



Goose Creek District Newsletter



May 2020

Volume 11, Issue 10

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Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article



reprinted from The Scoutmaster Minute, February 12, 2013
(<http://thescoutmasterminute.net/2013/02/12/guided-discovery/>)

This weekend at the Trainers EDGE training we got into a discussion about “letting Scouts fail to learn”. About half of the room agreed with the idea and the other half agreed that the Scout needs to learn, but using the term ‘fail’ did not sit well with them.

I think its semantics but the goal is to get the Scout to learn. In Scouting we call it Guided Discovery. Allowing the Scout to learn by making mistakes, problem solving, and executing solutions to the situation. The adult leader is there to maintain safety, offer advice, and keep the Scout heading in the right direction. The leader does that in a subtle way, not doing the task, making the decision, or being up front. The leader is there to keep the Scout ‘in bounds’ so to speak. The Scout knows he has a safety net.

So how does this “Guided Discovery” concept work or get put into action. It is not about letting a Scout hang in the wind. It is not about allowing failure to occur just for the sake of letting a Scout fail. No, Guided Discovery happens when we ask questions. This implies that the leader is engaged fully in this process. Now that does not require the leader to hover and maintain an arms reach distance. It simply forces the issue through leading questions to assist in the Scout finding the answer.

Problem solving and role-playing can play a big part in guided discovery. Many times I ask a simple question, what do you think? Not, what do you think is right. Rather, what are you thinking? Most of the time this question provokes enough thought and produces a clearer picture of the desired outcome. Problem solving and role-playing can spark thought and allow the Scout(s) to see possible outcomes both good and bad and allow the decision-making process to happen. This is not lofty and can happen at every level.

Using the Start, Stop, and Continue assessment tool in the middle of a task is also a great way to discover solutions and assist in decision-making. The leader can act as a referee in some cases and step in with a well-placed question that may get the group thinking about alternative solutions.

The goal is to allow the Scout to make decisions and learn. Through Guided Discovery, we teach, coach, train and mentor the Scout to better understanding of skills, leadership, and self-reliance.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



Goose Creek Day/Twilight Camp - 2020



As you know, this is turning out to be quite a hum-dinger of a year. In true Scouting tradition, we can't disappoint when it comes to camp, either. Here are the latest developments:

At this time, Day Camp and Twilight Camp are still a go. However, leadership has come to terms with the fact that June 15 is simply too soon a date to gather hundreds of youth and adults together for an entire week given the current state of affairs! It just wouldn't be safe. Therefore, we have worked with the fairgrounds, our beloved favorite stomping grounds, and we have decided that we will attempt to hold our camps on the days of August 10-14 for Day Camp, and August 10-13 for Twilight Camp. There will also be a "Set Up and Orientation Day" the weekend before (specifics are tbd).

Of course, cancellation still can't be ruled out. A cancellation is a Council decision, out of our hands to decide here in the District, and it will of course depend on the situation that develops over the summer. We will be sure to pass the information on to you as it comes in.

Here are just a few details for now:

- Council has decided not to extend the Early Bird Pricing past April 30, so on May 1, the price will change to \$210 for Day Camp, and \$130 for Twilight. If you are on the fence, register ASAP!
- It's a safe registration. This means that if Council decides that cancellation will be the safest move, your fee will be 100% refunded. Also, if you have already registered, and our new start date will not work for your camper, let us (GooseCreekCubCamp@gmail.com) know and we will work with Council on a refund. They have told us they will be glad to work with families on that.
- Many options were discussed at a planning meeting that was held this evening. There is the possibility that we could end up with a limited camp size; masks may be required (and we know what a struggle first graders have with those! That was heavily emphasized in the conversation); and you can rest assured there will be hand sanitizer everywhere. It will all be based on the situation as we move closer to August. Whatever the final decision for our beloved camp and its layout, Council has the safety of our campers and our families at the forefront of every decision that is made.

We hope everyone is safe and healthy, and we hope to get back to enjoying the things we love, like camp, very soon!



Council-Wide Virtual Campout



This Memorial Day weekend (May 23-24), the NCAC Camping Centennial Committee is holding a Council-Wide Virtual Campout and they need your help. We know that lots of Goose Creek units have been very successful moving their programs to a virtual base, and here is an opportunity to show off our scouting skills while still doing our part to protect our communities with social distancing.

The Camping Centennial Committee would like help from the Districts to identify and recommend youth-lead content for youth - Cubs, Scouts BSA and Venturing/High Adventure.- for the event. There will be self-guided activities, pre-recorded activities to view at the scout and scouters leisure and live content via Zoom/Webinar. We are working on security measures to ensure the live events are not disrupted by bad behavior! We know there are scouts of all ages who enjoy sharing their knowledge with others. Now is their opportunity to do so for a large audience - up to 300 scouts per Zoom call.

The easiest topics to prepare and present are those that have been done before but topics that can be prepared from scratch are also welcome. We also welcome any self-guided topics, e.g. an ABC walk to identify 26 objects corresponding to each of the letters of the alphabet.

Many councils are doing virtual events successfully. Here is the link to one of them, so you get some idea of how it can work.

<http://campquarantine.hnebsa.org/>

Let's see if Goose Creek can lead our council with ideas on youth-lead content for this event. Deadline for topics and POCs is NLT Monday, May 4, 2020. You can send them directly to Craig Weston, craigweston16@gmail.com.

Meanwhile, stay tuned for a Facebook page and and website dedicated to the Memorial Day virtual campout.

