



### Special Interest:

#### District

- Camp Cards – pg 2
- Cub Scout Day Camp – pg 4
- District Pinewood Derby – pg 5

#### Advancement

- Exploration MB – pg 8
- Life to Eagle Seminar – pg 10

#### Council/National

- Scout Planning Worksheet – pg 11
- VenturingFest 2018 – pg 17
- Phenomenon 2017 – pg 18



#### Training

- Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills – pg 27

### Quick Calendar:

- Mar 2 - AOL Recognition Ceremony
- Mar 8 – Roundtable
- Mar 11 – District Pinewood Derby
- Apr 12 – Roundtable
- May 10 – Program Launch – District Court of Honor
- May 12-14 – OA Ordeal
- May 20 – Soda Bottle Rocket Derby
- May 26-29 – Goshen@50 Camporee

### Newsletter Key:

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

# Goose Creek District Newsletter



March 2017

Volume 8, Issue 8



from The Scoutmaster Minute,

<https://thescoutmasterminute.net/2016/12/06/little-to-big/>

## Little to Big

Do a Good Turn Daily.. That is the Slogan of Scouting. It is a challenge to each of us to look for some way to be of service. The slogan asks us to seek opportunities every day to do something... anything that will ultimately make a difference.

It is my belief that when we look at this challenge we feel it is too large. It is a lofty goal to actually make a difference in this world.

What we need to do is think little. Little things matter.

When we teach leadership in our Troop one of our principles is to "Focus on the Little Things." That principle is all about details and those things that add up to big things. Little things like keeping your gloves out of the snow. Just a little thing, but the big thing is cold hands, wet gear, and maybe frost bite. Another example is ensuring that your tent is pitched properly. Making sure your guy lines are taught and pulled in line. Not a big deal, until it rains and your rain fly does not function properly. Just a little thing that makes a big difference.

And so it is with the Good Turn. Little things make a big difference. Holding open a door or carrying a bag. Little things that make a big difference for the person you helped.

A smile could change someones attitude or outlook on the day.

I think we get wrapped up in service for service sake and not for the difference we make.

Just think.. there are about two million Scouts in America. They represent about 103 thousand units. Those units represent Schools, Churches, Communities. So if 2 million Scouts did their Good Turn each day, just something small, we could change our world. That does not even take into consideration the Adult Volunteers that teach, coach, train, and mentor those 2 million Scouts. Add about 1.2 million to that number. 3 million people doing a small act of service every day. When we talk about little to big we can see that we make a big difference when and where it really matters.

In 2015 the Boy Scouts of America logged 1.53 million service hours. Those were hours of service dedicated to building things, collecting food, and working for our communities. That seems like a big number but at the end of the day we may not see the big impact. A lot of our service is dedicated to our chartering partners and people directly impacted in Scouting. That is great and I certainly would not want to take one minute of those hours away... they make a difference. But in snap shots.

Little to Big... each of us.. every day. Now that would leave a mark that could be seen from outer space.

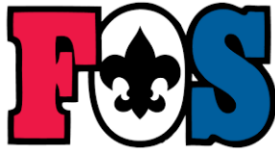
Think little to big. Do your Good Turn every day!

## District News

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



### Friends of Scouting Status



The District would like to recognize the following units for meeting or exceeding their Fair Share amount for Friends of Scouting (FOS)! We thank you all for your hard work and commitment to the Scouting movement and helping to provide the program both through your volunteer efforts and your generosity to this campaign.

- Pack 572
- Pack 910
- Pack 958
- Pack 975
- Pack 1484
- Pack 1871

If your unit does not appear on this listing, please follow up with us so that we can assist you in getting to your Fair Share amount so your unit can be publicly recognized! Many of you are very close to exceeding your Fair Share!

The Below units have not yet scheduled their presentations:

- Crew 1154
- Crew 7070
- Pack 982
- Troop 761

If you have not scheduled, please contact Dimitri Kesari ([Dimitri@vafos.org](mailto:Dimitri@vafos.org) or [dkesari@aol.com](mailto:dkesari@aol.com)) so that we can work with you to plan a presentation!



### Camp Cards Still Available



The Camp Card fundraising program is still active and you can contact our District Executive Ray Posluszny ([raymond.posluszny@scouting.org](mailto:raymond.posluszny@scouting.org)) for additional cards.

This initiative is designed to help Scouts earn their way to Summer Camp and Day Camp. Units participating in the 2017 program earn up to 50% commission, (\$2.50) on each \$5 Camp Card they sell. It's also RISK FREE. You don't pay for the cards when you pick them up, you just simply return any unsold cards and pay for the ones you sold.

For the people who buy the camp card it's practically free. Among the other card discounts it has a \$5 off coupon for use at Safeway (which Harris Teeter also recognizes).



### New Newsletter Feature



If you look at the left side of this article's header you'll notice a red star. We will be putting that star on all articles the first time that they appear in the newsletter or if there have been significant changes to the event that you need to know about. If the star is not there then the article is a repeat from the previous month.

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

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

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Honoring the Highest Scouting Awards



If you have recently earned the highest rank in Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts--and you live in Loudoun County, VA -- Sumser Photography would consider it an honor and privilege to symbolize your achievement with a free portrait in uniform. The cost of the session itself as well as one 8x10 print are our gifts to you in recognition of this outstanding accomplishment.

Chas Sumser writes: As an Eagle Scout myself, I know what it takes to reach this goal. Typically, not only are you working on the scouting requirements, but you're also juggling the demands of high school academics, sports, family, church, and other extra-curricular activities. The commitment you have made to yourself, to your life, and to your community is more than worthy of special recognition.

To arrange a session, please use our contact page

(<http://sumserphotography.com/post-portraits/honoring-the-highest-scouting-awards/>) and put "Scout Award" in the subject. Include scout's name, troop number and date of award.

Please note that eligibility is limited to scouts who contact us within six months after their Eagle Court of Honor or Gold Award Ceremony.

Congratulations on your amazing achievement!

## Order of the Arrow - Unit Elections



The annual OA Unit Election season runs from November 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017. Troops and Teams may hold only one election per season and it is recommended that the election be held prior to April 1, 2017. This will allow all elected candidates to be able attend the Goose Creek Chapter Ordeal the weekend of May 12-14, 2017. If you wish to have Arrowmen visit your Troop prior to your election, to discuss the OA with your Scouts, please contact the Goose Creek Chapter Chief, Henry Baime ([chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 and confirm your election date within one month after receiving your request.

