: (571) 248-4904, Shirley.Couteau@Scouting.org

Great Outdoors



Camp Snyder is the place for every Boy Scout to be on Saturday November 14th, 12 – 5 PM. After you've done your service for Scouting for Food come join us as we celebrate everything great about the outdoors! There will be vendors from around the area showcasing recreational activities of all different types. Among other things, learn about kayaking, canoeing, skiing, white water rafting, rock climbing, shooting, archery, hiking, and backpacking, along with representatives from the nearby county, state and federal parks. Meet representatives from area stores that would have all things to meet your needs for any outdoor adventure. Don't miss out on the exciting door prizes, games and food throughout the day!

2016 High Adventure Early-Bird Discount



Register now (www.summitbsa.org/registration/) and take advantage of discounts on 2016 fees at the Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Groups that register for the 2016 High Adventure season and pay a \$100 per person non-refundable deposit by November 30, 2015 will receive a 10% discount on their 2016 program fees.

Groups of 10 or more who qualify for the 10% discount will receive an additional 5% discount on 2016 program fees.

That means your crew could receive up to 15% discount on your 2016 fees. Plan now to take advantage of these discounts* and join us for the 2016 season at the Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base located at the Summit Bechtel Reserve.

* Discount does not apply to the whitewater rafting elective.

Sea Base 2017



Spots for 2017 will again be reserved through an online lottery system. The 2017 registration lottery will open on Jan. 15, 2016, and close on Feb. 15, 2016. Look for a brochure sent in December to unit leaders and committee chairpeople.

Many of the spots for 2016 were filled earlier this year. (Though you should contact Sea Base and keep an eye on their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FloridaSeaBase) for news of last-minute openings.)

How to register and learn more: Call 305-664-4173 or visit the Sea Base website: www.bsaseabase.org/seabase.aspx

High Adventure



2016 NCAC Philmont Provisional and Unit-Crew Opportunities: NCAC still has plenty of space available on two 2016 Philmont contingents: P627 (6/25 or 26 - 7/9) and P718 (7/16 or 17 - 30). Units are permitted to attend Philmont in consecutive years. For more information and a copy of the unit-crew application (disregard the 3/23-31 lottery submission dates), see

www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/High_Adventure/HAC_2016_Philmont_Unit_based.pdf. NCAC is also accepting provisional youth and adult advisor applications for these contingents. Applications are available at

www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/High_Adventure/HAC_2016_philmont_provo.pdf and www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high_adventure/hac_2015_provo_advisor.pdf. All provisional and unit crews will travel together under arrangements made by NCAC. The standard estimated cost is \$2500 per person and the shorter economy option is estimated at \$2200 per person. For more information, see www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure or contact Virginia Ward at vward@masonlive.gmu.edu or 571-643-2426.

2016 NCAC Florida Sea Base Opportunity: NCAC is sponsoring two Coral Reef Sailing Crews S717 leaving Washington on July 17 and returning on July 23 at an estimated cost of \$1800 per person. The application is available at

www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/High_Adventure/HAC_2016_Seabase.pdf. For more information, see www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure or contact Dana Abrahamsen at dabrahamsen@ftc.gov or 703-280-9782.

2016 NCAC Northern Tier Provisional Opportunity: NCAC is planning a provisional trek to Bissett, Manitoba in July 2016 at an estimated cost of \$2400. For more information, see www.ncacbsa.org/group/HighAdventure#NorthernTier or contact Craig Reichow at sctmstr@verizon.net or 703-478-0660.

2017 Unit-Crew Philmont Reservations: 2017 unit-crew registrations will again be made through a web-based lottery. All units must log on to registerphilmont.org/2017 between 10/28 and 11/18/15 to register for the lottery. For more information, see

www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/philmont/pdf/UnitRegistrationPkt.pdf

High Adventure Camperships: Camperships are available to youth in need of financial assistance on high adventure trips. The 2015 NCAC High Adventure Campership Application form is available at

www.ncacbsa.org/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/HAC_2015_Campership_fillable.pdf. For more information, contact Virginia Ward at vward@gmu.edu or 703-369-3150.

