



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



October 2020

Volume 12, Issue 3

## Special Interest:

### District

- Webelos-o-ree – pg 2
- Scouting Salute to Service Members and Families – pg 4

### Advancement

- Temporary Scout Requirement Changes – pg 5

### Council/National

- Journey to Excellence Changes – pg 8
- JOTA/JOTI – pg 8
- High Adventure Opportunities – pg 9

## Quick Calendar:

- Oct 14 – Roundtable
- Oct 17 – Virtual Webelos-o-ree
- Nov 7 – Scouting for Food Notice Distribution
- Nov 11 – Roundtable
- Nov 14 – Scouting for Food Pickup
- Nov 18 – Annual Business Meeting
- Nov 30 – Final Date for Recharter Turn in
- Dec 9 - Roundtable

## Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout / Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article



from Bobwhite Blather, <http://bobwhiteblather.com/prepared-for-life-not-just-a-motto/>

## Prepared for life: Not just a motto

The Scout motto – Be Prepared – has been with us since the beginning, when Baden-Powell encouraged his young charges to be ready for whatever life might throw their way. It came from his days as a military leader, training his soldiers to be ready both in battle and in peacetime. When asked the meaning of be prepared was, he explained

*...a scout must prepare himself by previous thinking out and practicing how to act on any accident or emergency so that he is never taken by surprise.*

B-P said a Scout should be prepared for any old thing. The Scout handbook expands on this:

*The training you receive in your troop will help you live up to the Scout motto. When someone has an accident, you are prepared because of your first aid instruction. Because of lifesaving practice, you might be able to save a nonswimmer who has fallen into deep water.*

*But Baden-Powell wasn't thinking just of being ready for emergencies. His idea was that all Scouts should prepare themselves to become productive citizens and to give happiness to other people. He wanted each Scout to be ready in mind and body for any struggles, and to meet with a strong heart whatever challenges might lie ahead.*

*Be prepared for life – to live happily and without regret, knowing that you have done your best. That's what the Scout motto means.*

In 2011, as part of the centennial celebration, the Boy Scouts of America adopted the unique selling proposition of a five-year messaging campaign that Scouts are **Prepared. For Life.**® It encompasses the strategy that young people are prepared for the future through their involvement in Scouting.

It's not just a motto, a slogan or a marketing phrase. It really works.

I was reminded of this the other day when my older son, now a third-year medical student, texted me to say that one of the residents in the hospital where he is doing his clinical rounds taught him the "Scrubs Knot" for tying the waist cord of his pants. He described it as "two twists and then a loop, and it gets tighter when you pull on it, but doesn't get looser... sound familiar?" We both recognized it as a basic camping knot, the taut-line hitch, and he said "Yep! Same knot we tie tent stakes with."

He uses his Scout skills all the time, both in his medical studies and elsewhere in life. The leadership skills he acquired from National Youth Leadership Training helped him not only in the troop but as an undergraduate, where he led others in study groups, research projects and student organizations. He acquired a love of camping and uses his outdoor skills to enjoy nature's beauty and to preserve it. And my younger son, a future environmental scientist, applies the principles of Leave No Trace and doing a good turn for others almost daily in his summer internship at a community farm. He'll apply his leadership skills this year as the president of the student environmental club on campus.

So next time you think that Be Prepared is just a concept, a phrase to be memorized, realize that it's what we are all about. We are preparing our young people for the future. We are instilling the values of Scouting and getting them ready to make good ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes. And a good measure of getting ahead in school, college and life..

## District News

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



### YPT Training



As we are approaching the time for recharter of all of the units in Goose Creek District, the number of adult volunteers with expired and soon to expire YTP has gone up to almost 23%.

The revised YPT program that was instituted two years ago is now having an echo effect, but we all need to check the status and take the training as is required for rechartering. Thank you for your attention to this important training.



### Webelos-o-ree 2020 is now Virtual



The Webelos-O-Ree will be held on October 17th beginning at 10AM. Several troops have already volunteered to demonstrate their skillsets and a many packs have expressed interest, so we can promise a rousing virtual event! We have room for more, so troops interested in demonstrating for the Webelos should contact Charles Thornton at [scouterchalis@gmail.com](mailto:scouterchalis@gmail.com). Interesting topics could include knot tying, cooking, fire starting, scoutcraft, skits, or basic fireside chats during which you talk to Webelos about your scouting experiences. Webelos need to visit troops for Arrow of Light requirements, and troops need to attract Webelos. Let the magic begin!

