



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



November 2018

Volume 10, Issue 4

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### Training

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## Quick Calendar:

- Nov 3 – SFF Notice Distribution
- Nov 10 – SFF Food Pickup
- Nov 14 – Roundtable
- Nov 30 – Final Date for Rechartering
- Dec 12 – Roundtable
- Dec 19 – District's Annual Business Meeting
- Jan 9 - Roundtable

## Newsletter Key:



Cub Scout Interest



Boy Scout /  
Venturing Interest



For Everyone



New Article



from Scoutmaster Clarke Green, <https://scoutmastercg.com/podcast-372-eagle-scout-advancement/>

## Eagle Scout Advancement

When thinking about Eagle Scout advancement we ought to ask “what is an Eagle Scout?” rather than “who deserves to be an Eagle Scout?”

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

That's it. No more and no less.

There's no Eagle-plus, and no Eagle minus, only Eagle.

When you understand that Eagle Scout Advancement becomes less stressful.

None of the 55,494 Eagle badges handed out last year went to a Scout because they deserved it, but because they earned it.

Nobody becomes an Eagle Scout because they deserve it, it's not the Nobel or the Pulitzer prize handed out to a few deserving winners. You don't win Eagle Scout, you advance towards it. When a Scout fulfills all of the requirements and passes a duly constituted board of review they receive the award.

It was not my job to decide who deserves the badge, only to recognize they have completed the requirements.

The 55,494 Scouts who earned their Eagle last year did not do precisely the same quality or quantity of work. They were not all equally meritorious. Each had individual limitations and talents. Each had parents and worked with Scouters whose involvement and skill were all over the map.

A healthy percentage of them left a lot of work until the last few months of their seventeenth year.

When we present a Scout with an Eagle badge we recognize two things – achievement and potential. We are telling a Scout that what you have achieved is a strong indication you have potential to embody the ideals the award represents.

## District News

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

### ★ Loudoun Scout's Eagle Project earns World Scouting Award, Trip to United Nations



Mikaeel Martinez Jaka, a Life Scout from Virginia and a member of Troop 163 of Purcellville, Va., and Venturing Crew 786, received the World Organization of the Scout Movement's prestigious Messengers of Peace Heroes Award last month, becoming just the fifth American to be honored with the award in its history.

Mikaeel and Scouts from 10 other countries received their awards on Sept. 21 — the International Day of Peace — at a special ceremony at the United Nations in New York.

Messengers of Peace Heroes are Scouts and adults who do outstanding work to improve their communities, build peace and create a better world. The 2018 honorees include a Scout from Cameroon who raised awareness about seniors living with leprosy, a Scout from Mexico who is working to keep young people safe online and a Scout from Ukraine who helped displaced young people feel a sense of belonging.

The work for which the BSA's Mikaeel was honored is equally impressive. For his Eagle Scout service project, Mikaeel created a 400-foot walking trail at the African American Burial Ground for the Enslaved at Belmont.

This was no mere dirt path. The gravel trail is bordered by wood on both sides — meaning Mikaeel and his volunteers had to place 800 feet of boards in addition to the 16 tons of gravel.

For this extreme effort, Mikaeel recruited more than 100 volunteers who worked over five days. The group included people of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and Hindu faiths working together.

Donors stepped up, too. One gave \$2,000 of the \$6,000 Mikaeel needed to raise. The donor included this note: "My ancestors were slave traders in Loudoun. I wish to make reparations."

During their visit, Mikaeel and the other Messengers of Peace Heroes Award recipients met U.N. Secretary General António Guterres. Guterres saluted the contribution of Scouts worldwide, saying Scouting contributes more to the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals than any other single organization.





## Sharon Virts Receives 208 Goose Creek District Good Scout Award



Sharon Virts, Executive Director of the Virts Miller Foundation and Founder of FCi Federal was selected to receive the 2018 Goose Creek District Good Scout Award. Ms. Virts was recognized at a reception held in her honor at Stone Tower Winery in Leesburg, on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The 'Good Scout' award honors outstanding leaders who exemplify the ideals of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily life says Edward Puccio, MD, Medical Director and Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Inova Loudoun Hospital, chairman of this year's event. "We are privileged to recognize such a generous role model within the Loudoun community and raise substantial funds to support scouting throughout Loudoun County", continued Puccio.

Sharon Virts presently serves on the boards of the Loudoun Museum, the Middleburg Film Festival, the Loudoun Inova Hospital Foundation and Oatlands and recently completed a term as Chairman of the Loudoun Economic Development Commission. She is also a member of WE Capital (a venture capital group focused on women-led businesses with social impact missions) and 100WomenStrong. She founded FCi Federal 25 years ago and grew it to nearly 5000 employees and \$250 million in revenue. She lectures nationally on leadership development and small business.



## Webelos Open Houses



If your unit is holding an Open House, or another type of special event, for Webelos and would like us to announce it in the newsletter please let us know ([Newsletter@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:Newsletter@GooseCreekDistrict.org)). We would be glad to put it in.