## 2017 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp



We are happy to announce the 2017 Goose Creek Day and Twilight Camp with the theme of *Bug Hunters!* Cub Scouts in grades 1 through 5 are eligible to attend camp – including newly registered (starting June 1, 2017) Tigers. Camp will be at the Loudoun County Fairgrounds (17558 Dry Mill Rd, Leesburg) and the dates are:

**Day Camp**, June 19 - 23 (9 am - 4 pm M-Th, 9 am - 2 pm Friday)

- Early discount price \$190.00 (ends Sun 04-23-2017 11:59 PM)
- Regular price \$210.00
- Late registration price \$230.00 (starts Mon 05-22-2017 12:00 AM)

**Twilight Camp**, June 19 - 22 (Mon-Thur. 6:30 pm - dusk)

- Early discount price \$110.00 (ends Sun 04-23-2017 11:59 PM)
- Regular price \$120.00
- Late registration price \$130.00 (starts Mon 05-22-2017 12:00 AM)

Camp Coordinators, registration has just opened: [www.ncacbsa.org/program/cub-scouts/day-camp/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/program/cub-scouts/day-camp/)

### 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 Rumsey Light ([rumsey.s.light@NAVIENT.com](mailto:rumsey.s.light@NAVIENT.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 – Female 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, just drop Rumsey Light an e-mail. An adult volunteering for the week at (does not apply to Walking Den Leaders) camp gets to send up to two children to camp for the reduced fee of \$70 each (\$45 for Twilight).

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.



## 2017 District Pinewood Derby



**When:** Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**Where:** Sanders Corner Elementary School  
 43100 Ashburn Farm Parkway  
 Ashburn VA 20147  
**Fee:** \$5. Every participant will receive a Collector's Patch.  
**Time:**

Rank Division	Day of Registration and Inspection	Race Times (Tentative)
Tigers	8:00 am - 8:45 am	9:00 am - 10:00 am
Wolves	8:30 am - 9:15 am	9:30 am - 10:30 am
Bears	9:00 am - 9:45 am	10:00 am - 11:00 am
Webelos	9:30 am - 10:15 am	10:30 am - 11:30 am
Arrow of Light	10:15 am - 11:00 am	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Cow Cubs (Siblings)	9:30 am - 10:15 am	12:30 am - 1:00 pm
Grand Finals – 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , & 5 <sup>th</sup> Place winners from the five Rank Divisions	N/A	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

**Note:** The school will also be open Friday from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM for early registration and practice runs (once the track is set up).

Only the top 5 finalists in each rank (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos, Arrow of Light) within each Pack in Goose Creek District are eligible for the District Pinewood Derby Race. Siblings may participate in the Cow Cub (Siblings) Race.

All cars must meet the **District** construction rules: [www.ncacbsa.org/goose-creek/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/02/gcd\\_pwcrv2.pdf](http://www.ncacbsa.org/goose-creek/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/02/gcd_pwcrv2.pdf). Please note that these rules may differ from your pack's and it is possible that cars that qualified for their pack's races may not meet district rules and be disqualified.

Awards will be given to the top 5 finishers in each of the five ranks (Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos, Arrow of Light) at the District Derby. This means we will have separate races for the Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts. The top 5 finishers from each rank will move onto the Pack Championship Finals and the top 3 finishers will be awarded trophies.

In addition, we will hold a Siblings Race and the top 3 finishers will be awarded medals.

**For more information contact:** Jason Beshore, [jpbarchitect@gmail.com](mailto:jpbarchitect@gmail.com)

This event is being sponsored by Pack 1154 who will also be selling snacks and refreshments on Race Day.

## Spring JSN Training

Join the Fun!



We know Spring isn't here yet. But now is a good time to start talking Spring Join Scouting Night (JSN) Recruitment. Whether you recruit in the spring or not, you need to be thinking about how to get boys to join your Pack.

On March 8, 2017 there will be a Spring JSN training before Roundtable at Leesburg United Methodist Church at 6:30pm.

Spring JSN is not just for Packs. Troops, Teams, and Crews can have a JSN

For more information contact Stacey Noll. [stacey.noll@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:stacey.noll@goosecreekdistrict.org)



## "Cheerful Service Chatter"

Chapter News for our Arrowmen

Lodge Website: [www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA](http://www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA)



## Chapter Spring Ordeal



Arrowmen this year's Spring Ordeal will be held at the Leesburg Izaak Walton League facility on May 12-14. In addition to the induction of our newly elected candidates we will also be holding a Brotherhood Conversion to allow Arrowmen 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 in the mail during the month of April. The online registration for the Spring Ordeal will open in mid-April. Please check the NCAC OA web page and select the link for "Chapter Ordeal Schedules" to register. If you have any questions, please contact the Chapter Chief ([chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:chapterchief@goosecreekdistrict.org)) or the Chapter Adviser Hal Raffensperger ([hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net)).



## Lodge Spring Fellowship



The Amangamek-Wipit Lodge Spring Fellowship will be held at Camp Snyder the weekend of March 24-26. The theme for this year's fellowship is "Super Heros". There will be lots of fellowship, food, and sports competitions. The Lodge is also planning on starting a major overhaul of the Camp Snyder Campfire Amphitheater.

Registration for this event is now open at [www.ncacbsa.org/program/order-of-the-arrow](http://www.ncacbsa.org/program/order-of-the-arrow). Contact the Chapter Adviser Hal Raffensperger ([hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net)) if you need additional information or transportation to the Fellowship.



## NE-6A Conclave



This year's NE-6A Order of the Arrow Conclave will be held at the Broad Creek Scout Reservation the weekend of May 19-21. This year's theme is "Super Heros". The weekend will be filled with OA fellowship, training, shooting sports, ceremony team competition, and inter-Lodge sports competition.

On-line registration is now open at [www.ne6a.org](http://www.ne6a.org). Contact Hal Raffensperger ([hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net](mailto:hal.raffensperger@earthlink.net)) if you need additional information or transportation to the Conclave.

## OA High Adventure



Do you need an escape from that 9-5 job, summer classes or the monotony of staring out of your bedroom window longing for something new? If your answer is yes, the Order of the Arrow has the answer for you.

Each summer, the Order of the Arrow offers a myriad of different High Adventure opportunities to meet your summer needs whether its whetting your appetite by going for a plunge in the Atlantic Ocean with the Ocean Adventure at the Florida Sea Base; maybe hiking is your passion, what better place to go than the Philmont Scout Ranch where you can hike the same trails as your Scoutmaster or Scouting ancestors as a part of your Trail Crew experience.