District Rangemasters Needed



If you like shooting sports and ever thought of becoming a certified NRA Instructor, please consider taking one of the courses for Rangemaster, Instructor, NRA RSO, Chief RSO or USA Archery. Goose Creek is looking for trained Rangemasters to help with Cub Scout Day/Twilight Camps and other possible shooting sport events.

The NCAC Shooting Sports committee has a page on the Council website (www.ncacbsa.org/council-committees/outdoor-adventuring/shooting-sports/) that can be useful in finding classes (currently only those in 2019 are listed though). Also please contact Steve Wolfson (SteveWolfson@verizon.net) if you are interested.



District Uniform Closet



Is your kid growing? They have a habit of doing that, don't they? Got a drawer full of slides and neckerchiefs you will never use again? Don't throw out those outgrown uniform pieces! Goose Creek is starting a "uniform Closet", to benefit those families that need a boost getting their Scout outfitted. As they say, "Waste not, want not". Contact Shannon at GooseCreekCubCamp@gmail.com for more information, if you have pieces to donate, or if you know of a Scout that could benefit. We are also planning a "uniform drive" at Day/Twilight Camp (whenever it may happen next)!

Webelos-o-ree 2019



The date for the Goose Creek's annual Webelos-o-ree is set for October 3-4, 2020 at Camp Snyder. This event is open to all Webelos so mark the date down on your calendar now. Note: Those that are currently Bears will be Webelos this fall and are eligible to attend.

This camping event is designed to show Webelos and their parents what a Scouts BSA troop is all about. The activities will be run by our own troops and can include such things as: Fire building, cooking, monkey bridge, BB shooting and/or archery, first aid, and knife safety. We provide dinner and in the evening there is a campfire run by the Order of the Arrow. For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining a troop, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for Arrow of Light Scouts.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. For those who don't want to camp over, there are also registration options for staying just for the activity periods and for joining us for dinner and the campfire before going home.

Troop Participation in the Webelos-o-ree



At the Webelos-o-ree each troop selects an activity/skill that their Scouts teach the Webelos and their parents during a morning and afternoon session. And the cost? Nothing! There is no registration fee for Boy Scouts, even if they camp. The only thing required is a service project to help keep the event running (starting cooking fires, cleanup, food prep, etc.).

If your troop is interested in participating in this year's Webelos-o-ree, even if you were at last year's, please contact Webelosoree@GooseCreekDistrict.org so we can coordinate the activities to be run. We have space for seven troops to camp over and, as always, there is no fee for troops to attend. They just have to supply their own food.

For the past few years we have tried to keep certain activities reserved for the troops that have done them in the past, this has often had us scrambling to fill them in when we finally heard that a troop doing one could not come that year.

This year all activity slots are open and will be given to the first troop that requests them.

Useful Resources for Scouting Units Under COVID-19



Our thanks to John Blackwell, Roundtable Assistant District Commissioner, for putting this list together.

Virtual Meeting Options

Use business and other conference call tools like Webex, Google Hangouts, freeconferencecall.com, Zoom, Skype, Facetime, etc. Be sure that any meetings involving youth follow YPT guidelines (<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/>). For how avoiding one-on-one contact also applies to digital communication: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/04/06/no-one-one-contact-provision-applies-digital-contact/>. Finally, always provide adult supervision and record the meeting if that is available.

BSA National Statement on COVID-19

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/COVID-19>

FAQ

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

Dan Beard Council Video Series: Scouting at Home

<https://www.danbeard.org/scouting-at-home/>

Boy's Life: BSA releases a year's worth of issues - free for a limited time

https://boyslife.org/subscribe-now/free-access/?fbclid=IwAR0dINKjHZuDNCOSYkevE8T61CleV8c9RvPHG_f9XjPD_mC74LQnOUPTneA

Scouting Service from home

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/18/good-turns-during-the-coronavirus-acts-of-scouting-service-you-can-do-from-home/>

Organizations seeking volunteers

<https://wtop.com/coronavirus/2020/03/as-coronavirus-spreads-virginia-organizations-seek-volunteers/>

Bear Grylls teams up with Scouts for indoor survival activities

<https://news.google.com/s/CBlwxomVnEU?r=12&oc=em>

58 Merit badges Scouts can complete at home

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/20/merit-badges-for-social-distancing/>

Fun projects Scouts can do from home

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/19/fun-projects-for-kids-that-you-can-do-from-home/>

Other Scouting-from-home resources

<http://www.nfcscouting.org/resources/scouting-at-home/72763>

<http://scoutshare.org/Resources/Articles/category/remote-scouting?>

Guide to Safe Scouting

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/gss01/#a>

District Social Media Platforms



Goose Creek District has new official social media platforms. These platforms will contain lots of fun information and materials pertaining to all things in the district. Follow us today.



Facebook - @BSAGooseCreek



Twitter - @BSAGooseCreek



Linkedin - Goose Creek

Scouts at Loudoun United FC Pro Soccer Game



Scouts are invited to the Loudoun United FC Pro Soccer game on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 6:30 pm when they play against Saint Louis FC!

The Scout individual ticket price is \$15 a ticket. Stay tuned for a website advertising this event with this BSA Scout pricing. For now, please visit their website to learn more about their exciting season at:

www.loudoununitedfc.com. Their marketing department is in the process of planning some special events for our BSA Scouts for this game!