## Are you Prepared for Rechartering



It's November and all units should now be finalizing their Rechartering process. Remember it needs to be turned in by the end of November. By now you should:

- Have Scout applications for everyone not listed in Internet Recharter.
- Have all unit leaders check their Youth Protection Training dates to make sure that everyone has completed the new training requirement. If a leader did not complete their new YPT training by the end of September 2018 then they have been 'officially' dropped by the Boy Scouts and will have to provide a new application form.
- Know who your Chartering Organization Head is, which usually isn't the same person as the Chartering Organization Representative. Know when they are available to sign the final recharter.
- Checked out the 2018-2019 Charter Renewal Handbook available at [www.ncacbsa.org/commissioners/unit-rechartering/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/commissioners/unit-rechartering/)
- Have logged into Internet Recharter. First Time Users must register to enter the system. After initial registration, they will enter the system as a Returning User. If you don't know your log in password, or the person doing it last year has left, then contact the District Commissioner (John Witek, [John.Witek@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:John.Witek@GooseCreekDistrict.org)) who has them.



## Webelos Invitational Activity



Troop 997 in Ashburn is hosting a Webelos Invitational event at The Grant Campground at Willowsford on Saturday November 17, 2018. Please come join us for part, or all of the day to meet the troop and to participate in several activities intended to introduce Webelos Scouts to Boy Scouting. During this event, each of the patrols from Troop 997 will teach a few scouting skills in a series of hands-on demonstrations to include: first aid, knot tying, map reading, and fire starting and safety. Additionally, lunch will be available for those joining us. This event is open to all Webelos scouts and their families.

**What:** Troop 997 Webelos Invitational

**When:** Saturday, 17 November 2018 from 10 AM to 4 PM

**Where:** The Grant Campground at Willowsford - 23785 Everfield Drive, Aldie, VA 20175

This is a great opportunity to meet Boy Scouts and adult scouters to ask questions about joining Troop 997, a youth-led Troop with an outdoor focus. Please send an RSVP if you plan on attending our Webelos Invitational and include a list of visiting scouts, Pack number, and contact information.

You are also invited to attend our AOL Night Troop meetings on Thursday 12/6/18, 1/10/19, and 2/7/19. Regular troop meetings are held the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday of each month from 7-8:30 at St Theresa Catholic Church in Ashburn, VA. Feel free to come to ANY meeting, but please contact us to confirm. (Scoutmaster - Terry Kolb ([tkolb118@gmail.com](mailto:tkolb118@gmail.com)) and Committee Chair- Dave Bryan ([dbrya0@gmail.com](mailto:dbrya0@gmail.com))).



## Goose Creek District Committee Help



Goose Creek District Committee, meets the 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm at the Leesburg United Methodist Church (where Roundtable is held). It takes a robust committee to deliver an outstanding program to the scouts of Goose Creek, and the committee is always looking for a few good scouters. Opportunities are available in Finance, Membership, Communications and Programming. Without proper resources, the District would not have activities such as Advancement, Training, Camp-O-Rees, Webelo-O-Rees, Join Scouting Nights, etc. Please consider supporting the Goose Creek District by getting involved on the committee.

Unit Leaders: Please take inventory of your adult leadership and consider asking someone to become your unit's representative on the District Committee.

Any questions, contact District Committee Chair Jim Bonfils at [JimBonfils@icloud.com](mailto:JimBonfils@icloud.com) or District Director Ben Litten at [Ben.Litten@scouting.org](mailto:Ben.Litten@scouting.org)



## "Cheerful Service Chatter"

Chapter News for our Arrowmen  
Lodge Website: [www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA](http://www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA)

## Order of the Arrow - Unit Elections



The annual OA Unit Election season runs from November 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019. Troops and Teams may hold only one election per season and it is recommended that the election be held prior to April 1, 2019. This will allow all elected candidates to be able to attend the Goose Creek Chapter Ordeal the weekend of May 10-12, 2019. 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 ([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.



## What does an Order of the Arrow Troop Representative do?



The Order of the Arrow Troop Representative is a youth serving his unit as a leader and as the primary liaison to the Order of the Arrow chapter. He meets the unit's needs by providing a communication and programmatic link to and from all Arrowmen within the unit, Scouts who are not presently members of the Order, and adult leaders. The Order of the Arrow Troop Representative's duties include the following:

- Attends troop and chapter meetings regularly as a youth representative of the unit and Order.
- Serves as a two-way communication link between the unit and the chapter.
- Assists the Scoutmaster in arranging for a chapter election team to conduct an annual Order of the Arrow election for the unit at a time approved by the Patrol Leaders Council.
- As requested by the SPL, participates in unit Courts of Honor by recognizing: high adventure participation of unit members, induction of new OA members, changes in OA honors of unit members, leadership of unit members, and other appropriate activities.
- Coordinates the Ordeal Induction process for newly elected candidates by: ensuring they know the time and location of the Ordeal, ensuring they have necessary information for registration for the ordeal, and offering assistance (as needed) to the chapter in the Ordeal process.
- Assists current Ordeal members in the troop in sealing their membership by becoming Brotherhood members by: ensuring they know the time and location of Brotherhood opportunities, assisting (as needed) in arranging transportation to the Brotherhood opportunities, and offering assistance to the chapter (as needed) in the Brotherhood process. He may also, at the discretion of the PLC, offer periodic training and discussions of OA principles, symbolism, and the Legend as needed by and appropriate for the unit members of the Order.
- Leads at least one troop service project for the community or charter partner during the year. May also serve, at the discretion of the PLC, as the unit's service chairman.
- Assists the unit (as appropriate) as a trainer of leadership and outdoor skills.
- In all cases, advocates environmental stewardship and Leave No Trace camping.

Sets a good example by: wearing the Scout uniform correctly, showing Scout spirit, and living by the Scout Oath, the Scout law and the OA Obligation.



You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You always cook enough food for twelve
- Your favorite cologne is "Deep Woods Off!"
- You don't mind losing power to your house for three days.