Have you ever given thought about what the Native Americans and early explorers did to be avid traders? Maybe the OA Voyage is for calling. Whatever your summer aspirations may be, these National High Adventure bases have put together a multitude of options for you.

Along with your one week trek completely designed by you, each Arrowmen will be afforded the opportunity to leave their mark in history by helping to sure up portage trails, backpacking trails or coral reefs. Aside from providing a good deed to each of these high adventure bases, every participant will have the opportunity to work closely with Arrowmen from across the country, who have a similar interest in the future of both the program and the adventure base.

You may be thinking that this is a daunting task but it is an experience unlike any other afforded to you in scouting in that it takes you out of your world and places with people, who want to do something different. It's not every day that you can tell your friends that you climbed into Cypher's Mine, watched the Northern Lights from a canoe or went scuba diving in the Florida Keys.

These programs help to insure that the future of scouting has a place to live, work and interact. This summer, try something new or do something you thoroughly enjoy, but do something with the Order of the Arrow High Adventure opportunities. For more information about these High Adventure programs, please visit <http://adventure.oa-bsa.org/> or talk to your lodge chief.

Cost to attend (does not include transportation to/from):

- OA Ocean Adventure at Sea Base \$500,
- OA Trail Crew at Philmont \$300,
- OA Summit Experience at the Summit \$250,
- OA Wilderness Voyage/ Canadian Odyssey \$200

## “Onward and Upward”

### On the Advancement Trail



#### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

**Ryan Casey** – Troop 1154

**Mark Doherty** – Troop 961

**Dario Fagan** – Troop 998

**Joshua Fisher** – Troop 163

**Lucas Harris** – Troop 969

**John Loeffler** – Troop 2011

**Sarem S Mahmood** – Troop 1576

**Matthew Martwinski** – Troop 998

**Spencer Tarbet** – Troop 743

**Derek Tobias** – Crew 663

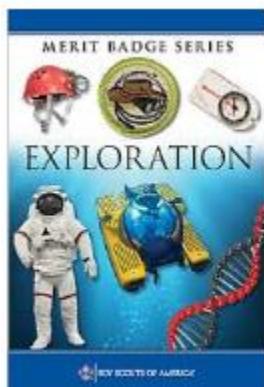
**Elijah Vilorio** – Troop 761

**Collin Warner** – Troop 2011

**Corwin Warner** – Troop 1159



#### BSA Debuts Exploration Merit Badge



BSA has introduced a new merit badge: Exploration. The badge – the BSA's 137<sup>th</sup> currently available merit badge – celebrates the spirit of adventure that has inspired Scouts for more than a century.

After learning about the history and importance of exploration, Scouts plan, prepare for and go on an actual expedition. The expedition need not be to Mount Everest or the Marianas Trench. Scouts must plan and make a trip to somewhere of interest to them; it can be close by or far away. It can be a troop activity or a small-scale excursion

Once there, the Scout will study something. Maybe he'll analyze a location's animal population, classify plant species at a state park or explore the effects of drought on an area.

The primary goal is that the Scout learns something, plans the trip (with his counselor's OK) and has fun.



#### From Ask Andy: Venturer Earning Merit Badges



**Q: Can a young man who's no longer in a Boy Scout troop but is now a member of a Venturing crew continue to earn merit badges?**

**A:** If he reached First Class rank as a Boy Scout before becoming a Venturer and he's working toward Eagle rank, then certainly! If he's not working toward Eagle rank, then no; merit badges are only earned by Boy Scouts or by Venturers per the situation I first described.





## State Department, under Eagle Scout Tillerson, to Hand-Sign Eagle Letters



Rex Tillerson, a Distinguished Eagle Scout, Silver Buffalo Award recipient and past national president of the Boy Scouts of America, will be extremely busy traveling the world as secretary of state. But he'll still take time to recognize his fellow Eagle Scouts.

The U.S. Department of State announced it will continue the department's long-standing tradition of sending congratulatory letters to Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts who achieve the Gold Award, which is that program's highest honor. It's unknown whether previous secretaries of state hand-signed their letters. But the State Department, in a blog post last week, emphasized that letters from Tillerson, will be personally signed by the secretary himself.

"The State Department is honored to have the opportunity to recognize and honor Boy and Girl Scouts who are going the extra mile to demonstrate values that serve as important pillars of global citizenry," the department wrote.

To request a letter for a new Eagle Scout, use the address below. We recommend allowing as much time as possible.

Hon. Rex Tillerson  
Secretary of State  
2201 C St., NW  
Washington, DC 20520



## Wolf Grow Something, Webelos Into the Woods, Plant Science and Gardening MB



Complete (or almost complete) your plant based badges on April 29th, 2017 at the University of Maryland's – Grow It Eat It Event!

**When:** Saturday 04-29-2017 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Where:** Agricultural History Farm Park  
18400 Muncaster Rd  
Derwood, Maryland 20855

**What We offer:** UMD Master Gardeners and other experts will provide all information for the merit badges, but most components to be built/monitored will need to be completed after the program.

### Wolf

Grow Something - Plants will be provided to take home to monitor.

### Webelos

Into the Woods - Boys will complete the badge requirements.

### Boy Scouts

Gardening Merit Badge - Information will cover all parts of the badge.

Plant Science Merit Badge - Information will cover all parts of the badge.

For more information: <https://gjei2017boy-cubscouts.eventbrite.com>

Questions? Contact [mc.growit@gmail.com](mailto:mc.growit@gmail.com)



## Life to Eagle Seminars



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

- First one in 2017:  
Date: April 1  
Time: 10:30-1:30  
Place: Gum Spring Library; 24600 Millstream Drive, Stone Ridge
- Future ones in 2017 are being targeted for: July 1 and Oct 15. Dates, locations and times are TBD pending confirmation of library room availabilities.

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

## Hornaday Awards



The BSA Hornaday Awards are presented to BSA Youth — BSA units, Scouts, Venturers as well as adults who perform environmental service that goes beyond the ordinary. The Badge and Medals, in particular, must address well-defined environmental problems and address them using scientific methodologies that result in lasting improvement to the environment. Although the program stresses a scientific approach, the award does not require a high level of technical aptitude. The ability to learn the basics of conservation and apply them in practice is all the awards require.