Scouts, if you are interested in singing or playing a bugle/trumpet solo or duet or trio, etc... of the National Anthem at this game, please send your audition video to ElizabethEsper@yahoo.com. Please remember to copy your parent's e-mail address in that e-mail. Scoutmasters/Committee Chairs, if your unit would like to provide the flag detail for this game, please contact Elizabeth Esper.

Questions about concessions, parking fee, directions, fun children's activities, etc...? please read their FAQ Game Day website at: www.loudoununitedfc.com/gameday

Sports, Athletics and Personal Fitness Merit Badge Counselors: We have permission to use their awesome Segra field to offer these merit badges before their game that afternoon. If you are available this date and you would like to support it by being a merit badge counselor for one of these merit badges, please contact ElizabethEsper@yahoo.com. We have the field from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm and, by request, they will offer one of their players, nutritionists, athletic coaches, or staff to talk to the Scouts about careers in sports, nutrition, physical therapy and athletic training.

Scouts can also practice kicking goals at this field. We have to vacate their field by 3:30 pm, so the teams can start their warm up for the night's game. This merit badge opportunity will only be made available to Scouts if we are able to find merit badge counselors to volunteer for it.

Goose Creek Help Wanted (actually, Help Desperately Needed)



Does your Pack rely on a strong JSN to keep your unit healthy? Does your Troop rely on District Events such as the Camporee, Freeze-o-ree and others to help deliver the best possible program to your Scouts? In order for this to continue to happen, the Goose Creek District Committee is in need of your help to grow the Membership and Development Committee. Work directly with the Vice Chairs and other committee members to help strengthen and grow Scouting in Goose Creek. Experienced and novice Scouters all have the ability to contribute and many hands will make light work. Please consider helping the Goose Creek Committee today!

Any questions, contact our District Committee Chair Jim Bonfils at JimBonfils@icloud.com



“Cheerful Service Chatter”

Chapter News for our Arrowmen

Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA



OA Calendar



- June 6 – Lodge Leadership Conference
- June TBD – Goshen Bus Loading
- July TBD – Goshen Bus Loading
- August 1-8 – NOAC
- September 11-13 – Fall Fellowship at Camp Snyder
- October TBD – W&OD Trail Cleanup
- October 3 – Campfire Ceremony at Webelos-o-ree at Camp Snyder
- November TBD – Fall Area Ordeal
- November TBD – Popcorn Distribution
- November 14 – Scouting for Food Collection Station
- December TBD – Area Leadership Development Conference
- January 2, 2021 – Lodge Banquet

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



Summit Award



Eagle Scout **Logan Capell** of Crew 1430 in South Riding, successfully appeared before a Board of Review for his Summit Award. This is the first time this honor has been awarded in Goose Creek.

The Summit Award represents Venturing’s highest honor and is as hard to earn as an Eagle badge. To achieve this ultimate recognition, a Venturer earns the Pathfinder award, earns seven Tier II or Tier III adventures, serves the crew as a leader— both formally and informally— and mentors another Venturer. In addition, the Venturer designs and leads a service project to benefit others. At the end the Venturer goes through a District led Board of Review.



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

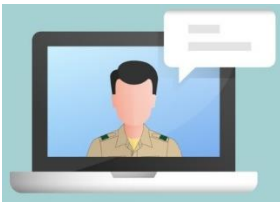
Fadil Amiruddin – Troop 786

Max McLaughlin – Troop 1430

William Oppenheimer – Troop 163

Andrew Stine – Troop 1159

How to Conduct a Board of Review through Videoconferencing



The board of review, like most aspects of Scouting, works best in person.

But sometimes, for a number of legitimate reasons, that's not an option. That's why, as outlined in the *Guide to Advancement* (section 8.0.1.6), the BSA allows units to conduct boards of review by teleconferencing, using tools like Skype, Google Hangouts or Zoom.

Even before the coronavirus prompted families to be justifiably concerned about face-to-face meetings, this option has existed. In the past, it has been most commonly used in two situations:

- young people who have gone off to college or the military
- young people who live in remote areas

But the uncertainty and anxiety surrounding the coronavirus makes this an appropriate time to turn to videoconferencing solutions, as well.

If an Eagle Scout board of review must be convened using videoconferencing, make a request to the NCAC ARC (alandeter@verizon.net), and indicate the following:

- Scout's Name, BSA ID, Date of Birth
- Troop, District
- Reason for Request including the urgency that argues against holding an in-person Board of Review when conditions will allow in-person meetings in the near future

If you have decided to use videoconferencing for a board of review, here's what you need to know: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/03/16/how-to-conduct-a-board-of-review-through-videoconferencing/>

Advancement during COVID-19: Guidelines for Cub Scouts



For Cub Scouts, the BSA will allow parents and other adults in the Cub Scout's family to sign off on Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements through July 31, 2020. Normally, only a den leader may sign off on these requirements.

Also, Cub Scouts can continue to work on their current den's advancement through July 31, 2020. This gives extra time for Cub Scouts to complete their badge of rank; if they earn their badge of rank prior to July 31, 2020, they may advance to the next rank.



Temporary Changes Made to Rank Advancement/Camping Requirements



Scouts BSA has implemented temporary changes, detailed below, to allow Scouts to complete rank requirements by through September 1, 2020. This deadline will be re-evaluated as needed.