## “Onward and Upward”

### On the Advancement Trail



### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

**Ian Beck** – Troop 1154

**Evan Bertoglio** – Troop 998

**Thomas Burke** – Troop 711

**Trevor Hays** – Troop 711

**Zachary Kloman** – Troop 956

**Jacob Neer** – Troop 711

**John Samuel Payne** – Troop 961

**Ian Robert** – Troop 998

**Patrick Swisher** – Troop 961



### Recognition of First Female Eagle Scouts



In keeping with established policy, the Eagle Scout rank is earned when the candidate's award has been approved by the National Council. The BSA will not recognize a first female Eagle Scout to avoid potentially introducing incentives for leaders, troops or Scouts to prioritize expediency or engage in behavior counter to Scouting's values.

Instead, the BSA will officially recognize our Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts in the fall of 2020, providing young women who join Scouts BSA the needed time to complete all requirements. This Inaugural Class will be celebrated nationally and collectively commemorated.

It is our hope and expectation that local units will ensure substantial individual recognition of their first female Eagle Scouts in a manner befitting their great accomplishments.



### Eagle Scout Certificates, Letters You can Print Right Now



Want to recognize your new Eagle Scout but are running short on time before the court of honor?

A handful of U.S. agencies and service academies allow you to auto-generate a congratulatory letter or certificate you can print at home. The list includes the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels, NASA and the National Park Service.

Requests are handled on the honor system, which means you should not request a letter until all requirements for the Eagle Scout Award have been completed.

To find out more go to <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2018/10/03/nasa-blue-angels-and-more-eagle-scout-certificates-letters-you-can-print-right-now/>. The article also includes other agencies that you can ask for letters/certificates.



## Temporary Transition Rules for Females Entering Scouts BSA



One of the most critical requirements for a Scout who is pursuing the rank of Eagle Scout is that the completion of all requirements, except for his board of review, must take place prior to his eighteenth birthday. Case-by-case extensions have been made for Scouts with special needs or when last-minute circumstances beyond the Scout's control interfere, but all too often it's a race to the Scoutmaster's house on the night before he turns eighteen (it has happened in our troop, and probably in yours too).

Now, as we prepare to welcome girls into what'll become known as Scouts BSA, the national council is announcing a temporary extension to the time allowed to earn Scouting's highest rank, under specific circumstances and for specific Scouts only.

Here's how it's settling out. The Boy Scouts of America has always held that regardless of when he joins, the values of Scouting help to prepare the Scout for the future, and for some, this includes earning the highest rank, Eagle Scout.

Girls joining our program next February will have access to the same opportunities that boys have had for 108 years, including the rank of Eagle Scout. The requirements for girls will be exactly the same as for boys – including the need to earn all the previous ranks, from Scout and Tenderfoot on up.

But suppose a girl joining at age 17 (which, of course, they could) wants to earn Eagle. It's impossible to do so prior to turning 18 if for no other reason than the minimum time in positions of responsibility for Star and Life, as well as the ninety-day spans required for some merit badges.

The answer, says the BSA, is to allow a temporary, limited extension for a specific group of Scouts, to allow them time to complete all the requirements.

An analysis of the rank requirements shows that the absolute minimum time to achieve all the ranks and earn Eagle is nineteen to twenty months (and we have had Scouts earn Eagle in not much more than that, so it's certainly possible). So after careful consideration, the BSA will allow up to twenty-four months, depending on age and registration date, to complete the Eagle Scout requirements for any Scout who joins on or after February 1, 2019 and is at least sixteen years old on that date. The maximum extension period begins on the day he or she joins (yes, first-time joining boys as well as girls can take advantage of the extension), but not later than December 31, 2019. The extension is not automatic – it must be requested of the national advancement committee within 30 days after the Scout's eighteenth birthday and not later than January 7, 2020.

The extension is not available to currently-registered Scouts, those who are not yet sixteen by February 1, and, of course, to those who are already over eighteen on that date.

Given everything a Scout must do to earn Eagle – nights of weekend and long-term camping, twenty-one merit badges earned, sixteen months in positions of responsibility – it is an extremely fast-track, but it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a young person to earn something challenging, unique and unequalled,

For more on this temporary extension policy, read the full text of the BSA's announcement, with answers to a few questions:

<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Implementation-Details-for-Scouts-BSA-FINAL.pdf>





## 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, 2019** (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.



## 2018 Geology Workshops at George Mason University



The STEM Program consists of 3 hour sessions, and welcomes all girl and boy youth from 4th to 12th grade. The programs are structured around the Scout Awards delineated below, however same-age siblings are most welcome to attend, so feel free to register! Each session includes a guided tour of the GMU Physical Geology and Paleontology labs.

There is a \$11 fee per youth attendee. Pre-registration is required for all online (see to the right to select your session and register).

**Saturday November 17:** Sessions are for Cubs Webelos to work on their STEM Nova Down and Dirty & Earth Rocks Adventure.

Sessions sizes are limited to 12 Youth per session, and 4 Adult Den Walkers. Participants will rotate through classrooms wherein they will accomplish requirements 1 and 3-8 of Earth Rocks and requirements 2-3 of Nova Down and Dirty. Youth will visit both the paleontology and physical sciences microscope labs during their session.

**Sunday November 18:** Sessions are for Scouts BSA to work on their Geology Merit Badge.

In the first hour of the program, participants will rotate through three stations wherein they define geology, rock formations and uniformitarianism; discuss mineral resources; and review a geological map of Fairfax, VA.