Packs should RSVP to Charles and Troops should have their programs designed and described for Charles by October 11th.

Instructions for how to join the Zoom meeting follow:

Topic: Webelos O Ree Zoom Meeting

Time: Oct 17, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81603103203?pwd=UFZrOURQeUNqNIZ4VkZ4YXpmeEladz09>

Meeting ID: 816 0310 3203

Passcode: 934821

### 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. 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](mailto:JimBonfils@icloud.com)

## Friends of Scouting



We are reaching out to units that have not had a Friends of Scouting presentation in 2020. This year has certainly been a challenge for us all. We hope you have been able to find creative ways to continue your Scouting program.

The need for support from contributions raised during the annual Friends of Scouting campaign is more important this year. The National Capital Area Council has experienced loss of revenue like other nonprofits and businesses in the area. Many of you were just getting started with the Camp Cards Fundraiser when the pandemic abruptly halted sales of the cards. The Council budget also took a large hit with the loss of summer camp revenue.

Realizing that your meeting formats have changed during this era of social distancing we can still provide a presentation that will work with your modified format. We can come to your meeting or provide a virtual presentation for you.

Over the next few days members of the Goose Creek District Committee will be calling unit leaders to follow up on this announcement. We would like to schedule a presentation or discuss other ways that we can reach out to your Scout families.

If you already have an upcoming meeting that you would like to have a presentation you can reply directly to Sue Breen ([development@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:development@goosecreekdistrict.org)), our District Vice Chair of Development, and we will ensure that a presenter attends, in person or virtually.

Did you know it costs approximately \$240 to provide one year of quality program for each Scout? Your donation to Friends of Scouting helps ensure that more than 57,000 youth and adult leaders can take part in the invaluable experiences found within Scouting. You can make a pledge today by clicking on the Donate button below and ensure the quality of Scouting in the NCAC continues for many years to come!

[Donate](#)

## Popcorn



If there are any unit popcorn chairpersons that need any assistance please feel free to contact Tonya Dobbins, 239-229-8030, [Tonya.Dobbins@scouting.org](mailto:Tonya.Dobbins@scouting.org).

### **October** - Product Returns

MSSC & VA Scout Shop - Saturday, October 24th

MSSC Monday, October 26th - Thursday, October 29th

### **November**

Orders are due - Friday, October 23rd

Popcorn Distribution - Saturday, November 16th

Payments are due - Monday, November 23rd

(Home deliveries are available for single orders of \$10,000 or more)



## Scouting Salute to Service Members and Families



On behalf of the National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, we take great pleasure in inviting you to join us in supporting the 2020 Scouting's Salute to Service Members & Their Families virtual luncheon. In honor of our military personal, this virtual ceremony will be held on Veterans day, this November 11, 2020. The event will feature LT. General L. Scott Rice, former Director of the Air National Guard who will be delivering our keynote address, Brig General Charles McGee (RET) will be the recipient of the Silver Buffalo award, General David L. Goldfein (RET) is receiving the Distinguished Eagle award and Captain John R. Rotruck is our Operational Pandemic Honoree.

Scouting has a rich history of teaching our youth the values of teamwork, leadership, and service to others. The lessons our programs teach, have a significant impact on their lives and our communities at large. With the ongoing and unprecedented challenges due to COVID, Scouting's programs have continued and become more valuable and necessary than ever. At NCAC more than 55,000 Scouts are training to become the ethical leaders we need now more than ever. Our Scouts have gone on to become medical personnel, military and national guard members and elected officials.

Since our inception, The Boy Scouts of America and the military services have fostered a close relationship. Activities such as collecting scrap during World War 2, placing flags on the graves at Arlington Cemetery and even sending popcorn care packages overseas are just a few actions that highlight our appreciation for the military services. These are just a few ways the BSA has endeavored to honor and support the brave women and men who serve in our nation's military. The National Capital Area Council is proud to share in this tradition and history.