High Adventure Opportunities Bulletin Board: The High Adventure Committee hosts a forum at www.ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/forums/?group=114116 for crews to post notices looking for scouts and scouters to join a high adventure crew or for individuals looking for a high adventure crew to join. To post a notice, send an e-mail with the details to Stan Turk at stanley.turk@verizon.net.

A Scout is Helpful, But Check First



From Bobwhite Blather, <http://bobwhiteblather.com/a-scout-is-helpful-but-check-first/>

A Scout is helpful. It's the third point of the Scout Law. And to help other people at all times is part of the Scout Oath.

Scouts help others every day. Service is part of our rank requirements, and troops and packs do service projects regularly. Service to an organization outside of Scouting is a requirement for Eagle.

As the holiday season approaches, we find ourselves helping out in many ways – collecting food and clothing for the needy, staffing holiday shops at hospitals and churches, caroling in nursing homes and running errands for senior citizens.

You might think that helping with one of the most visible and iconic service projects in America would be right up our alley. In fact, every holiday season, it seems I see at least one group of otherwise well-meaning Scouts in uniform ringing the bell and tending the red kettle of The Salvation Army as they collect cash donations for the underprivileged.

As beneficial as this activity is, though, it's not permitted for Scouts in uniform to help out by asking for donations to The Salvation Army or any other organization. Our members are prohibited by the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America from raising money for other organizations – or even soliciting donations for Scouting or our own units – while identifying ourselves with the BSA. It's stated specifically on the Unit Money-Earning Application:

Youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors of money...in support of other organizations... Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts and leaders should not identify themselves as Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts or as a troop/pack participate in The Salvation Army's Christmas Bell Ringing program. This would be raising money for another organization.

What this means is that we cannot get together as a patrol, troop, pack or den and take a shift ringing the bell in front of the local mall or grocery store, and we certainly cannot do it in uniform.

However, because A Scout is Helpful, it's certainly OK to man the red kettles – just not as a Scout! Go ahead and volunteer with your church, school club, honor society or on your own. But no uniforms – not even a troop or pack t-shirt.

Being helpful to others is always a good thing, but it's especially welcome during the holidays. Plan a project with your unit to brighten someone's day by doing a good turn – but, as A Scout is Obedient, be sure to check first to make sure you're following the rules!

P.R.A.Y. Awards Seminar



The United Methodist Scouting Committee will be hosting a PRAY AWARDS seminar on November 14, 7pm-9 at the Marriott Scout Service Center. Rev. Dr. Ken Lyons will host this event explaining the P.R.A.Y. Awards and show how to make a connection with your faith community through these awards and the God and World program. No RSVP is needed to attend. Please contact Kent Sneed (Kent.Sneed@Scouting.org) with any questions.

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

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

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

28th Annual Cub Scouts Day with Jesus



What: This is a day of fun activities with a Biblical theme for Cub Scouts. Cubs will rotate through stations where they will hear stories from the Bible, make crafts to take home, and participate in activities / games. This event is sponsored by the Protestant Committee on Scouting.

When: Saturday, December 5, 2015. Registration begins at 11:30am with the program starting at 12.

Program ends about 4:45pm. Have lunch before coming.

Where: Groveton Baptist Church, 6511 Richmond Hwy. Alex., Va. (Ft. Belvoir south/Rt.1 exit from the beltway) Use Entrance A of church.

Who: Christian Cub and Webelos Scouts **Siblings (age 6-12) are also welcome – older scouts can volunteer to help. Also open to Girl Scouts, American Heritage Girls, and Camp Fire. Wear your uniform.

There will not be a separate rotation for Catholics & Protestants at this site. All sessions will be done together.

Fee: \$7.00 per returning youth (get rocker) or \$9.00 for first time youth (get rocker & center patch) (\$5 /adult wanting center patch & rocker). (No Walk-in registrations.) Please pre-register now!