The following half hour of the program will lend to group discussions with a geologist and mineralogist.

In the hour that follows, participants will either visit the physical geology lab and explore surface and sedimentary processes or visit the paleontology lab and explore earth history.

This Geology STEM event is sponsored by Dr. Julia Nord and The GMU Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences.

For additional information and to register go to: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-geo18#>

### Merit Badge Pow Wow



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints "aka Mormon/LDS Church" is hosting its last Merit Badge Pow Wow on 16 February 2019. The Merit Badge Pow Wow has been a great tradition for 10 years in the Goose Creek district. The Pow Wow allows hundreds of boys from all faiths take 3 merit badge classes in just a single day for \$0. Since the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is leaving scouting at the end of 2019, they thought it would be a great opportunity to involve other scout leaders from Goose Creek District. Essentially train anyone who might be interested in taking the leadership torch in 2020.

If anyone is interested in continuing the tradition, please have them contact: Ross Young, [rossayoung@gmail.com](mailto:rossayoung@gmail.com)

### Life-to-Eagle Training



Mark your calendars for November 17 for the last 2018 offering of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek.

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 as well. 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.

**Date:** November 17, 2018

**Time:** 10:30am – 2:30pm

**Place:** Middleburg, Library, Meeting Room

We're planning on having another 3-4 Life-to-Eagle Seminars in 2019; much like we did this year.

Also, if you ARE a Life-to-Eagle Adviser or Advancement Chair for your Unit, and have not attended one of these in 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.

### Eagle Scout Rank Application Approvals from Council



NCAC has undergone some personnel changes. With respect to the Pre- Board of Review review for Eagle Scout Rank applications, please send them to [082NCAC\\_EagleCert@scouting.org](mailto:082NCAC_EagleCert@scouting.org) after your District Eagle Advancement Representative has reviewed and initialed the application.

**BSA Will Make Scoutbook Free for Everyone Beginning Jan. 1, 2019****SCOUTBOOK**

The BSA announced that it will make Scoutbook subscriptions free to all BSA units beginning Jan. 1, 2019. Units that already use Scoutbook won't be charged when they renew their subscription on or after Sept. 1, 2018.

Scoutbook is the BSA's online unit management tool and helps Scouts, parents and leaders track advancement and milestone achievements along the Scouting trail.

Previously, units paid a small annual fee — up to \$1 per Scout per year — to access Scoutbook's powerful features, which are accessible on any device. By making Scoutbook free for everyone, the BSA can drive program consistency and deepen our movement's engagement with youth and adult leaders.

**How will my unit be affected?**

- Units with a current Scoutbook account: When they need to renew their subscription this fall, they will not pay any renewal fees, effective Sept. 1, 2018.
- Units without a current Scoutbook account: They can begin their free Scoutbook unit subscription on Jan. 1, 2019.

**Will existing users get a refund?**

No. There are no plans to reimburse anyone who has previously paid for a Scoutbook subscription. This change applies only to any new Scoutbook subscriptions effective Jan. 1, 2019, or later — and to any renewing Scoutbook subscriptions that would normally be paid between Sept. 1, 2018, and Dec. 31, 2018.

**What if a current Scoutbook unit needs to add more Scouts this fall?**

Let's say your pack has a 75-Scout subscription with 15 open slots. You expect to recruit well over that number this fall. Can you add Scouts to your subscription when/if that happens?

Yes, if you have a current Scoutbook subscription, after Sept. 1, 2018, you can renew your subscription (if needed) or add more youth to Scoutbook at no cost.

**What should units that don't currently have Scoutbook do this fall?**

Scoutbook will be free to all units beginning Jan. 1, 2019.

In the meantime, watch for the release of Scoutbook Lite for all units later in 2018. This free online tool will provide a slightly different user experience from the full Scoutbook, but it will help your unit track advancements for all your youth members.

**How will subscriptions/renewals work in 2019 and beyond?**

The need to "subscribe" or "renew" annually will become unnecessary. Once your unit is on Scoutbook, you'll be set for as long as your unit would like to continue using this free tool.

**Where can I get more information about this change in Scoutbook?**

Contact [Scoutbook.support@scouting.org](mailto:Scoutbook.support@scouting.org)

## Meet with the District Advancement Committee Chair



If your unit (Pack, Troop, or Crew) would like to have the District's Advancement Chair, Alan Steiner, come to your unit or committee meeting for a chance to talk about advancements, or even about how the district committee works, please send him an email at [Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org](mailto:Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org).

There is no presentation involved, no request for donations, no request for help, just a simple sit down with him answering your questions.

## Sons of the American Revolution Eagle Recognition



The Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution serving Northwestern Virginia invites you to recognize your Eagle Scout with a letter and certificate of recognition for their Court of Honor. Application is easy but can take 4-6 weeks for delivery due to the approval process.

Please provide the following information when ordering a letter and certificate:

1. Scout's Full Name:
2. Scouts' Troop Number:
3. Date for Court of Honor (if known):
4. Name/position of person requesting letter and certificate (for accounting purposes):
5. Address for mailing letter and certificate:

You may address all requests and inquiries to:

Robert Fagan  
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret)  
Chapter Chairman, SAR Scouting Activities  
Email: [rjfm1f99@hotmail.com](mailto:rjfm1f99@hotmail.com)

## Council / National News

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



## Sons of the American Revolution Award Competition



The Sons of the American Revolution sponsors an annual competition that is restricted to Eagle Scouts 19 of age and under that awards local, state and national cash awards. The national awards total \$20,000 (1st 10,000, 2nd 6,000 3rd 4,000).