This virtual event will provide an opportunity to not only honor our military but also to help our youth. All funds raised from this event will help to ensure that every young person that wants to be a part of this great organization will have the opportunity to do so and that we are able to continue providing Scouting programs during the pandemic because our youth need and deserve them.

Scouting changes the lives of our youth in ways that no other program can, and now you have the opportunity to give the gift of Scouting to future generations. Many sponsorship opportunities are available when you choose to support the 2020 Scouting's Salute to Service Members & Their Families. To sponsor now or for additional information please visit [www.NCACBSA.org/military](http://www.NCACBSA.org/military) or contact, Jenna Welle at 301-214-9113 or [Jenna.Welle@Scouting.org](mailto:Jenna.Welle@Scouting.org).

## District Social Media Platforms



Follow us today.



Facebook - @BSAGooseCreek



Twitter - @BSAGooseCreek



Linkedin - Goose Creek

## “Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail



### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

**Brendan Casey** – Troop 1159

**Michael Godek** – Troop 956

**Major LeGoullon** – Troop 1907

**James Painter** – Troop 1907

**Akash Piya** – Troop 956

**Elijah Sauder** – Troop 2012

**Riley Steinkirchner** – Troop 1159



### Deferment of Some 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Swim Requirements



The coronavirus pandemic has slowed many Scouts from advancing to Second Class or First Class because of the inability to complete the associated swimming requirements. Swimming remains a major health and safety concern and cannot be abandoned by Scouts BSA. With that in mind, the Swimming rank requirements for Second Class (5b) and First Class (6a) may be deferred until each Scout’s next rank, as necessary (through Life, but not Eagle).

This temporary deferment will allow Scouts to advance in rank up to, and including Life Scout, but not beyond. All other rank requirements must still be earned to advance. When conditions warrant and upon direction from the National Council, these requirements will be reinstated with 30 days’ notice to our Scouting family via Workplace, Bryan on Scouting, Scouting Wire, social media, and any other means determined appropriate.



### Temporary Change to Camping Merit Badge Requirement



The coronavirus situation has also resulted in Scouts being unable to complete the Eagle-required Camping merit badge, specifically requirement 9b.

Although this requirement adds “Scout fun” to a camping experience, it will be temporarily suspended as a requirement for Scouts to earn this badge. All other Camping merit badge requirements must still be completed to earn this badge. Upon direction from the National Council, requirement 9b will be reinstated with 30 days’ notice to our Scouting family via Workplace, Bryan on Scouting, Scouting Wire, social media, and any other means determine appropriate.



## Life-to-Eagle Training



Due to the year's pandemic situation, the Life to Eagle Seminars for 2020 have had to be postponed. The only safe option for conducting it would be virtual, and quite frankly, no one wants to sit in on a virtual training that lasts 3-4 hours. We had been holding out hope that things would have relaxed in late summer or early fall, but the strongly-preferred option - one of the county's public libraries - hasn't availed itself. While some of them are open, recent communications from the Loudoun County Public Library system have confirmed that the meeting rooms are not open. Looking forward, they've shared, "we don't know when we'll be opening meeting rooms again, but we expect it will be quite some time."

In light of the unfortunate loss of L2E Training opportunities this year, the Advancement Committee is willing to share the slides by sending a PDF set of those materials directly to the Advancement Chairs and L2E Guides within each of the Troops in the district. To request a copy, we simply ask that you send an email to us (at [MSVA\\_Tenor@yahoo.com](mailto:MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com)) and in that email, provide the below information. It's important to note that the slides alone are insufficient as a standalone document for conveying the necessary information, and are heavily dependent upon the voice-track that accompanies it in the L2E sessions. The information below will help us stay in touch with the key advancement personnel in the individual units themselves.

- Unit Type & Number
- Name of L2E Training materials recipient
- Actual position the recipient holds (Adv Chair, L2E Guide, etc)
- Email for the recipient

## 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: [rjfmf99@hotmail.com](mailto:rjfmf99@hotmail.com)

## Merit Badge Corner

### How to Apply to be a Merit Badge Counselor Online



Great news - we're taking the process of applying to be a Merit Badge Counselor online!!

For a new counselor, please send an email requesting a 'sign-up link' to our Merit Badge Dean, Rich Pender, at [meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org). You need to send a request for each new counselor, as the link is individual/custom.