The goal when using video conferencing must be to preserve the ideals and intent of each requirement as best as possible. Scoutmasters or their designee(s) should remain mindful of the Methods of Scouting, such as the Patrol Method, before implementing the modified requirements listed below. Some advancement activities can be completed by video conferencing but not all. For example, virtual visits to a city council meeting, national historic landmarks, museums, and art galleries may be acceptable, but swimming, rifle shooting, and motorboating merit badges cannot be completed virtually.

Even when using video conferencing, all virtual campouts and activities should consist of as many elements found on a normal outdoor campout or activity as possible. All existing youth protection policies and digital safety guidelines must be followed.

Tenderfoot rank requirements

- 1b. – Virtual patrol or troop campouts via video conferencing will be permitted.
- 2a. – During the same day as your virtual patrol or troop campout, assist in preparing one meal with the help of those with whom you live. Tell your patrol or troop why it was important for each person to share in meal preparation and cleanup.
- 2b. – During the same day as your virtual campout, demonstrate the appropriate method of safely cleaning items used to prepare, serve and eat a meal.
- 5a. – Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and in your neighborhood. Verbally commit to following the buddy system on your next troop or patrol outing.
- 7a. – Tell how to display, raise, lower, and fold the U.S. flag.

Second Class rank requirements:

- 1a & 1c. – Virtual patrol or troop activities via video conferencing will be permitted.
- 3b. – Using a compass and map together, plan a 5-mile hike approved by your adult leader.
- 4. – Evidence of wild animals can be demonstrated with information or photos of your local area found online.
- 5c. – May be completed virtually via video conferencing on dry land.
- 7c. – Learn about the dangers of using drugs, alcohol and tobacco and other practices that could be harmful to your health. Discuss what you learned with your family and explain the dangers of substance addictions. Report to your Scoutmaster or other adult leader in your troop about which parts of the Scout Oath and Scout Law relate to what you learned.
- 8a. – May be completed virtually using video conferencing.
- 8d. – May be completed by comparing costs at three (3) online sites or locations.

First Class rank requirements:

- 1a – Virtual patrol or troop activities via video conferencing will be permitted.
- 2e. – On the same day as your virtual campout, serve as the cook. Supervise your assistant(s) in using a stove or building a cooking fire. Prepare the breakfast, lunch, and dinner planned in First Class requirement 2a. Supervise the cleanup.
- 4a. – By drawing, computer software, or other virtual methods, plan an orienteering course that would cover at least one mile. Explain why measuring the height and/or width of designated items (tree, tower, canyon, ditch, etc.) is helpful. Explain how you would complete your course using a real map and compass.
- 4b. – Scouts do not need to follow their route.
- 5a. – Evidence of native plants can be demonstrated with information or photos of your local area found online.
- 6e. – May be completed on dry land.
- 9a. – Visit may take place virtually or by phone.
- 9c. – Outings can include past or future plans.

Advancement during COVID-19: Time extensions for Eagle Scout, Summit and Quartermaster awards



Normally granted only in rare circumstances, the BSA and its local councils will allow extensions for Life Scouts needing more time to finish their Eagle Scout requirements. The authority for councils to grant this extension is effective immediately and continues through Sept. 30, 2020.

Extensions also are available for Venturers needing to finish Summit Award requirements and Sea Scouts needing to finish Quartermaster Award requirements beyond their 21st birthday.

These extensions are reviewed case by case, and not all Scouts will qualify. To get an extension through a local council, Scouts must meet the following requirements:

1. It can be established that **COVID-19 disruptions were the only circumstances that delayed work** on Eagle Scout/Summit/Quartermaster advancement requirements, such as the service project or merit badges. If any other causes were involved, the extension request must go to the National Council following the process outlined in the *Guide to Advancement* (GTA).
2. Extensions shall only be granted to youth in Scouts BSA who have **already achieved Life rank**.
3. Request for Extension Content (with an email sent to NCAC ARC Appeals and Extensions Coordinator (Brad Scales, msva_tenor@yahoo.com), and cc'ing your district Advancement Chair (Alan.Steiner@GooseCreekDistrict.org) and the NCAC Adv Chair (AlanDeter@verizon.net), containing: ...
 - Scout's Registered Name, E-Mail, Contact Number, BSA ID, DoB
 - Troop, District
 - Life Scout Board of Review Date
 - Description of Eagle Project
 - Reason for Delay
 - Adult's Name, E-Mail, Contact Number
4. When the council receives a COVID-19-related request for a time extension, the council reviews the request and approves it if appropriate. A written response stating the outcome of the extension request must go to the youth. **If approved, the notification must be attached to the youth's Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster rank application.**
5. For Eagle, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth's 18th birthday; for Summit/Quartermaster, the extension must not exceed 3 months from the youth's 21st.
6. Upon turning 18, the Scout **must submit a completed adult application and successfully complete Youth Protection training**. Their participant code will now be UP for SBSA or VP for Venturing and Sea Scouting.
7. Extension requests for more than 3 months beyond the youth's 18th/21st birthday must be sent to the National Service Center following the process outlined in the GTA.

Life-to-Eagle Training



Keep your eyes open for an email announcement of our remaining 2020 offerings 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.

The next L2E Seminar for 2020 was supposed to be in May. However, due to current events, the only option for conducting such would be virtual, and frankly, no one wants to sit in on a 4-hour virtual training. Holding hope that things will have relaxed in August our next L2E Seminar is tentatively scheduled for

Date: August 15 or 22, 2020 (pending confirmation libraries will be open)

Time: TBD

Place: TBD – Typically one of the county's public libraries.