There is a very limited pool of potential contestants.

<https://www.sar.org/education/youth-contests-awards/arthur-m-berdena-king-eagle-scout-award>

The application deadline is 12/15/18

The contest is comprised of three elements; preparation of a four generation genealogy chart of the applicant's family, a 500 word (page and one half) essay regarding the revolutionary war and finally an application documenting the Eagle's accomplishments and leadership that was a basis for becoming an Eagle Scout





## Wreaths Across America



On Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 8:30 AM, Wreaths Across America will be at Arlington National Cemetery (and other national cemeteries) to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud.

For additional information and to register (no fee is required) go to <http://www.wreathsaacrossamerica.org/volunteer-at-arlington/>.



## 2020 Northern Tier National High Adventure Program



Paddle your way to an experience of a lifetime in Minnesota and Canada at the Northern Tier National High Adventure Program.

During their 6- to 11-night journey of 50 to 150 miles, Northern Tier crews follow in the footsteps and paddle tracks of 1800s French-Canadian voyagers.

After loading their canoes with gear for the entire journey, Scouts and Venturers explore millions of acres of pristine lakes, meandering rivers, dense forests and fascinating wetlands in Northern Minnesota, Northwest Ontario and Northeast Manitoba.

In the winter, Northern Tier emerges from a blanket of snow to offer the BSA's premier winter high-adventure program. It's called Okpik, and it challenges Scouts and Venturers to learn how to thrive in subzero temperatures, travel across frozen wilderness lakes and construct their own sleeping structures out of snow.

Because Northern Tier's demand often exceeds available space, spots are allocated using an online lottery system.

Northern Tier will offer a lottery for 2020 summer reservations and 2019-2020 Okpik winter reservations. Registration for the lottery will be open from Tuesday January 8, 2019 until Tuesday January 15, 2019.

- Entry into the lottery will open at 9:00 am CST on Tuesday January 8 and will close at 5:00 pm CST Tuesday January 15.
- Enter the lottery online at [www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org).
- Crews selected for a Northern Tier Trek will be notified by email by Feb 1, 2019.
- Crews selected in the lottery will need to submit their \$800 per crew deposit by Feb 22, 2019.
- Any crews not selected will be notified by Feb 1 and a list of alternate dates will be provided.
- Available trips after lottery will be opened on a first-come, first-served basis on Feb 15, 2019.
- Only one entry per unit will be accepted. If there are duplicate entries for a unit, those entries will be discarded. Please designate only one individual to make a lottery entry.
- Additional details may be found at [www.ntier.org/lottery](http://www.ntier.org/lottery)



## 2020 Philmont Lottery



Philmont Scout Ranch is the Boy Scouts of America's largest National High Adventure Base. Born in 1938 as Philturn Rocky Mountain Scout Camp, Philmont has become a bustling center for high adventure and training. It covers 140,177 acres of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo range of the Rocky Mountains in northeastern New Mexico. Philmont has a unique history of ancient Native Americans who chipped petroglyphs into canyon walls, Spanish conquistadors, who explored the Southwest long before the first colonists arrived on the Atlantic coast, the rugged breed of mountain man such as Kit Carson, who blazed trails across this land, the great land barons like Lucien Maxwell who built ranches along the Santa Fe Trail and miners, loggers and cowboys. All left their mark on Philmont.

Philmont Scout Ranch operates 35 staffed camps and 55 trail camps across the rugged terrain that ranges in elevation from 6,500 to 12,441 feet. More than 1 million Scouts, Venturers, and Advisors have experienced the adventure of Philmont since its first camping season in 1939. Most activities take place during the summer, but Philmont also offers programs during the offseason such as Autumn and Winter Adventure. Throughout its existence, conscientious attention to low-impact camping techniques and diligent wildlife and forestry conservation work has helped maintain Philmont's wilderness.

The lottery for 2020 treks is now open until Dec 2. Go to <http://philmontscoutranch.org/reserve.aspx> for more information and to register.



## Florida National High Adventure Sea Base



The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base is a unique Scouting program that offers aquatics programs found nowhere else. Whether your interests lie in sailing, scuba diving, rustic camping on an undeveloped barrier island, fishing or a combination of all, this is the place for your Troop, Team, Crew, Sea Ship or Explorer Post. The Sea Base serves around 13,000 participants annually.

Scouting's most complete aquatic facility offers a variety of water activities from scuba diving to sailing "Tall Ships". All of our participants have the opportunity to swim, snorkel, and fish among the most beautiful coral reefs in the northern hemisphere.

Yes, it's time to start thinking about 2020. Slots for 2020 will be allocated using an online lottery, open in mid-January till mid-February. You can enter the lottery by logging onto [www.bsaseabase.org/](http://www.bsaseabase.org/). There's no advantage to entering early; as long as your entry is submitted during the window you're good. Winning units will be notified in early March 2020.

## Goshen 2019 Registration



Get ready for Summer 2019! Goshen registration opens October 1st. Check out the updated dates, fees, and all the new information on the Goshen website: [www.gotogoshen.org](http://www.gotogoshen.org).