He will send back the requested link - using it will take Scouters to a site where they enter in the info normally contained on the Adult Volunteer Application and the background check waiver. It also checks on YPT status based on BSA ID. Quick entry, and privacy for confidential data.

Once this process is completed, you'll just need to send one completed form to [meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org) - the MBC Application form that lists contact info and badges requested.

We hope this will save time for those applying - we know it will streamline our process, as the online system will make sure all required information has been provided, so we won't need to comb and proof applications. Sounds like a win-win!!

For existing MBCs on the District roster seeking to add or delete badges, just providing that MBC Application should suffice.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

## Council / National News

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



### The Orion Project



Do you know a group of Scouts who would like to visit the Summit Bechtel Reserve in July 2021? If so, they have just opened programming during July 18 to July 31 and have combined some of their best programs to create a new adventure called the Orion Project

This is a seven-day/six-night program running Sunday to Saturday. It consists of half-day introductory level experiences at each of the nine Summit high adventure venues: BMX Biking, Skateboarding, Shooting Sports, Archery, Climbing, Canopy Tours, Mountain Biking, Challenge Course/Zipline, Waterfront Activities.

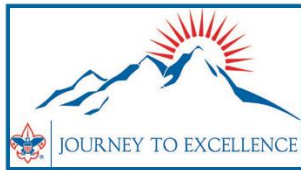
In addition, each group will experience the rapids of the world-famous New River, have the chance to ride The Big Zip – our 3/4-mile zip line.

Each night (Monday-Friday), we will open the Scott Summit Center for activities, fun and socializing. The Scott Summit Center incorporates small versions of our adventure sports venues and we are planning special events for the Orion Program Participants: think shows, Appalachian activities and special guests.

For more information go to [The Orion Project](#)



## Journey to Excellence



Scouting's Journey to Excellence (JTE) is the BSA aspirational planning, performance and recognition program designed to encourage and reward success of our units, districts, and councils. It is meant to encourage excellence and continuous improvement in providing a quality program at all levels of the BSA.

The JTE standards are based on achievements the previous year or previous few years, both individually and for the creation of national standards. Due to the extraordinary circumstances occurring in 2020, benchmarking 2019 to 2020 at the district and council level is not constructive and similarly basing 2021 standards on 2020 for districts and councils is equally inappropriate. Many units, however, have largely adapted their programs to the challenges of 2020 so their members have continued to enjoy Scouting.

For these reasons, the Journey to Excellence recognition program for districts and councils is discontinued immediately. The Unit level recognition program will continue, and recognition patches will be available for units.

Revised unit criteria, due to the pandemic, is available at <https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/2020-scorecards-english/>

2021 unit scorecards are available at <https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/>



## Jamboree on the Air/ Jamboree on the Internet



There are Scouting programs in over two hundred fifteen countries and not everyone can attend the World Jamboree so once a year Scouts and Scouters from around the globe come together by way of radio and computer. October 16th-18th marks the 63rd anniversary of the "Jamboree on the Air" (JOTA) and the 24th anniversary of the "Jamboree on the Internet" (JOTI) and the BSA will be well represented. JOTA-JOTI is the world's largest digital Scout event taking place online and over the air. This educational event brings together more than 2 million Scouts every year in October for a weekend of Scouting and friendship. Young people can learn about communications technology and connect with fellow Scouts from over 171 countries. There is no associated cost and it's a great way to learn about other cultures. Did we mention that participation in JOTA and JOTI can provide credit for rank advancement? Plus it's the perfectly socially distant event to mitigate the risk of COVID19!

NCAC is looking to coordinate a collective effort – any information will be posted at <https://www.ncacbsa.org/international-committee/> but units and Scouts may connect directly to the <https://www.jotajoti.info/> site to learn more, register and participate in JOTA / JOTI fun. For more information [contactMike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org](mailto:contactMike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org).

## Michael's Woodshop



Michael's Woodshop, located at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, has received approval to resume activities. There are a number of new safety and cleaning protocols in place, but their basic operations remain the same. To see what activities they offer view their [newsletter](#)





## NCAC HAC Input



Attention all Goose Creek Units planning High Adventure trips in 2022:

Here are Important Facts To Know about Unit Reservation Dates and Procedures for booking 2022 adventures:

### Lotteries:

Only Philmont continues to operate a lottery system to reserve expedition dates in 2022. Northern Tier and Sea Base are first-come, first-served open registrations.