Bring canned goods, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, etc. – to benefit the food pantry for the needy at Groveton Baptist Church

Rain or Shine – Attendance limit set at 35 Scouts. If parent is not staying with child specify on form

Please plan to pre-register by November 20 so staff can adequately plan for the day (cancel by November 28)

One leader is required for each eight boys or fraction thereof – Wear your Scout uniform

To get this flyer with the registration form go to www.ncacbsa.org/ProgramLaunch, and go to the Religious Committees section

Service Center Open Saturdays



By popular request, the Marriott Scout Service Center (Bethesda) front desk will now be open on Saturdays! Hours will match the Scout Shop (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) so you can buy patches, get help with Eagle books, turn in registrations, and get help with other Scouting needs.

The MSSC will be open every Saturday through the end of 2015 EXCEPT November 28, and December 26. Based on popularity, we will evaluate and decide if this is extended through 2016, so come see us on Saturday!

Be on Staff for Goshen Camporee 2017



2017 marks the 50th anniversary of Goshen Scout Reservation, and to celebrate, Council is throwing a huge party with a council-wide camporee! Volunteers of all different skills are needed to be part of the team. If you are interested in helping out, send an email to camporee@ncacbsa.org.

Note: There will be no District Spring Camporee in 2017

The High-Flying Sport of Ultimate Soars into Scouting with New Alliance



Tossing around a flying disc isn't just for picnics or lazy days at the beach anymore.

That activity gets a shot of adrenaline in ultimate, a sport that combines the nonstop movement of soccer with the aerial passing skills of football.

Unlike some other sports, ultimate is non-contact, so it's safe. Participants call their own fouls, so it helps build character and honesty. And the only equipment you need is probably already in your garage, so it's inexpensive.

Safe, values-based, inexpensive and (most importantly) a ton of fun? Sounds like the perfect activity for your next pack meeting or troop or crew campout.

The Boy Scouts of America has just announced a new alliance with USA Ultimate, the national governing body for the sport of ultimate in the United States. (Read more on Scouting Newsroom:

<http://scoutingnewsroom.org/press-releases/bsas-new-alliance-with-usa-ultimate-strengthens-scoutstrong-healthy-living-initiative/>.)

This alliance makes sense for both sides. USA Ultimate gets its fast-growing sport in front of millions of potential participants. The BSA gets access to resources for a sport that aligns perfectly with its SCOUTStrong Healthy Living Initiative.

There's also this: USA Ultimate is offering a limited number of free Learn to Play kits to Scout units. Each kit consists of 10 discs, a clinic guide, cones, posters and stickers.

Because these kits are in limited supply, there's an application process to ensure that, for example, two units that live a mile apart don't each receive kits. They would be asked to share one kit instead so there are more to go around.

Apply for a USA Ultimate Learn to Play kit at this link:

www.usultimate.org/learntoplay/. If you don't get a kit, you'll still want to explore the resources at the USA Ultimate website to introduce this sport to your Scouts or Venturers (www.usultimate.org/index.html).

On-Line Resource of the Month

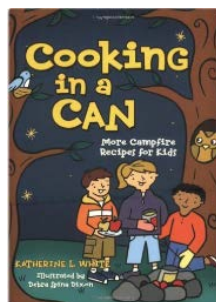


Scoutorama (www.Scoutorama.com) is a Scouting resource warehouse. The content and information on the site is made possible by the thousands of Scouts and Scouters from all over the world who take time to contribute songs, thoughts, skits, and other information to the site. It has resources for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts including fund raisers, activities, camping recipes, merit badges, Pinewood Derby, skits, songs, Eagle projects, ceremonies, and more.

Scoutorama supports traditional Scouting values. They are registered with the Internet Content Rating Association (ICRA) and invest a great deal of resources into ensuring that the material available on this site is in harmony with traditional Scouting values.

Books

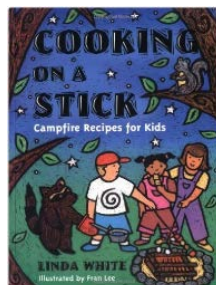
Cooking in a Can



Author Kate White shows kids the beauty of cooking over a campfire, with dozens of delicious and easy recipes like Hot Rock Chicken and Wilderness Wonder Chocolate Cake. From cooking in a can to cooking in a paper bag to cooking on a rock, this activity book produces scrumptious results that kids of all ages will enjoy.

Also included are dozens of related activities to keep kids busy, such as making a family banner to identify your camp, planning menus, and organizing cooking supplies and groceries. There are also tips on natural refrigeration, food storage and camp clean up.