The Hornaday Awards are well established but under-utilized. Our goal, as NCAC, is to award a bare minimum of 5 Hornaday Badges (the first of the awards) yearly by the end of 2018. If you want to earn a Hornaday Award and are willing to take on a significant service project, we want to help you get there! To do this we have created a NCAC Guide to earning Hornaday Awards. This handbook has been developed for Scouts, Venturers, Units, and Scouters within the National Capital Area Council interested in the Hornaday Awards. The purpose of this guide is to provide a better understanding of requirements for each award, expected scope of projects, and process from concept to completion.

For more information about the awards, the workbook, the NCAC handbook, and a list of Hornaday advisors go to: [www.ncacbsa.org/advancement/awards-and-recognition/hornaday/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/advancement/awards-and-recognition/hornaday/)

**Some Eagle projects may qualify for Hornaday awards, too.** Consultation with a Hornaday Advisor is indispensable before beginning work, however. If an Eagle Project is of significant scope (often 200 hours of labor between the youth and the people he is leading) and is primarily designed to benefit the environment first and people second, it will probably meet the requirement for a Badge.

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

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

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)

## Council / National News

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



### Scout Planning Worksheet

**SCOUT PLANNING WORKSHEET**  
 "Plan on it, Plan!"  
 It makes you think and plan for your project.

**GOAL**  
 Write your goal in this space.

**WHY?**  
 Why do you want to do this project? Why is it important?

**WHO?**  
 Who will be doing the project? Who will be helping?

**WHEN?**  
 When will you start? When will you finish?

**WHERE?**  
 Where will you do the project? Where will you meet?

**HOW?**  
 How will you do the project? How will you get the materials?

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

When planning an Eagle Scout service project, you have to identify a goal, recruit a team, plan transportation, purchase materials, consider safety and plot each step. It's a lot of work.

So much, in fact, that in an ideal world the Eagle project wouldn't be a Scout's first experience with formal, documented project planning.

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the ideal world. The BSA has released the Scout Planning Worksheet, a new tool that Scouts can use to plan patrol or troop activities. The goal is to build project-planning prowess that will benefit Scouts in their Eagle project, at school and in life.

The worksheet — created by volunteer Jeff Goldsmith, his professional counterpart Garfield Murden and other BSA volunteers — is available here as a free PDF: [http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2017/01/512-505\\_ScoutPlanningWorksheet.pdf](http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2017/01/512-505_ScoutPlanningWorksheet.pdf)

#### Why a Scout Planning Worksheet

A team of Boy Scout committee members agreed that it would be a good idea if a boy had some specific planning experience prior to his Eagle Scout service project. After a comprehensive review of Boy Scout literature, the team realized that nothing already existed to fill this need.

The goal was to give a boy familiarity with the planning process throughout his Scouting experience. And so the Scout Planning Worksheet (No. 512-505) was born. If used properly, planning a big project will be second nature by the time a boy reaches Life Scout. The idea is that repetition is important to developing and honing any skills.

Project-planning skills will trickle up from the patrol to the troop. Eventually, a senior patrol leader could use the Scout Planning Worksheet to plan troop activities.

Soon it becomes second nature and thus, over time, standard practice for a Scout. The benefits reach beyond Scouting. The skill applies to school assignments, family events and careers.

It will be integrated into the updated Senior Patrol Leaders Handbook, out soon, and will be included in Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) and other appropriate Boy Scout literature as those come up for review.



## Eagle Scout Class of 2016, by the Numbers



Exactly 55,186 young men became Eagle Scouts in 2016.

The total is a 1.5 percent increase over last year's Eagle Scout count (54,366), but it's 6.3 percent less than the all-time high of 58,659 in 2012. That year's count was inflated as Scouts hurried to finish requirements in time for the 100th anniversary of the Eagle Scout award.

Young men who earned Eagle in 2016 combined to record 9,156,368 hours of service on Eagle projects.

That's an average of 165.9 hours of service per Eagle project. (By the way, that's a 6.1 percent increase over 2015's 156.4 hours per project. That means Scouts are doing more service!)

With the value of volunteer time at \$23.56 an hour, that means Eagle Scouts and the volunteers they led contributed — drumroll, please — more than \$215.7 million worth of time working on these projects.



## Under New BSA Transportation Policy, Drivers must be Licensed and at Least 18



The Boy Scouts of America's updated transportation policy now requires all drivers to be at least 18 and have a valid driver's license.

Scouting youth under age 18 are not insured under the BSA's commercial general liability policy and cannot be allowed to drive to or from Scouting activities. (Note: Driving to/from troop or crew meetings isn't an official Scouting activity or part of any tour planning.)

This includes an under-18 Scout or Venturer driving himself or herself to a Scouting event, even if he or she is the only one in the car. It includes short trips across town and long trips across the country.

There are no exceptions, and the new policy is effective immediately.

Read the BSA's transportation policy at this link, [www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss11.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety/GSS/gss11.aspx). Pay particular attention to the sections on:

- 15-passenger vans
- limits on an individual's driving time
- hand-held cellphone use



## "Be Prepared!" for Online Member Registration!



NCAC has applied to start using online registration for new members! This highly requested feature will make it much easier for new families to join your unit. To get your unit ready to use the system, start by updating your unit's pin at [www.BeAScout.org](http://www.BeAScout.org). If you need help, contact your Unit Commissioner.





## National Scouting Museum to Move



The National Scouting Museum will move to Philmont Scout Ranch in northeastern New Mexico from its current home in Irving, Texas. The relocation will take place over the next year and a half, with the museum scheduled to open in 2018.

Thanks to the support of donors, the Philmont Museum – Seton Memorial Library has begun a major expansion that will result in **The Philmont Educational Center**. The memorabilia of the National Scouting Museum will be right at home in the center. At its new site, the museum will continue to preserve the 107-year history of the BSA.

You can support this project by purchasing a brick to be placed in the Trail of Our Founders Plaza. Your brick can be customized with three lines of text – your name, your Scout's name and the year of your Philmont trek, perhaps.

The plaza of bricks will serve as the main entrance to The Philmont Education Center. Learn more at [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/bricks](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org/bricks)



## 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival



The 57th Annual Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival. April 8th 2017. 10AM-5PM. Every year the Japan-America Society of Washington DC hosts the annual Japanese Street 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!

Units may register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-12227>.

## NCAC-VOA Scavenger Hunt 2017



Enjoy a day in our nation's capital with your crew and your CVOA and join us for a fun day out at our annual NCAC-VOA Scavenger Hunt!

Teams of Venturers will be unleashed around the historic National Mall on a quest that will be fun for everyone. Don't miss this chance to meet Venturers from around the council!

This event will also be open to anyone Venturing-aged, so Sea Scouts and Explorers who wish to participate are invited too! It is a great opportunity to introduce a friend to Venturing who might want to learn what it's all about.