### Dates:

Philmont Lottery System will now open on October 27th and close December 1st, 2020. Lottery selections will be made randomly by computer after December 1st (i.e., reservations will not be assigned in the order that requests are made). Units may now enter the Philmont lottery in consecutive years. Go [here](#) to download a 2022 registration info packet with explicit instructions and processes.

Northern Tier Open Registration opens on (as of September 28th) October 7th for 2022 Summer Treks (all bases) and January 19th, 2021 for Winter (2021-22) Treks. There are limited numbers of treks available on each date, so having backup dates when making a reservation is essential. Reservations are first-come, first-served; you will know immediately if your request is available and must pay a \$250 deposit. Go [here](#) for registration information.

Sea Base also operates on a first-come, first-served basis – but the opening date (as of September 28th) is coming soon. Reservations are immediate and so is the deposit due (\$250). Go [here](#) for 2022 reservation details; check back frequently for when the system will open – also check their Facebook page [here](#).



## 2021 NCAC High Adventure Expeditions!



**Philmont 12-day Backpacking!** June 26–July 10 and July 17–31

Individual openings only on June 26th trip including some female openings

4 crews still avail on July 17th date! <https://scoutingevent.com/082-37103>

**Sea Base Coral Reef Sailing!** August 4-10; One crew of 6-8 is available!

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-37277>

**Northern Tier Wilderness Canoeing!** July 20 to 30; One crew of 6-8 is available!

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-37278>

All logistics are handled by the High Adventure Committee. You just need to pack.

And train, update your gear, train, plan your routes, train, and have the trip of a lifetime.

## These Cub Scout Adventures Video Resources Can Help Your Next Den Meeting



Figuring out how to create a fun den meeting in a virtual setting can feel overwhelming.

That's why the National Council and 50 councils across the country worked together to produce these **Cub Scout Adventures video resources** to help den leaders.

They are a series of short videos, prepared by councils, to align with Adventures for each Cub Scout rank. Scouting volunteers and council professionals recruited local subject matter experts, like museums, theaters, businesses and law enforcement agencies as well as the BSA's national high-adventure bases, to create these videos that cover 96 Cub Scout Adventures. Many of these videos were filmed by den leaders and Scouts, too.

You can use these videos to enhance your virtual den meetings; they don't take the place of the program designed and presented in the Den Leader Experience or Cub Scout handbooks. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, these virtual resources may be used to complete requirements, such as **virtual tours instead of den outings**.

During this time, as in any time, follow the Cub Scout motto: Do Your Best.

## Activate AmazonSmile on your iPhone or Android to Support Local Scouting



Now you can support Scouting without lifting a finger — or at least not more than one. AmazonSmile, the simple and no-cost way to donate to a favorite charity like your local BSA council, now works on the Amazon Shopping app for iPhone and Android. That means it's easier than ever to support Scouting anytime, anywhere.

Through its AmazonSmile program, Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice — at no cost to you. You'll get the same prices, selection and service found on Amazon.com, but now Amazon gives 0.5% of its cut to a good cause.

The BSA and its local councils across the country are eligible AmazonSmile charities. Individual packs, troops, posts, ships and crews are not eligible.

### How to activate AmazonSmile on your iPhone or Android

#### Step 1: Join AmazonSmile

If you aren't yet an AmazonSmile member, sign up at <http://smile.amazon.com/> using a web browser (mobile or desktop). You'll sign in with your Amazon credentials, and the site will walk you through the process.

Amazon will ask you to choose your favorite charity. This is where you search for your local Scout council or choose the "National Boy Scouts of America Council."

#### Step 2: Open the Amazon Shopping app on your phone

If you don't have the app already, download it from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

#### Step 3: Open Settings within the app

Open Settings by tapping the three horizontal lines (aka the "hamburger") at the top left and tapping "Settings."



## Troop Leader Resources



In order to deliver the PROMISE OF SCOUTING, youth and adult troop leaders need to plan a program that is involving, challenging, and FUN!