Forming a new girls troop in 2019 and want to reserve space on 10/1? No problem! Reach out directly, and we'll help you get started: [www.gotogoshen.org/information/contact-us/](http://www.gotogoshen.org/information/contact-us/)



## NCAC Contingent High Adventure



Conducting a High Adventure trip can be a daunting task, especially if your unit hasn't completed a trip before. NCAC's High Adventure Committee (HAC) members collectively have decades of experience developing and leading a wide variety of High Adventure programs - and this knowledge is available to you! The Committee maintains strong relationships with the BSA bases and benefit from access to their latest program information, training materials, and promotional items. HAC'ers will gladly deliver presentations at the unit or district levels and routinely serve on staff at University of Scouting.

Even if your unit is mostly younger Scouts right now, you'll still find it rewarding to start promoting and planning these Adventures of a Lifetime. The HAC can put resources and recommendations in your hands to support your unit's planning - but also provide a huge boost by sponsoring Council-contingent trips each summer to three of BSA's National High Adventure bases:

**Philmont:** Contains 140,000 acres of mountain terrain, making it the largest organized youth camp in the world, Philmont is a huge attraction for Scouts and Scouters alike. Estimated cost is \$2450 and includes all air and ground transportation, lodging, meals, sightseeing activities (whitewater rafting and other local outdoor tours) and the Philmont base fee. Two other lower-cost options are available at \$2150 or \$1900, without the tours and sightseeing.

**Bissett Base at Northern Tier:** Many consider Northern Tier the most rugged of all High Adventure treks, and Bissett is the most challenging trip offered at Northern Tier. In fact, it's earned the unofficial designation as the "Most Extreme High Adventure in Scouting." You will truly be in the wilderness for a whole week, accessed only by float plane. Estimated cost is \$2450 and includes transportation, meals, and base fees. This trek is for experienced individuals and is available on a limited basis.

**Sea Base:** Spending a week on a sailboat in the Florida Keys may not be everybody's idea of High Adventure, but there are tremendous opportunities awaiting your crew as part of the Coral Reef Sailing trip sponsored by NCAC. There is a lot of work involved in crewing the boat, but a lifetime of memories and rewards will be found in the world-class fishing and blue water sailing on a live-aboard adventure. Estimated cost is \$1900, including transportation, meals, and base fees.

**Summit Reserve:** While NCAC does not sponsor trips to BSA's newest High Adventure base, it's close enough for units and individuals to easily plan their own adventure. There is a Committee liaison who maintains regular contact with the Summit staff, including current information on their available opportunities ranging from whitewater rafting to rock climbing to mountain biking to zip lines.

Although NCAC doesn't sponsor trips to other regional High Adventure bases, there are plenty of adventures waiting for you at locally-operated bases in Maine, the Adirondacks, the Louisiana Bayou country, Montana and Utah. And don't forget Lenhok'sin, NCAC's own crown jewel for local high adventure at Goshen Scout Reservation. Lenhok'sin is a gateway to establishing a unit's high adventure program and offers a superb back country expedition at a very affordable cost.

Campership funds are available to those participating in most High Adventure programs to help defray part of the costs for Scouts with a financial need. The HAC manages such a program; information on how to apply is found on our website: [www.ncacbsa.org/highadventure](http://www.ncacbsa.org/highadventure). Here you'll also find contact information and trip registration forms, training materials and much more.



## How the BSA is Using Email to Welcome New Families into Scouting



When you buy an iPhone, Apple sends you a series of emails to help you get the most out of your new device.

A new initiative from the BSA aims to bring that same concept into the world of Scouting.

The series of customized emails welcomes Cub Scout volunteers and parents to the Scouting family. By the time they've received the final email in the series, recipients will feel prepared for the exciting journey ahead.

More than 35,000 Cub Scout families have received the emails so far, and feedback has been positive.

Who gets the emails?

The emails go to parents or volunteers who signed up for a Cub Scout pack using online registration.

They're designed to feel welcoming to all members of the family, meaning parents of Cub Scout boys will see images of boy Cub Scouts, while parents of Cub Scout girls will see images of girl Cub Scouts.

As for parents or volunteers who signed up using offline registration, a series of emails for them is in development.

### What's in the emails?

Each email contains bite-size chunks of essential info to help parents and Scout leaders get the most out of Scouting. These are resources parents will want to bookmark so they can reference them later.

- **Email 1: Welcome** (sent upon registration approval)
  - Parents: Welcome, pack contact info, video from real Scouting families
  - Volunteers: My.Scouting info, training, pack contact info
- **Email 2: Welcome From Unit** (sent the day after joining)
  - Parents and volunteers: Customized content provided by unit
- **Email 3: Gear** (sent three days after joining)
  - Parents: Cub Scout uniform, handbook, Scout Shop info
  - Volunteers: Cub Scout leader's uniform, handbooks and guide books for leaders, Scout Shop info
- **Email 4: Resources** (sent seven days after joining)
  - Parents and volunteers: Online resources to get questions answered, such as the order of Cub Scout ranks and how to volunteer
- **Email 5: Boys' Life** (sent 14 days after joining)
  - Parents: Parents who did not subscribe to BL when they registered will learn how to get the official magazine of the BSA.

The emails are designed to support — but not usurp — any type of communications a local Scout council might be doing. That's why they don't cover specific unit reminders, such as pack meeting times, or council info, like camporees.





## How to Prevent Your Troop Trailer from Getting Stolen



Imagine this: Your troop is ready to depart for a big campout. All the Scouts and adult volunteers have arrived at the church on time, and the weather is perfect. But something's missing: your troop trailer. Oh, and hundreds or even thousands of dollars in gear inside.