Please email the NCAC-VOA, [cvoa@ncacbsa.org](mailto:cvoa@ncacbsa.org), if you have any questions about the event.

When: March 11

Cost: FREE!

Casual attire, uniform optional. (But if you got a really cool crew t-shirt wear it)

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

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

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)



## Scouting Service Award Combines Five Awards into One New Square Knot



Square knots, which are primarily earned by adults, recognize an individual's service and commitment to Scouting. There are more than 30 different knots recognizing leaders in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing and Sea Scouting.

The release of a new square knot is always cause for celebration. But one square knot that combines five different awards? It's party time.

The new Scouting Service Award recognizes adult volunteers who have earned one of five different awards, each celebrating a leader's dedication to a special segment of Scouting.

The new knot recognizes Scouters who have earned one of these five awards:

- Asian American Spirit of Scouting Service Award: Honors an adult or an organization for bringing Scouting opportunities to Asian-American youth.  
[www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards\\_Central/AsianAmerican.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards_Central/AsianAmerican.aspx)
- ¡Scouting...Vale la Pena! Service Award: Honors an adult or an organization for bringing Scouting opportunities to Hispanic/Latino youth.  
[www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards\\_Central/ScoutingValelaPena.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards_Central/ScoutingValelaPena.aspx)
- Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award: Honors an adult or an organization for bringing Scouting opportunities to youth from rural or low-income urban backgrounds.  
[www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards\\_Central/WhitneyYoungAward.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards_Central/WhitneyYoungAward.aspx)
- American Indian Scouting Association Grey Wolf Award: Honors an adult for bringing Scouting opportunities to American Indian youth.  
[http://amerindscouting.org/AISA/?page\\_id=50](http://amerindscouting.org/AISA/?page_id=50)
- Special Needs Scouting Service Award: Honors an adult (volunteer or professional) for bringing Scouting opportunities to Scouts with special needs. Unlike the other awards here, it can be earned. A provisional application form can be found at  
<https://ablescouts.files.wordpress.com/2017/02/snssa-applv1.pdf>

Each award has other recognition items — some combination of a certificate, letter, plaque, ribbon, lapel pin and medal — but the square knot is the item honorees can wear on their uniform.



## Updated Youth Protection Contact List



NCAC has an updated Youth Protection Contact list. It contains local government and staff contacts for use by anyone who observes a potentially abusive situation. As always, this is posted online as well at [www.ncacbsa.org/youthprotectioncontacts](http://www.ncacbsa.org/youthprotectioncontacts). Please share with your volunteers.



## Do's and Don'ts Before Your Next Unit Fundraiser



Where will your next Scouting adventure take you? You're limited only by your imagination — and, yes, your budget.

Fundraisers conducted through your local Scout council, such as Scout popcorn sales, are a no-brainer. They've already been reviewed, meaning they follow all BSA rules and regulations.

But some Scout units like to earn additional funds for Scouting by supplementing those projects with their own. That's fine, provided you follow this list of fundraising do's and don'ts. It comes from Russ McNamer, the BSA's associate general counsel for all things taxes.

### Fundraising Do's

1. Do file a Unit Money-Earning Project Application ([www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34427.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34427.pdf)) for approval by both the local council and the chartering organization. Submit this application to your council service center at least two weeks in advance of the proposed date of your project.
2. Do check local laws regarding solicitation rules and permits.
3. Do select money-earning projects that are suited to the ages and abilities of youth participants.
4. Do select money-earning projects that teach youth members to earn their own way.
5. Do follow safe practices listed in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

### Fundraising Don'ts

1. Don't solicit funds in the name of Scouting; only local councils have the authority to solicit funds.
2. Don't conduct unit money-earning projects without adequate adult supervision.
3. Don't forget to use the buddy system, and don't go into unsafe or unfamiliar areas.
4. Don't conduct unit money-earning projects after dark or in unsafe pedestrian areas.
5. Don't sell fireworks as a unit money-earning project. That's an unauthorized activity.

### Even more guidance

Pay attention to the second page of the Unit Money-Earning Project Application. There you'll find a guide to unit money-earning projects with eight questions and answers about fundraisers.



## Kids to Parks Day 2017



Add up all the protected areas of the United States — national, state and local parks and more — and you get an area larger than France and Spain combined. Join the seventh annual Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 20, 2017. Spend the day doing something Scouts love to do anyway: having fun in a park.

There are a number of registered Kids to Park Day events ([www.parktrust.org/view/kids-to-parks-day-events/](http://www.parktrust.org/view/kids-to-parks-day-events/)), perhaps including one near you. At these events, you and your Scouts can do things like fly a kite, clean up a creek or learn to fish.

If none of those existing events will work, plan and register your own.

### About Kids to Parks Day

The Boy Scouts of America — along with the National Park Service, the Sierra Club, the American Hiking Society and others — is a prominent collaborator in the Kids to Parks Day effort, organized by the National Park Trust.

More than 730,000 people participated in the 2016 event. That's a 21.7 percent increase over the 600,000 participants in 2015. Here's hoping Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers can send that number even higher in 2017.

The National Park Trust has set its 2017 goal: 900,000 people enjoying Kids to Parks Day across the country.

Five ways to celebrate Kids to Parks Day 2017

1. Pledge to participate — If you'll take Scouts to a park on May 20, click here to make it official: [www.parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day/kids-to-parks-day-event-registration-form/](http://www.parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day/kids-to-parks-day-event-registration-form/)

Register any event of any size — from two Scouts to 200 or more.

2. Get your free park pass for fourth-graders — They call it Every Kid in a Park. Fourth-grade students and their families get free access to hundreds of parks, lands and waters for a whole year.

Learn more and get your family's pass at [www.everykidinapark.gov/](http://www.everykidinapark.gov/).

3. Try some hiking or camping games — Maybe you're at a park with some time to spare? Or your Scouts are lagging mid-hike? The National Park Trust has some games to help ramp up energy.
4. Learn from the experts — How do you prepare for a hike with kids? What are the best outdoor snacks for kids? Can you recommend any kid-appropriate park books?

Two experts — Ken Keffer and Stacy Tornio, creators of DestinationNature.net — weigh in on these topics and more.

5. Say hey to Buddy Bison — The National Park Trust's lovable mascot is Buddy Bison, and he shares a bunch of tips aimed at showing kids how to have fun at parks.

They're compact, making them easy for kids to digest. Go to [www.parktrust.org/buddy-bison-program/](http://www.parktrust.org/buddy-bison-program/) for more from Buddy Bison.