BSA maintains a Troop Leader Resources website (<https://troopleader.scouting.org/>) that is filled with videos, action photos, useful information and practical ideas, to help make it easier for youth and adult troop leaders to present a Scouting program that is fun with positive outcomes.

## James M. Stewart Good Citizenship Award



We could use a few more Jimmy Stewarts in the world.

The Oscar-winning actor, philanthropist and military officer was a Scout in Troop 3 of Indiana, Pa. — about an hour east of Pittsburgh. As an adult, he was a dedicated friend of Scouting and received the Silver Buffalo Award, the BSA's top honor for adult volunteers.

Stewart died in 1997, but his spirit of citizenship endures in a number of tangible ways, including the James M. Stewart Good Citizenship Award, available to members of Scouts BSA.

The award, launched in 2003, was created through a partnership between the BSA, the James M. Stewart Museum Foundation, the Stewart family and the BSA's Penn's Woods Council (now part of the Laurel Highlands Council).

Registered Scouts can earn the James M. Stewart Good Citizenship Award by completing all of the following requirements:

- Take the Jimmy Stewart Museum quiz
- Write an essay of at least 500 words on the importance of citizenship in Scouting
- Perform a good citizenship project in the community in honor of James M. Stewart

Learn more and order award materials at the official site:

[www.jimmy.org/citizenship-award/](http://www.jimmy.org/citizenship-award/)

LOL



Murphy's Laws of Camping:

- Rocks and sticks rise above dirt when irritated by tent flooring fabric.
- Feet expand when removed from hiking boots. The same law applies to tents and tent bags, clothing and backpacks, and sleeping bags and stuff sacks.
- Backpack strap widths decrease with the distance hiked. To compensate, the weight of the backpack increases.
- The one new tent on the trip that leaks will be yours.
- The side of the tent that leaks will be your side.
- 95% of a backpack's contents could have been left at home. The 5% left at home will be needed.

## National Capital Area Council - Guidance on Outdoor Activities for Fall 2020



The Executive Committee, composed of the volunteer and professional leaders of the council, recently agreed on guidance and limitations on Council, District and unit outdoor activities for the fall, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that is still prevalent in our area.

The Committee carefully considered the strong desire of our Scouts and units to be out in the field, the experience the council has gained over the summer in virus-transmission precautions in outdoor activities and the local government restrictions on the size of gatherings and in-person classroom instruction. The paramount consideration was the health and safety of our Scouts and their families.

With this in mind, the Committee agreed to the following guidance for NCAC units and Districts in conducting outdoor activities this fall

- We encourage units to continue to conduct outdoor Scouting activities as permitted by their unit Key Three, Chartering Organization and local government virus precaution restrictions
- There will be no mass gatherings of Scouts in the outdoors permitted this fall. This means no traditional District camporees nor any staggered, circuit course events involving multiple Dens, Patrols and Crews in the same location
- We encourage Districts to conduct distributed events in which Dens, Patrols and Crews independently work through an identical template of well-defined activities in their own outdoor setting to demonstrate Scouting skills in a competitive atmosphere. The NCAC Marketing and Communication Committee is available to provide support to District activities that will allow large numbers of Units, or Dens and Patrols to complete competitions at their meeting place and live feed the results to the District Activity Committee for verification. Training for this type of activity will be available in September, more details will be provided soon.
- Our Council camps will sponsor and be open for small group activities this fall. Specifically, the Goshen Labor Day Family Camping event will proceed as scheduled and Camp William B. Snyder will host several fall Family Camping events that include a prepared program. Additionally, Camp Snyder will be open for individual family and Patrol camping (no unit camping) on selected weekends; campers will be responsible for their own programming. Also, a number of the traditional program activities at Camp Snyder, including the Wood Shop, Scouterhorn and LASR Robotics, can be independently scheduled by small groups. Finally, merit badge counselors may use Camp Snyder to teach outdoor oriented merit badges in small groups.

Over the spring and summer NCAC has gained experience and momentum in providing quality Scouting activities despite the limitations imposed by the COVID-19 virus. The BSA SAFE checklist is included with this message and should be used when planning activities with Scouts and Scouters. We need to remain strong as a community and continue to be innovative in creating engaging outdoor program for our Scouts this fall. Please share your successes on [WeOwnAdventure.com](http://WeOwnAdventure.com) so other districts can learn from your creativity. Our combined energy and talent will ensure Scouting Continues!