Next month's newsletter should include an update on the availabilities of the when this seminar will be held. Future offerings for this year would typically be in August and November.

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.

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. Scout's 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

Merit Badge Corner

How to apply to be a Merit Badge Counselor



Thanks to all who've volunteered over time, and welcome to those seeking to apply. There's a detailed page on the NCAC website on how to apply:

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/advancement/merit-badge-counselor/>.

The process is straightforward – submit an application package to Jake Straub (our Senior District Executive) at Roundtable (or contact him at jake.straub@scouting.org to make other arrangements). Jake will process the BSA documents and send me the MBC application to incorporate into our database. The package should include four documents – an Adult Volunteer application, the associated background check waiver, a copy of your YPT certification, and a Merit Badge Counselor application. As always, please email our Merit Badge Dean (Rich Pender at meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org or rich.pender@goosecreekdistrict.org) if you need any help navigating that process.



The Online Merit Badge Counselor (MBC) List



Merit Badge
Counselor
List

I've taken over maintenance of this list, and in my first two weeks, I already can't count the number of Scouters who've contacted me about various issues.

Please be patient - I'm working on updating the list (see below) and we'll send out a notice when the revised version is posted. I know that MBC volunteers are very important in the current environment – please email me with questions or if you need help in any way. The most common issue I've heard is that the list is incomplete. There are some main reasons why this might be the case, some of which I can fix and some are in your court.

We continue to make progress updating and rebuilding the MBC list. By the time you read this, an April month-end update of the list should be posted to the Goose Creek District website: www.ncacbsa.org/goose-creek/advancements-and-recognition/

Several hundred new entries have been added since last month, and a number of existing MBCs have agreed to expand their coverage by agreeing to work with any District Scout.

We have worked through most of the application backlog, so let us know if MBCs from your Troop(s) are missing, and we'll try to figure out how to get that fixed.

And a broad reminder – 2018 was a renewal year for YPT – everyone had to retake it. That means that in 2020, almost everyone is due to refresh. Please try to stay on top of that process – we can't include MBCs on the list who have expired YPT certification.



Important Reminders for New MBC's



The number of video merit badge classes continues to soar, providing great opportunities for our Scouts to continue Scouting. But just as reminders, while group discussions are not only appropriate but encouraged in the learning process, an MBC must confirm that each Scout has successfully and **individually** completed each requirement. As well, please remember that MBCs must ensure that each Scout completes all requirements **as written** – MBCs to not have the authority to change requirements at any time (only the BSA Advancement folks have that authority). If you haven't had a chance, there's a great training series for Merit Badge Counselors at www.my.scouting.org that goes over all the do's and don'ts of being an MBC:

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

VenturingFest 2020



VenturingFest 2020, the third national gathering of Venturers at the Summit Bechtel Reserve – a Scouting experience unlike any other before – is coming your way again from June 28 to July 3!

VenturingFest 2020 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!

As if the adrenaline-pumping activities weren't enough, festival goers will also get to jam out to concerts and meet new friends in Venturing at the event. What more could a Venturer want?

For more Information: www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/

For any questions or comments please email venturingfest@scouting.org.

LOL



Some Camping Tips

- When using a public campground, a tuba placed on your picnic table will keep the campsites on either side vacant.
- When camping, always wear a long-sleeved shirt. It gives you something to wipe your nose on.
- You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car.
- A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. A potato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent hockey puck.
- The guitar of the noisy teenager at the next campsite makes excellent kindling.
- Bear bells provide an element of safety for hikers in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.



Digital Safety and Online Scouting Activities



As Scouting moves to virtual and online platforms, we offer the following reminders to help keep kids safe. The below guidance applies to all online Scouting activities and meetings.

Note: Some states may have legal requirements that differ from, and even go beyond, what is provided here. It is your responsibility to check and abide by your state laws and consult your local council when reviewing and applying the following guidance, which is not comprehensive.

- **Follow all youth protection policies.**
 - **All youth protection policies still apply in an online environment.** Ensure you always have two-deep leadership for online activities and meetings. Our ban on one-on-one contact between an adult leader and youth applies to all interactions -- whether in person, online, through a web conference, over the phone, via text, or in any other form.
 - All aspects of the Scouting program are open to observation by parents, and the BSA suggests parents take part in online activities and meetings.
- **Use business-oriented conference platforms that include good safety and privacy features instead of platforms with other primary purposes (such as gaming).**
 - Review the terms of service, safety and privacy features, and data collection policies of any platform you use, and review the BSA Digital Privacy and Social Media Guidelines.
- **Regularly review and implement the latest security features of your chosen platform to avoid unauthorized visitors or other security issues in your meetings.**
 - Just as you put in place plans for the physical security of your meeting place, here are some tips to consider as you get started developing your own strategy to manage online security:
 - Use unique meeting identification numbers for each session.
 - Utilize password features for all meetings.
 - Do not publish meeting invitations via public forums and remind attendees not to pass along invitations.
 - Use “waiting room” features to manage letting individuals into your meetings.
 - Disable features that you will not need, such as screen-sharing by non-hosts, private chats, and whiteboards.
- **Do not record online activities/meetings that include youth participants.**
- **Recording of online activities that only involve adults is subject to local council legal review and approval. Check with your local council for guidance.**
 - Call recording is subject to various legal requirements under U.S. law and the laws of individual states, some of which require all parties to a call consent to recording.
- **Safeguard personal information.**
 - If you collect a person’s personal information online—for example, through web forms used to register people for online meetings—then you should post a notice or disclosure at the point of collection describing how you will use the information. The notice should be conspicuous and written in plain English.
 - Meeting organizers must keep such information private and not share a youth’s personal information with anyone except that youth’s parent or guardian or the unit leader responsible for tracking advancements.
- **Collecting personal information from youth under 13 is not recommended.**
 - Do not collect personal information *directly* from youth under 13 years of age due to the parental notice and consent requirements under the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (“COPPA”). You should collect any data needed from the parent or legal guardian only.