## Venturing Officers' Association



Are you a youth looking to make a big impact within the Venturing community? Do you want to further develop your leadership skills through amazing experiences and opportunities? If so, a position within the Venturing Officers' Association (VOA) could be exactly what you're looking for.

As an officer, you will have the privilege and responsibility of serving the Venturing community at a higher capacity, beyond your local unit. You will work with an amazing team of youth officers and adult advisors to suggest programmatic changes, lead events, and host training sessions for the Venturing and Scouting communities. This opportunity provides you with the chance to not only give back to an amazing program, but also to leave your mark on our future generations of Venturers.

To take advantage of these amazing opportunities the first step is to fill out the VOA officer application ([www.venturing.org/apply-to-be-a-voa-officer.html](http://www.venturing.org/apply-to-be-a-voa-officer.html)) - but be sure not to miss your deadline!

Application deadlines:

- Region: March 15, 2017
- Area: March 31, 2017
- Council: Determined by your local VOA

Not a youth but know a great one? Make sure to pass this on to make sure no leader misses out on the chance to impact Venturing.

The future leader of our program could be in your crew meeting—it may even be you. Know your strengths, be brave, and apply today!



## VenturingFest 2018



As you may know, VenturingFest 2018 will be held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) from July 1st-6th, 2018 to celebrate Venturing's 20th birthday! Join us for quick access to the latest activities at the Summit, social events with Venturers from across the nation, an incredible birthday celebration, and the opportunity of a lifetime!

VenturingFest 2018 is a special Scouting event at SBR that's open to registered Venturers, Scouts and adult leaders across the U.S. This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the SBR has to offer. We're talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, and so much more!

Registration & Payment

YOUTH REGISTRATION FEE: \$500\*

ADULT REGISTRATION FEE: \$400\*

Fees include meals (Sunday dinner through Friday breakfast), campsite (w/tents, showers, dining flies, tables & Wi-Fi), and all program equipment, with exception of the optional ½-day whitewater rafting trip. (Fee for this is TBD)

For more information go to: [www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/](http://www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/)



## Phenomenon 2017: Pirates of the Carabiner



Come all ye lads and lassies, and join the Northeast Region Area 6 VOA at Phenomenon: Pirates of the Carabiner! Alas, the action packed event has returned with a velcro wall, dance party, squeeze box, and much more to be discovered. This weekend adventure will be sure to blow the socks off of even the oldest seadogs. So come one, and come all to Phenomenon: Pirates of the Carabiner!

April 7 - 9, 2017 at Camp Saffran (1929 Susquehanna Hall Rd, Whiteford, MD 21160), Baltimore Area Council.

Participant Guide: <http://nerventuring-bsa.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3e34740844b984916892b4d87&id=7e2d479aac&e=03e992ef19>

To register: <http://nerventuring-bsa.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3e34740844b984916892b4d87&id=621f12dacd&e=03e992ef19>

## Goshen Specialty Camps



Goshen's Specialty Week for 2017 will be held during the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle and The Marriott Project are the featured programs for this year. Specialty Week is traditionally attended by provisional Scouts (attending individually instead of with a unit), but is also open to units. 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)

Back for a second year! Explore the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields outdoors! 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

Trail to Eagle is our most popular provisional program, which offers older scouts the opportunity to enjoy a week of fun, advancement, and growth towards becoming an Eagle Scout. Our camp staff is joined by additional volunteer merit badge counselors who are experts specializing in a particular merit badge. 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. We emphasize quality instruction and activities to help the scouts truly become Eagle Scouts.

## 2017 Goshen Summer Camp Availability



Key:  Available  Almost Full  Full

Camp (as of 03/25/2015)		Week					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>Bowman</b> (opens one day sooner than other camps) (Patrol Cooking)						
	<b>Marriot</b> (Patrol Cooking & Heater Stack)	LDS Week					
	<b>Olmsted</b> (BS Dining Hall)						
	<b>Lenhok'sin High Adventure</b>	LDS Week					
	<b>PMI</b> (Dining Hall)						
	<b>Ross</b> (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/18 to 6/24

Week 4 – 7/9 to 7/15

Week 2 – 6/25 to 7/1

Week 5 – 7/16 to 7/22

Week 3 – 7/2 to 7/8

Week 6 – 7/23 to 7/29

### Fees:

If paid by April 14: Youth \$360, Adults \$225\*

If paid by May 19: Youth \$400, Adults \$265\*

After May 19: Youth \$440, Adults \$305\*

All units will receive two free adult leaders!

Registration is now live for Goshen Scout Reservation's 2017 program:

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/goshen-camps/register/>

## Council Cub Scout Day Camp



Council Cub Scout Day Camp is a great means for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their families to experience Camp Snyder 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.

Sessions run from Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Day Only / Lunch Included.

Session 1: July 17-20

Session 2: July 31-Aug 3

Cost: \$210 – register by April 16

\$230 – register by May 21

\$250 – register after May 21

\$40 – one adult for a week

(may be a different adult each day)

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## Cub Scout Resident Camp



Cub Resident Camp is your bite sized introduction to a Boy Scout summer camp program. All registered Cubs, Tigers – Webelos and their adult leaders/parents sleep on cots in 4 person BSA wall tents that sit on raised platforms, eat in the camp dining hall and experience a whole day into the night program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Adventure Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a registered Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or dens' self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well-being.

Sessions run from Friday at 9:00am to Sunday at 9:00am, and feature overnight camping. Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast.

Session 1: July 14-16

Session 2: July 21-23

Session 3: July 28-30

Session 4: Aug 4-6

Cost: \$220 – register by April 16

\$240 – register by May 21

\$260 – register after May 21

\$75 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## Webelos Camp



Webelos camp is a big step for the Webelos I or II working on rank adventures. 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's plenty of other fun activities to fill your week including trips to the pool and more.

Monday 9:00am – Friday 9:00 am, Overnight / Meals are provided from Monday lunch – Friday continental breakfast

Session 1: July 10-14

Session 2: Aug 7-11

Cost: \$260 – register by April 16

\$280 – register by May 21

\$300 – register after May 21

\$110 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)



## Cub Scout STEM Day Camp



The NCAC STEM Program is coming to Camp Snyder for one week only (July 24-27). Spaces are limited so sign up early for this unique blend of BBs, Archery, Swimming and STEM! Each day will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 4:00 pm with lunch included in the cost of camp.