That's why you should take steps now to safeguard your unit's trailer and its contents. Acts of theft don't get much lower than stealing from a pack, troop or crew. But search Google News for "troop trailer stolen," and you'll see it happens all the time.

Here are some ways to ward off potential thieves:

### **1. Purchase a wheel lock.**

Phillip Moore, insurance and risk management specialist at the national BSA headquarters, recommends checking with a boat dealership to buy a device like the ones police officers use on illegally parked cars.

"The wheel lock is a visible deterrent and does not allow the trailer to be moved," Moore says.

### **2. Block the doors.**

Moore also suggests parking your trailer so that its rear doors butt up against a wall or some other permanent structure. Combining that with a wheel lock will make it much tougher for a thief, he says.

### **3. Don't store any gear inside.**

It may not be practical for all troops, but if thieves discover the trailer is empty, they may leave it alone.

### **4. Paint the top of your trailer.**

Put your unit number on top of the trailer. This way, if it is stolen it can be identified from the air, where most of those who would steal it would not think to look.

### **5. Think before you park.**

Rather than parking the trailer in a church lot that's empty many nights, many Scouters said their trailer lives at the home of an adult leader. If you don't want to or can't park at a Scouter's home or at your meeting site, ask your local police department if they'll let you store your trailer there.

### **6. Get insured.**

### **7. Take off a wheel or two.**

It may be worthwhile to remove one of the wheels and store it inside if the trailer is not used too often. Unless the thieves bring their own tire and gear, they can't tow it anywhere. You might have the Scouts do this because it'll teach them how to change a tire.

### **8. Get a GPS tracking device.**

Buy a GPS tracker for your trailer, and set up a "digital fence" around its location.



## 2018-19 We the Students Essay Contest



Each year, the We the Students Essay Contest gives high-school students in grades 8-12 from across the U.S. a chance to share your perspective on a trending topic.

This year's prompt is: What are the essential qualities of a citizen in your community in 21st century America?

This year we are asking you to dig deep and make your scholarship essay personal. A citizen comes in many shapes and sizes. Some serve their community by voting and participating in political events. Others serve through entrepreneurship or philanthropy. We want to know what you think makes a good citizen in your community. We encourage you to bring emotion, creativity, specific examples (including current events), and well-researched facts into what you write. A good essay will demonstrate how citizenship is not an abstract idea, but is, in fact, action inspired by constitutional principles. We can't wait to see what citizenship looks like in your community!

Awards:

- 1st Place – \$5,000 and a scholarship to our Constitutional Academy in Washington, D.C.
- Runners Up – Six prizes at \$1,250 each
- Honorable Mentions – Eight prizes at \$500 each

For more details, and to and submit your 500-800-word essay before February 14, 2019 go to: <https://billofrightsinstitute.org/engage/students-programs-events/scholarship/>



## Six Tips for Better Flashlight Etiquette



Flashlights are an important Scouting tool, but you don't need stadium lighting to camp in the dark. Alex Johnston from Pack 348 of the Sequoyah Council offers these tips:

1. Hide the light source from view to reduce the harshness and impact on night vision. Bounce the light off the ceiling of your tent, pop-up, or pavilion.
2. Equip younger Scouts with LED glowstick necklaces instead of bright headlamps.
3. When walking down paths or looking for gear in bags, all you really need is a zipper-pull-style pinch LED light.
4. Lights with red bulbs won't disturb others or ruin night vision. They can be found as an option in flashlights, headlamps, or even those zipper-pull lights. "Plus, they're a great way to start up a conversation on night vision, why it's important and how to improve it. Scouts love hearing how pilots and soldiers use red light and might even be temporarily enticed into being 'stealthy' right before bed."
5. Don't drive through campsites at night. If you camp in your car, disable internal and external lighting that is usually automatically activated when a door opens.
6. Be aware of where your flashlight is pointed at all times. If you point it at someone's tent when you walk by at night, reflective fabrics cause the whole tent to light up. This disturbs the sleep of the tent's occupants.



## Scout Religious Awards



Scout religious awards are offered in partnership with a wide range of religious groups. While these awards are optional, Scouts and leaders are authorized to wear the awards on their uniforms. The awards are developed by individual faith groups, and the faith groups establish the requirements and materials. Parents, religious leaders, and clergy help youth earn the awards.

Youth need to identify the award program for their religious faith using the BSA "Duty to God" booklet, or by contacting their religious faith group. Each youth needs to obtain his (her) own copy of the booklet to record progress on requirements, and these materials can be obtained from Scout supply stores or the religious faith group. Some religious groups offer program materials for mentors, counselors, or clergy.

To get started, youth and parents should review the materials. Some faith groups require participants to be official "members" of the faith group. Age and grade requirements for award programs vary between faith groups. Each faith group sets its own requirements for a counselor for the youth --Some require a member of the clergy to be the counselor; others permit parents, family members, or lay religious leaders to be counselors.

The youth should meet the requirements and obtain the appropriate signatures. The emblem are ordered from the appropriate source in the award booklet. The emblem should be presented at a meaningful ceremony, preferably at the youths' religious institution.