#GivingTuesdayNow

Together
we give.

May 5, 2020

Since the middle of March, National Capital Area Council has placed all fundraising efforts on hold. We understand that there is not a single person that has not been affected by this pandemic and that this year will be especially challenging for many of our families, volunteers and donors impacted by COVID- 19.

As you can imagine, funding the Scouting movement in this environment is incredibly difficult, with many families and businesses facing a good deal of uncertainty right now. That said, we also know that the mission and programs of the BSA must continue, our Scouts need and deserve it. In this time of uncertainty, there's a fundamental truth that gives us hope – that together we can do extraordinary things. Over the past few weeks and months, the entire world has been coming together to stand up, help out, give back, and heal. Whether that's through donations to community organizations, celebrating doctors and nurses at shift changes, or reaching out to a neighbor to help with groceries, generosity has been helping the entire world get through this global pandemic. Together.

National Capital Area Council plans to reengage in fundraising efforts of our annual campaign by participating in #GivingTuesdayNow, a global day of giving and unity that will take place on May 5, 2020 as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19. Currently, much is unknown about how dramatically we will be affected. However, we do know that impacts to NCAC will include:

- Cancellation of programs or events
- Potential closure of summer camps and subsequent loss of camp revenue
- Staff and volunteer absences
- Technology and resource deficits challenging staff ability to work remotely
- Disruption in donations from families that help to support Scouting
- Future inability of families to afford Scouting programs and camps
- Decline in number of families we will be able to serve

As part of #GivingTuesdayNow we ask you to help us stay on course. As a key supporter, please consider making your contribution as early as possible this year, complete payment on your pledge as soon as you can, and to be as generous as your means will allow.

Please visit www.NCACbsa.org/give to support us through Friends of Scouting during #GivingTuesdayNow, on May 5, 2020.

As we practice physical distancing, we can remain connected through acts of kindness and generosity. There is no reason that our physical separation means we can't provide the financial, emotional and social supports that nurture our families and communities. We are committed to making the investments our Scouts and our camps need, but we can only do that with your help.



Log in for Day of Fun at the BSA's National Camp-In



The Boy Scouts of America invites families with children of all ages for a National Camp-In (www.scouting.org/CampIn/), starting at 11 a.m. EDT on May 2. You don't have to be in Scouting now to enjoy this free virtual event. Just log on to the BSA's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/theboyscoutsofamerica/) that day for a full schedule of fun — and invite your friends; this is a great way to show them all the cool activities Scouts can do.

Some activities planned for the Camp-In include camping hacks, a cooking demonstration, at-home exercises, skits and songs. Special guests include Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple Inc.; Francis Lawrence, a film director/producer who directed three of the four Hunger Games movies; and Golden Globe Award-winning film producer Shannon McIntosh.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in the National Good Turn virtual 5K hike to benefit Feeding America to help replenish food bank supplies across the country. Here's how to donate and download a bib: www.scouting.org/campin/virtual-5k/. Paralympian gold medalist and Eagle Scout David Blair will lead everyone in warmups and kick off the hike.

You can tune in all day or follow the activities off and on throughout the event. Set up a tent in your backyard during the Camp-In's campsite building contest — or set it up beforehand. Prepare songs to sing at the virtual campfire. Grab pen and paper to create a movie storyboard for the Moviemaking merit badge before seeing a behind-the-scenes virtual movie-set tour from Hollywood costume supervisor Jessica Pazdernik, who worked on Pirates of the Caribbean films and Captain Marvel.

Check the National Camp-In page later this week for a full list of events and share how you're participating via social media using the #CampIn and #ScoutingAtHome hashtags. And yes — there will be a patch for this event; stay tuned!

When you register for updates on the National Camp-In, you will be entered to win one of two \$200 gift certificate prizes, provided by Polaris Industries, a leading manufacturer of off-road vehicles, for its online store. The deadline to enter is Sunday, May 3, at 11:59 CDT



Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Cub Scout Day Camp is a great means for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their siblings to experience Camp Snyder without the overnight sleeping. Each day will begin at 9:30 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 6-9
Session 2: July 27-30

Cost: \$280 – register after May 16
\$50/55/60 – one adult for a week
(may be a different adult each day)

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/day-camp/

Cub Scout STEM Day Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



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.

July 20-23

Cost: \$280 – register by May 16
\$305 – register after May 16
\$50/55/60 – adults

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/day-camp/

Cub Scout Resident Weekends Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



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 2 nights of overnight camping. Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast.

Session 1: July 10-11
Session 2: July 17-18
Session 3: July 31 – Aug 2

Cost: \$265 – register by May 16
\$290 – register after May 16
\$80/105/130 – adults (2 free)

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/resident-weekends/

Cub Scout STEM Resident Weekend Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Everything that you love about our Resident Weekend program + Science Technology Engineering Math. What's not to like?

Sessions run from Friday at 9:00am to Sunday at 9:00am, and feature 2 nights of overnight camping.

Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast.

July 24-25

Cost: \$290 – register by May 16
\$315 – register after May 16
\$80/105/130 – adults (2 free)

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/resident-weekends/

Cub Scout Resident Week at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Is family scouting your thing? Do you want an opportunity to camp overnight but, to be able to do it with more than one of your scouts? Cub Scout Resident camp is for YOU! Does your Tiger, Wolf or Bear like to camp just as much as your Webelos? Now they can! Cub resident week is a full summer camp experience for all ages. This program is a four-night overnight program open to all levels of Cubs from Tiger up. (Tigers must have their Tiger partner accompany them to camp). Daytime activities are for all ages and evening activities are customized to provide rank specific activities for each age group in attendance.

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

Aug 3-7

Cost: \$300 – register by May 16
\$325 – register after May 16
\$125/150/170 – adults (2 free)

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/cub-scout-resident-week/

Webelos Resident Week at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



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

July 13017

Cost: \$305 – register by May 16
\$330 – register after May 16
\$130/155/180 – adults (2 free)

To register: www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/cub-scout-resident-week/

Can Packs, Troops or Crews Participate in Political Rallies?



The BSA might be the most patriotic organization in the U.S. But we don't endorse any one political party. You could say that rather than being pro-left or pro-right, the BSA is pro-America.

The same applies to your pack, troop, post, ship or crew. You and your Scouts should Do Your Duty to Country but not by endorsing any one candidate.

During election years, the line between patriotism and political favoritism becomes thin, making it important to remind you of the BSA's official policy on Scout participation in political rallies.

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions and the BSA's official answers:

Q: Could a pack, troop or crew provide a color guard flag ceremony for a candidate's public speaking event or rally?

A: Yes. But, BSA Policy requires our adult and youth members in uniform to leave immediately after the presentation of colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. Should they want to stay they must do so as individuals, not Scouting representatives. That means they would have to change out of their uniforms.

Q: So Scouts and Scouters can't stand on the platform for the remainder of the speech or presentation?

A: No, they should not remain on the speakers' platform or in a conspicuous location where media could construe their presence as an endorsement or symbol of support.

Q: Why is this the rule?

A: The policy is meant to prevent someone from using our brand to convey support of a candidate or ideology. This prevents Scouts from being used by any party in campaign advertisements or materials.

Q: So then why is it OK to even present the colors or lead the Pledge of Allegiance at all?

A: Those are displays of loyalty to the nation, something the BSA has always endorsed. Regardless of the outcome of the political race, the candidate and supporters pledge allegiance to the U.S. Because of this, it is always acceptable and deemed to be a part of the civic process. Also, this "service" is offered to any party, regardless of political affiliation.

Q: Can Scouts and Scouters pose for photos with political candidates at these events?

A: Yes. But photos of candidates or Scouts in uniform or BSA marks and logos are not allowed in political campaign materials of any kind.

Participant registration now open for the 2021 National Jamboree



A celebration that happens just once every four years. World-class venues packed with incredible moments. A spirit of unity, patriotism and courage.

Turns out the National Jamboree and the Summer Olympics share a lot of similarities — with one exception: At a National Jamboree, everyone leaves a winner.

Participant registration is now open for the 2021 National Jamboree, to be held July 21–30, 2021, at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, the BSA’s gold-medal-caliber high-adventure base in West Virginia.

A National Jamboree will happen only once or twice during a young person’s time in Scouts BSA, Venturing or Sea Scouting. That’s why many people, myself included, call a National Jamboree a “flagship BSA experience.”

Over the course of 10 days, Jamboree participants will experience unforgettable adventures they’ll remember all their lives. They can experience the Summit’s legendary adventure sports programs, earn merit badges, enjoy stadium shows and trade patches with Scouts from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

In doing all that, Jamboree participants join a tradition that has been a part of the BSA since the very first National Jamboree in 1937.

Participant requirements

- Have a current BSA membership.
- Be at least 12 by the first day of the Jamboree (July 21, 2021) but not yet 18 by the last day of the Jamboree (July 30, 2021). If your Scout will be too old to be a youth participant, they should consider applying for an adult leader role or Jamboree Service Team (staff) position.
- Be approved by the unit leader and local council.
- Have an appropriate parent/guardian to complete the online parental consent. (An email will be sent to the parent/guardian during the application process.)
- Participate in pre-Jamboree training experience with their local council and unit leader.
- Submit their BSA Annual Health & Medical Record using the online Jamboree submission process. (The AHMR must be dated on or after July 1, 2020.)
- Submit all registration fees per the local council’s payment schedule.

The cost for participants will be \$1,175. Learn more and register at <https://jamboree.scouting.org/>.

Podcasts



May 2020 – Program Planning Starts Now



Now for this episode — well, we admit it's not the most glamorous of topics, but it is important. In fact, it will make your Cub Scout leader experience a whole lot easier. And joining us is Lora Taft, the Council Commissioner for the Chattahoochee Council in Columbus. And just to make sure we give you as much help as we possibly can — we've also invited the chair for the National Cub Scouting Committee, Lisa Wylie. These seasoned Scouters will share with us all the tips and tricks of program planning and how to have fun doing it.

Podcast: <https://podcast.scouting.org/cubcast/2020/may-2020-program-planning-starts-now/>



May 2020 – 2021 Jamboree!



The next National Jamboree is only a year away, but many Scouts have yet to sign up. Maybe you think that door has been closed.