Cost: \$300 – register by April 16  
 \$320 – register by May 21  
 \$340 – register after May 21  
 \$40 – adults

To register: [www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/outdoors/camp-william-b-snyder/summer-programs/)

## Goshen@50 Camporee



NCAC is commemorating the opening of the Goshen Scout Reservation in 1967 with a council-wide celebration! Mark your calendars for this one of a kind camporee on Memorial Day Weekend 2017.

The Camporee will be a great event for Scouts (of all ages and program levels) and their families. Activities will include waterfront, shooting sports, COPE and climbing courses, as well as a special arena show, campfires and Scouting skill competitions. There will also be Alumni events honoring key contributors to Goshen's history.

For more information visit the Goshen@50 website at:  
[www.ncacbsa.org/goshen50/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/goshen50/)

## Bullseye!



The NCAC Shooting Sports Committee & Camp Snyder is planning an exciting day of BB gun shooting, archery, slingshots and more! After a fun day on the ranges Scouts and their families will gather for an evening campfire program and then camp overnight. Cook your meals in camp or take advantage of our \$15 per person meal plan.

When: Saturday April 22-23, 2017

Pre-register online (not yet available) by 4/8 -Scouts/Cub Scout age siblings: \$30\*

Pre-register online by 4/8 – Adults: \$10\*

Siblings age 5 and under are free

Optional meal plan (lunch/dinner/continental breakfast)

\$15 per person (Siblings age 5 and under eat free)

\*A \$5 late fee is assessed after 4/8/2016

## NYLT Training



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.

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 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

### 2017 Course Dates

**WINTER NYLT** - Camp Snyder

**SUMMER NYLT** – American Legion Youth Camp, Cheltenham, MD (3 separate courses are available)

18 - 23 June 2017

25 - 30 June 2017

1 - 5 August 2017 (Sunday Friendly)

Early Bird cost for the Course will be \$225 until 1 June 2017 then the cost is \$270.

To register go to: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-NCACNYLT>

## On-Line Resource of the Month



Better troop meetings are a click away.

Troop Leader Resources (<http://troopleader.org/>) is a new, BSA-authorized website that helps Scouts and Scouters plan better meetings. With its videos of real Scouts in real troops, the site is a one-stop shop for new and experienced troop leaders.

Here are seven helpful things you'll find there:

### 1. Troop meeting agendas

The Troop Meeting Agenda page breaks down each segment of the troop meeting plan with 11 short sample videos from actual troop meetings. There's also a fillable troop meeting planning sheet, if the Patrol Leaders' Council chooses to fill out meeting plans online.

### 2. Program features

Program Features is the site's biggest section, presenting each of the 48 program features with explanatory information, ideas for troop meetings and ideas for monthly main events. Each page has its own navigation bar linking to corresponding program feature subsections.

### 3. Program resources

The Program Resources page contains Scout meeting activities, campcraft skill videos, troop ceremony ideas and a collection of Scoutmaster's minutes.

### 4. Planning tips

The Planning page covers the annual and monthly planning process, including an illustrative video of an actual Patrol Leaders' Council in action.

### 5. Training advice

The Training page covers both adult and youth training.

### 6. Outings ideas

The Outings page is a gateway of general information about camping equipment, troop site setup and camping trip activities.

### 7. General troop information

The General Troop Information page has topics relevant to running a troop. Each has its own page, covering topics like troop positions, the patrol, boards of review, courts of honor, fundraisers and the Scoutmaster conference.

## Equipment / Gear / Tips



### Compasses: What to Look For



The ability to navigate with map and compass is a crucial skill, one that can literally save your life. Your compass and map can also do other helpful tasks like telling you where you are, what's around you and the best way to get where you want to go.

Whenever you step into the backcountry, the compass and map are both mandatory gear, while a GPS receiver is optional. The quick explanation for this is the adage "never trust your life to a battery." Dedicated GPS receivers and cellphone apps are amazing tools, but should never be solely relied upon to find your way out of the wilderness.

There are four main features to look at when choosing a compass:

- **Declination adjustment:** A capable compass for hikers and other trail users should have this. "Declination" is the difference in degrees between true north and magnetic north. Because declination varies depending on where you are, adjustable declination is important to have. With adjustable declination, you set it and forget it until you travel to a new region.
- **Sighting mirror:** Move up to a model with both declination adjustment and this feature if you plan to travel off trail or want more precise navigation. The sighting mirror helps you aim more precisely when following a precise bearing on a distant landmark. Also doubles as an emergency signaling device.
- **Clinometer:** For mountaineering and backcountry skiing, Allows you to measure the vertical angle (steepness) of a slope; helpful for assessing avalanche hazards and the heights of objects.
- **Global needle:** If you're a world traveler or simply going on a trip that takes you south of the Equator, get a model with a global needle. This feature compensates for magnetic-field variances and allows a compass to work smoothly and accurately worldwide. Otherwise, a compass is either North- or South-America specific.

Don't store a compass near a magnet or electric field. Over time, exposure can demagnetize the needle. Do not place your compass in your pocket next to your cellphone. Even a magnetic clasp used on the bite valve of some hydration reservoirs can be problematic.

If you're looking for a compass to use while you're kayaking, consider a model that mounts onto the vessel and can be seen in the dark. Compasses that you're taking on the water in particular should be able to withstand harsh conditions and work in cold weather, as well as be shock resistant.

## Books/Apps



### Safety Central



Safety Central, a new app from BSA's longtime allies at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), helps parents react quickly if their child goes missing.

At the core of Safety Central is a digital Child ID Kit. One of the most important tools for law enforcement when searching for a missing child is an up-to-date, good quality photo along with descriptive information. A Child ID kit is a simple yet effective way to keep those tools right at your fingertips. The app, which does not share any of your personal information, reminds you when it's time to update your photos and allows you to store potentially life-saving information about your children in an easily accessible location.

Safety Central does much more than keep track of your personal child ID kit! You can download educational tips and resources from NCMEC's award-winning educational team, stay up to date on news and events and help law enforcement find missing kids. Users can also join our mission by donating to NCMEC directly through the app. Safety Central is a free download thanks to a generous gift from NCMEC's partner, EMCOR. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/safety-central-ncmec/id1153098638?mt=8>

LOL



### Help Wanted - New Scoutmaster

This person must have the following qualities, in order to be considered for the job.