Cooking on a Stick: Campfire Recipes for Kids



Cooking on a Stick is a sister book to Cooking in a Can. This is good fun and you can also use this experience to teach your children the correct and safe way to use a pocketknife when preparing cooking sticks.

As with Cooking in a Can, this book starts off with gathering the materials for a fire, and once again, it is aimed at kids – though with some adult help (and possibly adult reading – i.e. more of a 'family' book).

The Stick Book: Loads of Things You Can Make or Do With a Stick



Following 'Cooking with a Stick', 'The Stick Book' book provides lots of ideas about making things with a stick.

Rather than illustrations, this book is full of photos to help get your kids engaged...even if you have to help them follow the instructions.

It includes the basics, such as making and cooking over a fire, or building a den, but also gets into things that kids love, such as bows and arrows, swords, catapults, wizards wand, and creating animals from sticks and other things you find lying around.

Equipment / Gear / Tips

Keep Your Paper Towel Roll from Unraveling With This Simple Camp Hack



Paper towels, the Swiss army knife of front-country camping, can do it all: clean messes, wipe dishes and maintain tidiness. But when wind gusts, as it is wont to do outdoors, things unravel quickly. The roll unrolls. The tail ends up in the dirt.

There's gotta be a better way, and there is.

Step 1: Get a paper towel roll with the plastic wrapping still on it. Any kind will do.

Step 2: Cut a hole in the center top of the plastic wrapping, around and slightly larger than the diameter of the cardboard tube. [Obligatory knife safety reminder: Always cut away from yourself.]

Step 3: Squeeze the roll on all sides to loosen the tube.

Step 4: Slide the cardboard tube out. This is probably the hardest step.

Step 5: Set aside the tube. Recycle it, use it in a craft project, etc. Don't just throw it away.

Step 6: Pull the innermost sheet out to get it started.

Step 7: Success! You just made a paper towel dispenser.

To see a video on how to do this go to

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/09/30/keep-paper-towel-roll-unraveling-simple-camp-hack/>

Sliced Apples Turning Brown? Try this Camp Cooking Hack



You were just trying to be prepared by slicing your apples ahead of time. It was going to make that Dutch oven cobbler so much easier once you got to the campsite. But when you retrieve them from the cooler, they've taken on an unappetizing brown hue.

And to think it all could've been prevented.

Next time, try this camp cooking hack, courtesy of Scouting volunteer Larry Green. Here's how it's done.

1. Find your favorite apple. This step is pretty easy.
2. Peel the apple.
3. Cut the apple into slices using a knife or apple slicer.
4. Place the slices in a nice water bath.
5. Seal the water-and-apple container.
6. Place the sealed container in a cooler and add ice. When it's time, enjoy your fresh, brown-free apples.

Why does this work? Immersing the apples in water prevents their exposure to air, preserving color and freshness.

How Much Do You Know About Purifying Water in the Wild?



Take this 10 question test to see how much you know about purifying water in the wild: <http://scoutingmagazine.org/2015/08/how-much-do-you-know-about-purifying-water-in-the-wild/>



"Back in my day, they didn't award a merit badge for using a GPS."

Training Opportunities

Pow Wow 2015: Travel to the Stars



What is Pow Wow? Pow Wow is a supplemental, action-packed training event for adult Cub Scout Leaders, Pack Committee Members, Charter Organization Representatives, parents of Cub Scouts and just Cub Scout-interested persons. You'll spend the day learning new ideas and concepts and having hands-on experiences that will enhance your ability to deliver and support a fun-filled, exciting program to Cub Scout boys.

When is Pow Wow? Pow Wow is Saturday, November 21, 2015. Doors open at 7:45 am with 8:00 am for walk-in registration (please, no early arrivals) and pre-registered package pick-up in the cafeteria. Opening ceremony begins at 8:25 am. The first training session starts at 9:00 am.

Where is Pow Wow? We're gathering at Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale, Virginia.