For more information:

[www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)

<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/religious-emblems/>

## Podcasts



### CubCast – October 2018 - Let's Talk About Advancement



By now your dens and packs have already gone through forming and storming and should be in the norming phase of group and team development, so now is a good time to discuss Cub Scout advancement. Joining us for this episode is Missy Campbell, Cubmaster of Pack 157 in the Great Smoky Mountain Council in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Podcast: <https://podcast.scouting.org/Cubcast/2018.aspx>



### ScoutCast – October 2018 - Be Prepared for Your First Meeting



OK, listeners, we've had discussions on new-unit development and recruiting youth and leaders, so now is the time to start planning those meetings and activities. But we don't want to throw everything out there at once, so let's figure out what you need to do to Be Prepared for that first meeting. To help us with that is Lorie McGraw, a Scouting volunteer for 23 years with the Indian Waters Council in Columbia, South Carolina. Somehow, she found time to also prepare to be an assistant Scoutmaster for a new all-girl troop that will start next year.

Podcast: <https://podcast.scouting.org/Scoutcast/2018.aspx>

## On-Line Resource of the Month



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

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

## Training Opportunities



### BALOO Training at Camp Snyder



**When:** Saturday 11-10-2018 10:00 AM to Sunday 11-11-2018 10:00 AM

**Cost:** \$20

BALOO is an outdoor skills training program for the Cub Scout Leader or parent – no camping experience is required or assumed. BALOO training teaches Cub Scout Leaders and parents the essential organizing, planning, camp craft, and outdoor safety skills to enable a Pack to go camping as a group.

BSA policy requires at least one leader with BALOO training on all Cub Scout pack overnights. BALOO also includes Webelos den campout planning and campsite duties, and the transition to Boy Scouts. Cooking, sanitation, campfires, use of woods tools, orienteering skills, outdoor ethics, equipment, and more will be covered. Don't forget to bring your camping gear, as the training includes a mandatory overnight stay.

Prerequisite - Completion of on-line BALOO Introduction (all eight modules). Log on at [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org), go to Training Center. Bring certificate of completion to the site. Required for issuance of training card

Registration required at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-23717>







## University of Scouting 2019



**When:** February 23, 2018

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

**Registration:** Opens Jan 2, 2019 - [www.ncacbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/)

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, 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 and Sea Scouting; Electives courses applicable across the Scouting programs, and District operations courses. For 2019 we will be offering over 150 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 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.

**BALOO** – Due to the NEW Training Requirements of BALOO we can no longer offer a one day class.



## 2019 National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)



NYLT 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:-

- 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!

**Dates:** January 19-21 and February 16-18 (must attend both weekends)

**Where:** Camp Snyder

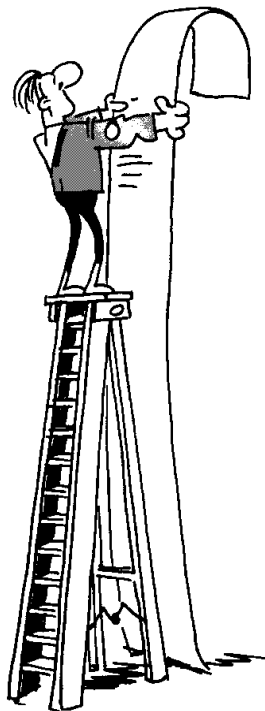
**Cost:** \$250 (until Dec 11, 2017 when the cost goes to \$300)

**Registration:** <https://scoutingevent.com/082-22670>

In order to attend the course each participant must certify that they have or will have by January 19, 2019 met the following qualifications to attend NYLT

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, Crews, or Ships.
- At least 14 years of age by the course start date (or 13 years of age with the Course Director's approval) All participants 13 years of age must contact the Course Director at [farr.scouts@gmail.com](mailto:farr.scouts@gmail.com) before registering online.
- Home Unit Leader approval.

## District Calendar



### November 2018

3 **SFF Post-it Note Distribution**  
 5-6 School Holiday  
 10 **SFF Food Pickup**  
 14 Roundtable  
 14 OA Chapter Meeting  
 21-23 School Holiday  
 28 District Committee  
 30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

### December 2018

12 Roundtable  
 12 OA Chapter Meeting  
 19 **Annual District Business Meeting**  
 21 Winter Break Starts

### January 2019

1 Holiday  
 9 Roundtable  
 9 OA Chapter Meeting  
 18 Moveable School Holiday  
 21 MLK Jr. Day  
 23 District Committee

### February 2019

3 Scout Sunday  
 8 Scout Jumuah  
 8-10 **Freeze-o-ree**  
 9 Scout Sabbath  
 13 Roundtable  
 13 OA Chapter Meeting  
 18 President's Day  
 27 District Committee

### March 2019

9 **District Pinewood Derby**  
 13 Roundtable  
 13 OA Chapter Meeting  
 27 District Committee  
 29 School Holiday

### April 2019

1 Student Holiday  
 5-7 **Spring Camporee**  
 10 Roundtable  
 10 OA Chapter Meeting  
 15-19 Spring Break  
 24 District Committee

### May 2019

1 **District Court of Honor**  
 8 **Program Launch**  
 8 OA Chapter Meeting  
 10-12 **OA Spring Ordeal**  
 22 District Committee  
 27 Memorial Day

### June 2019

7 Last Day of School  
 12 Roundtable  
 12 OA Chapter Meeting  
 17-21 **Goose Creek Day Camp**  
 17-20 **Goose Creek Twilight Camp**  
 26 District Committee

### July 2019

4 Independence Day

### August 2019

14 Roundtable  
 14 OA Chapter Meeting  
 28 District Committee

### September 2019

2 Labor Day  
 11 Roundtable  
 11 OA Chapter Meeting  
 25 District Committee

### October 2019

9 Roundtable  
 9 OA Chapter Meeting  
 14 Columbus Day  
 23 District Committee