- 1) Have the shoulders of Atlas, on which to carry the responsibility of a troop full of excited boys who don't know where they are going, what they are doing or how they will get there, but plan on having fun doing it, while their parents look on in horror at what they are doing to accomplish this feat.
- 2) The patience of Job to supervise the above group.
- 3) The wisdom of the World to answer all the questions posed to you about any subject in the world.
- 4) A Degree in child psychology, to handle all the problems this group of boys seem to create.
- 5) A degree in outdoor recreation to teach these boys everything they will need to know about the great outdoors and the associated skills.
- 6) Experinece in accounting to help the troop treasurer in figuring out how the troop can afford new gear or this next outing.
- 7) Fundraising experience so you can afford to do the above things.
- 8) Public Relations experience to handle irate parents whose son just told them what really happened on the last outing or why he didn't pass his last Board of Review.
- 9) The ability to easily lie through your teeth as you recruit some assistant Scoutmasters or committee members to help you out with the above troop, saying it will only take an hour a week.
- 10) The ego to think that no one can do it as well as you have done it in the past.
- 11) The humbleness to realize that maybe somebody can.
- 12) An extra hour a week, in which to do all of the above.



# Training Opportunities

## Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)



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, 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 are 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. 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.

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.

### 2017 Spring Course

**Classroom:** Sat. 18 March, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Scientist Cliffs Community (Alder Rd and Acacia Rd) 3500 Alder Rd, Port Republic, MD

**Overnite:** Sat. 22 April, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 23 April, 1:30 PM. American Chestnut Land Trust 676 Double Oak Rd, Prince Frederick, MD

**Register at:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-11151>, cost is \$45.

### 2017 Fall Course

**Classroom:** Sat. 23 September, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Aldersgate United Methodist Church 1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA

**Overnite:** Sat. 21 October, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 22 October, 1:30 PM. Camp William B. Snyder 6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA

## Wood Badge 2017



Wood Badge is advanced Scout leader training that began in 1919 by Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Scouting and Wood Badge's first director. It came to America in 1948 and has been updated to reflect current BSA policies and programs. Incorporating the best techniques available, Wood Badge has become the most advanced leadership training course in Scouting!

Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training and provides you with the tools to be a superior leader. The leadership skills taught are for leaders from all Scouting areas including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing and the district and council. The 1st half of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercises to teach the essentials of leadership. You'll learn what makes leadership work for you in Scouting and your personal life. The 2nd half offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help you learn the application of leadership skills. Finally, you will write and complete a "Ticket". The "Ticket" consists of five written goals. These goals connect your new leadership knowledge to your role in Scouting.

Any Scouter who has attended basic training for their registered position and serves in a leadership role in Scouting or in a position that directly supports a unit can attend.

NCAC has two classes, at Camp Snyder, scheduled for 2017 (each class involves two camping weekends):

- April 28-30 and June 2-4 (registration is now open, slots are still available)
- September 8-10 and October 7-9

Cost is \$300 and additional information, forms, and registration can be found at: [www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/)

## Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)



Goose Creek and Powhatan Districts will be holding a joint IOLS Training class at Camp Highroad on April 29-30, 2017. More details to come in the following month.

**Free Range** by Bill Whitehead



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

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

Roundtable Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goose-Creek-District-Cub-Scout-Roundtable/122441441115224)

## Leave No Trace Trainer Classes – BSA Outdoor Ethics



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

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

**What will I learn?** This course is designed to enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace practices and outdoor ethics, and to increase your level of expertise and confidence in teaching Leave No Trace skills.

This class is both active and highly interactive. You will be introduced to concepts and methods that will advance your knowledge of Leave No Trace issues in both developed and high adventure environments, expand your repertoire of low-impact skills, and increase your effectiveness in teaching these important skills to others.

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

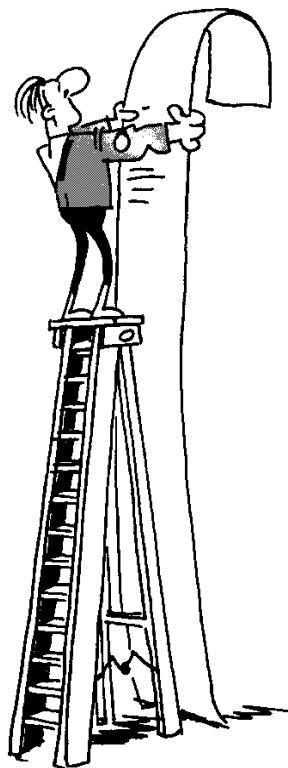
This course is instructed by nationally designated Leave No Trace Master Educators and Trainers. Attendance for the entire duration of the training is required.

**When:** Mar 31, 2017 (5pm) – Apr 2 (10am)

**Cost:** \$75, non-refundable, which includes fees and materials. Meals are included. Registration for all courses is via the NCAC website [www.ncacbsa.org/training/outdoor-ethics/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/outdoor-ethics/)

**Where:** Northern Virginia (Editor Note: their site and flyer doesn't give the full address, please contact Victor Bieniek at [vbieniek@gmail.com](mailto:vbieniek@gmail.com) or 703-855-8428 (cell))

## District Calendar



### MARCH 2017

- 2 **AOL Recognition Ceremony**
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 **District Pinewood Derby**
- 22 District Committee

### APRIL 2017

- 7 Student Holiday
- 10-14 Spring Break
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Student Holiday
- 26 District Committee
- 29-30 **IOLS Training**

### MAY 2017

- 10 **Program Launch - District Court of Honor**
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12-14 **OA Spring Ordeal**
- 20 **Soda Bottle Rocket Derby**
- 24 District Committee
- 26-29 Goshen @50 Camporee
- 29 Memorial Day

### June 2017

- 7 Roundtable
- 7 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Last Day of School
- 19-23 **Goose Creek Cub Scout Day Camp**
- 21 District Committee

### JULY 2017

- 4 Independence Day
- 19-28 National Jamboree

### AUGUST 2017

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 24 District Committee
- 24 First Day of School

### September 2017

- 4 Labor Day
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 23-24 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 27 District Committee

### October 2017

- 9 Columbus Day
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 20-22 JOTA/JOTI
- 23 School Holiday
- 25 District Committee

### November 2017

- 4 **SFF Bag Distribution**
- 6-7 School Holiday
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 **SFF Food Pickup**
- 15 District Committee
- 22-24 School Holiday
- 30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

### December 2017

- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 **Annual District Business Meeting**
- 18-31 School Holiday

### JANUARY 2018

- 1 Holiday
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 MLK Jr. Day
- 24 District Committee
- 29 Moveable School Holiday

### FEBRUARY 2018

- 10 Scout Sabbath
- 11 Scout Sunday
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 19 President's Day
- 28 District Committee