Who should attend Pow Wow? All registered adult Cub Scout Leaders, potential leaders, and interested parents. That would include: Cub Masters and their Assistants; Tiger Den Leaders and their Assistants and partners; Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Den Leaders and their Assistants; Pack Committee members and activity/event Chairpersons; and anyone who wants to learn more about how to have a better Cub Scout program. Oh! And let's not forget Charter Organization Representatives, they need to come too.

Training sessions are offered on relevant topics for every Cub Scout position and are designed to help you make your Cub Scout program more fun for the boys ... and for you too!!!

Pow Wow is an all-day adult training event and the course sessions are intended for adults only. Unfortunately, we do not have provisions or accommodations for children watching and their daycare. The day is just for adults. Thank you.

How much does Pow Wow cost? Pre-register, on-line by November 17, 2015 and get the early bird registration fee of \$35.00. After midnight on November 17, 2015, we stop electronic registration and you will have to register as a 'walk-in' at the event. The cost for walk-in registration on the day of the event is \$50.00. Of course, we will take mail-in registrations as well, but it must be postmarked by November 15, 2015 to take advantage of the \$35.00 early bird registration fee.

All courses have limited enrollment and many fill very quickly. Courses that reach maximum enrollment will not be available when you electronically pre-registration or at walk-in registration. So ... register here, now!! Remember on-line registration closes on midnight on November 17, 2014.

For more information (such as the courses being offered) and to register:
www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=695745

National Youth Leader Trainer (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.

Why Have NYLT'

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:-

1. To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run their unit.
2. 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.
3. To give participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with Scouts from other scouting programs.
4. To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience Scouting at its best.
5. To enhance the relationship between the participant and their adult leaders.· To have fun!

When: 16 - 18 January 2016 and 13 - 15 February 2016 (both weekends must be attended)

Where: American Legion Youth Camp at 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD

Cost: \$250

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 (With the Course Directors approval)
- Youth 12 years of age and younger will not be able to attend
- Home Unit Leader approval

Event Details and Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/?NCACNYLT>

Philmont Advisor Skill School Helps You Know Before You Go



Wrapped up in a weekend of camping, climbing or canoeing, a Scout could forget. When preparing for Philmont, you'll no doubt have a ton of questions. What gear do I bring? What's a typical day like? How do I get in "Philmont shape"? How do I select leadership positions for my crew? What's a smellable?

To help you learn Philmont has developed three different courses for adults that are 18 or older:

Philmont Advisor Workshop (PAW)

PAW courses are two-hour evening workshops, typically 7 to 9 p.m. They provide a nice introduction to crew advisors to encourage constructive and smooth preparations for your Philmont trek. You'll learn about physical conditioning, conducting a shakedown hike, crew leadership positions, preparing youth leaders prior to your trek, travel to and from Philmont, establishing a crew Philmont committee, and more.

Cost: Free

When: April 13, 2016 in Baltimore (tentative)

More Info & Registration:

www.philmontscoutranch.org/~link.aspx?_id=BD9B40A3A9D04DEEB62BF3B63B7BE0BD&_z=z

Philmont Advisor Skill School in the field (Field-PASS)

Field-PASS is taught by a Philmont Ranger, 9 AM to 7 PM, in city and state parks across the country. In addition to the info taught in PAW, you'll learn all about the backcountry and logistical fundamentals of Philmont over the course of the day. You'll enjoy a trail lunch and dinner in between training sessions. At the conclusion of the course, advisors will receive PASS materials to share with crew members.

Cost: \$25

When: April 9 & 10 in Washington, D.C. (tentative)

More Info & Registration:

www.philmontscoutranch.org/~link.aspx?_id=4E69DAC272B840E4AD46FA0DF8E8C717&_z=z

Den Chief Training



Goose Creek will be holding Den Chief training on Saturday, November 21, 2015 from 9-12pm at the Purcellville Train Station (200 N 21st St, Purcellville), rain or shine. No charge for the training. Suggest bringing some snacks and a drink. Please wear your Class A uniform.

SAVE THE DATE: University of Scouting – Feb 27, 2016



The "University of Scouting" is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouting, Varsity Scouts, District Operations, and Council). Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cubbing, Scouting, and Adventure and leadership training for Venturing, Varsity, and Sea Scouting; Electives courses applicable across the Scouting programs, and District operations courses. For 2016 we will be offering 159 classes in five colleges - truly something for everyone.