Alexander Graham Bell once said, "When one door closes, another one opens." But you know what? It's a door — if it's closed, just open it! So, this month we'll share all the reasons you should be getting ready to pack your bags and helping us open that door is the Director of the National Scout Jamboree at Boy Scouts of America, Dan Busby

Podcast: <https://podcast.scouting.org/scoutcast/2020/may-2020-2021-jamboree/>

Training Opportunities

Wood Badge 2020



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.

The next class will be held Sept 18-20 and Oct 17-18. The fee for the course is \$300

To register and find out more information go to www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/

Goose Creek District Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills - IOLS



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills - IOLS (S11) **has been rescheduled to some date in May June**, 2020 at Camp Highroad (21164 Steptoe Hill Rd, Middleburg, VA 20117) depending on when the Commonwealth opens up again.

IOLS is the required outdoor training for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters. The course is also ideal for Venturing Leaders because it focuses on building confidence and competence in conducting outdoor camping experiences. Outdoor skills are critical to the success of any Scouting program. IOLS provides Leaders with the basic outdoor skills to start a program right and keep it going.

COST: \$40.00

REGISTRATION: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-34473> .

CLASS SIZE: Maximum of 25 participants. Registration is currently closed but is expected to be reopened when a new date is set. Existing registrations will be honored in the rescheduled course.

MEALS: will be provided. Please provide any dietary restrictions.

For questions or more information, contact Course Director Walt Johnson:
walt.johnson@goosecreekdistrict.org

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training



Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) Training (C32) **has been rescheduled to some date in May June**, 2020 at Camp Highroad (21164 Steptoe Hill Rd, Middleburg, VA 20117) depending on when the Commonwealth opens up again..

BALOO is an outdoor skills training course for Cub Scout Leaders – no camping experience is required. BSA policy requires at least one BALOO trained Leader on all Cub Scout Pack campouts. BALOO also includes Webelos Den campout planning and campsite duties, which trains Webelos Leaders for Den camping. Cooking, sanitation, campfires, woods tools use, orienteering skills, outdoor ethics and more will be covered.

BALOO PREREQUISITES: Complete the online BALOO Training v2 course, modules SCO-280 to 283 (about 30 minutes) and the BSA Youth Protection Training course (also available online). Bring the certificates of completion for both to this class.

This course has an overnight camping requirement.

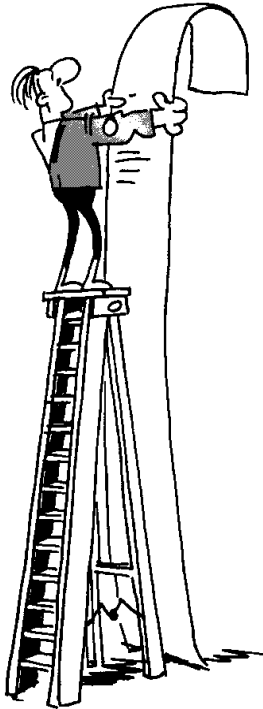
COST: \$40.00

REGISTRATION: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-34450> Maximum of 25 participants. Registration is currently closed but is expected to be reopened when a new date is set. Existing registrations will be honored in the rescheduled course.

MEALS: will be provided as part of this course (Saturday: Lunch and Dinner; Sunday: Breakfast). There will be snacks provided during the day on Saturday. Please eat breakfast before you arrive. There will be a Cracker Barrel (snacks provided) after campfire on Saturday evening.

For questions or more information, contact Course Director Walt Johnson:
walt.johnson@goosecreekdistrict.org

District Calendar



May 2020	
13	Roundtable (Virtual)
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
25	Memorial Day
27	District Committee
30-31	IOLS and BALOO Training

June 2020	
10	Roundtable
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
24	District Committee

July 2020	
4	Fourth of July

August 2020	
10-14	Day/Twilight Camp
12	Roundtable
12	OA Chapter Meeting
13	Commissioner Mtg
20	First Day of School
26	District Committee
27	First Day of School

September 2020	
4-7	School Holiday
7	Labor Day
9	Roundtable
10	Commissioner Mtg
9	OA Chapter Meeting
23	District Committee

October 2020	
3-4	Webelos-o-ree
7	Roundtable
7	OA Chapter Meeting
8	Commissioner Mtg
12	Columbus Day
21	District Committee
30	Student Holiday

November 2020	
2-3	Student Holiday
7	SFF Distribution
11	Roundtable
11	OA Chapter Meeting
12	Commissioner Mtg
14	SFF Food Pickup
18	District Committee
25-27	Student Holiday
30	Final Date for Recharter Turn In

December 2020	
9	Roundtable
9	OA Chapter Meeting
10	Commissioner Mtg
16	Annual District Business Meeting
23-31	Winter Break

January 2021	
1	Holiday
13	Roundtable
13	OA Chapter Meeting
14	Commissioner Mtg
18	MLK Jr. Day
19	Moveable School Holiday
20	School Holiday (Inauguration)
27	District Committee

February 2021	
5	Scout Jumuah
6	Scout Sabbath
7	Scout Sunday
10	Roundtable
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
15	President's Day
24	District Committee

March 2021	
2	School Holiday
6	District Pinewood Derby
10	Roundtable
10	OA Chapter Meeting
11	Commissioner Mtg
24	District Committee
29-31	Spring Break

April 2021	
8	Commissioner Mtg
12	School Holiday
14	Roundtable
14	OA Chapter Meeting
28	District Committee