- The College of Cub Scouting provides a wide variety of courses from pack administration to planning for an outdoor program.
- The College of Boy Scouting provides an exciting variety of troop, patrol and outdoor planning supplemental courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience.
- The College of Adventure Scouting is an interesting combination of courses for those who wish to learn more about Scouting's "senior" level programs and the challenges of an active high adventure experience.
- The College of Elective Programs offers many "general studies courses" that cut across all the programs. Just about everything from diversity and special needs to using technology can be found in the Elective Programs.
- The College of District Operations provides training to district committee members and Scouters with an interest in district operations. While no degree is conferred, those who take the required three courses are awarded the District Scouter Training Certificate and "Trained" patch

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

Date: Feb 27, 2016 – 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Where: Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA

Registration: Registration has not yet been opened. Keep an eye on the Council website under Program → Training → University of Scouting

Scoutmaster Specific Training



Powhatan District is offering Scoutmaster Specific Training in Herndon, VA on November 7th, 2015.

This training is required for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters

This class begins at 7:00 AM.

This course (S24) is specifically intended for registered Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters, and is required to complete your basic training. Other interested adults working with Boy Scout troops -- committee members, parents -- are welcome to attend.

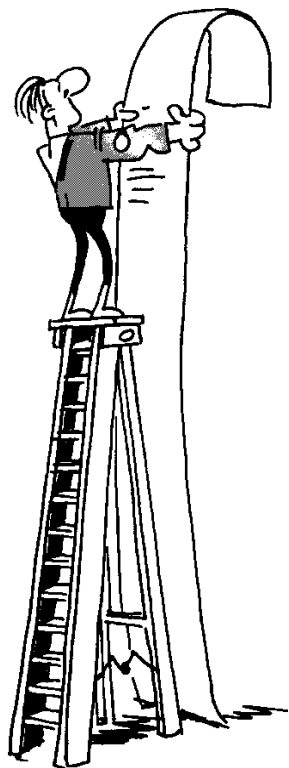
Through a series of lively presentations and discussions, the course teaches basic methods adult leaders can use to guide boy leaders in delivering an effective, exciting scouting program. Course topics include:

- Practical concerns of a scout leader
- The role of adult leaders in a boy-led troop
- Troop operation using the patrol method
- Achieving a vibrant, safe outdoor program
- Encouraging recognition through advancement
- Understanding troop administration and the troop committee

To register:

www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=644381&group=114103

District Calendar



NOVEMBER 2015

2-3 Student Holiday
 7 **SFF Bag Distribution**
 11 Roundtable
 11 OA Chapter Meeting
 14 **SFF Food Pickup**
 18 District Committee
 21-22 **Webelos-o-ree**
 21 **PowWow**
 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
 2 OA Lodge Banquet
 13 Roundtable
 13 OA Chapter Meeting
 18 MLK Jr. Day
 27 District Committee
 29 Moveable School Holiday
 29-31 **Freeze-o-ree**

FEBRUARY 2016

7 Scout Sunday
 13 Scout Sabbath
 10 Roundtable
 10 OA Chapter Meeting
 15 President's Day
 24 District Committee
 27 **Univ. of Scouting**

MARCH 2016

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

APRIL 2016

8-10 **Spring Camporee**
 13 Roundtable
 13 OA Chapter Meeting
 15 Student Holiday
 27 District Committee
 29-5/1 **Spring OA Ordeal**

MAY 2016

11 **Program Launch**
 11 OA Chapter Meeting
 25 District Committee
 30 Memorial Day

JUNE 2016

4 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
 8 Roundtable
 8 OA Chapter Meeting
 14 Last Day of School
 22 District Committee
 22-24 **Day Camp**

JULY 2016

4 Independence Day

AUGUST 2016

10 Roundtable
 10 OA Chapter Meeting
 24 District Committee

SEPTEMBER 2016

5 Labor Day
 14 Roundtable
 14 OA Chapter Meeting
 28 District Committee

OCTOBER 2016

10 Columbus Day
 12 Roundtable
 12 OA Chapter Meeting
 26 District Committee