## Eagle Scouts (current or future) invited to take the #EagleScoutChallenge



While the Eagle Scout Award was first earned in 1912, the Eagle Scout service project was not officially added as a requirement until 1965.

The 1965 update challenged young people to “plan, develop and carry out a service project” to benefit the community.

In 1972, that was revised to include a leadership component, ensuring that the prospective Eagle Scout would “give leadership to others” while completing the project.

Today, the requirement reads: “While a Life Scout, plan, develop and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school or your community.”

More than 2.1 million Eagle Scout Awards have been earned between 1965 and 2019. That means there have been more than 2.1 million Eagle projects — each one leaving a community a little better than before.

**Current Eagle Scouts:** If you’re one of the 2.1 million people who have become Eagle Scouts since 1965, the year the Eagle project became required, you’re invited to take the #EagleScoutChallenge.

**Future Eagle Scouts:** If you’re still working on your Eagle project as you read this, you’re invited, too. Describe your plan or share photos or videos of the progress. The #EagleScoutChallenge is for you, too.

### How to join the #EagleScoutChallenge

Compared to the weeks or months you spent working on your actual Eagle project, the #EagleScoutChallenge is quite simple.

**Step 1:** Share the story of your Eagle project on social media

Choose your favorite social media platform or three, and tell the abbreviated story of your Eagle project. Post as many places as you’d like — LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and more.

A few things to consider:

- Tell the what, why and how of your project. Why was/is it important — to you and to your community?
- Keep it short and simple. Challenge yourself to tell the full story in 280 characters, even if you aren’t posting on Twitter and subject to a character limit.
- Include a photo or video if possible. Dig out that box of BSA photos or swipe back through your camera roll.
- Be sure to include the hashtags #EagleScoutChallenge and #scoutingstories, which will make it easy to find other Eagle Scouts sharing their stories.

**Step 2:** Nominate another Eagle Scout

This step puts the “challenge” in #EagleScoutChallenge.

Pick one or more fellow Eagle Scouts and tag them in your post, inviting them to share the story of their Eagle project.

## 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.

## Save the Dates for Summer Camp 2021 at Goshen Scout Reservation



Next summer, we'll be offering five weeks of summer camp at all our Webelos and Scouts BSA/Venturing resident camps and four weeks of backpacking program and river trekking program at Lenhok'sin High Adventure.

Week 1: June 27 – July 3, 2021

Week 2: July 4 – July 10, 2021

Week 3: July 11 – July 17, 2021

Week 4: July 18 – July 24, 2021

Week 5: July 25 – July 31, 2021

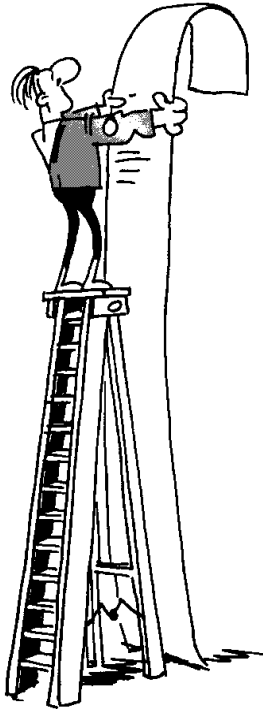
Unit registration opens September 8th. Mark your calendars!

Due to COVID-19, all Goshen camps will be in deposit phase until March 1, 2021. To reserve your unit's spot, you'll need to register and pay for one youth. Spaces for your unit will be reserved based on the number of spots you request during registration. Beginning March 1, units will be able to add and pay for their other youth and adult campers. Provisional scouts – individual Scouts BSA and Venturers (not Webelos) attending without their unit as part of the Provisional Camp program – will also be able to sign up beginning March 1, 2021.

Learn more about Goshen's Webelos camps, Scouts BSA/Venturing camps, Lenhok'sin High Adventure, the Provisional Camp program, and Summer Camp 2021 at [www.gotogoshen.org](http://www.gotogoshen.org)



# District Calendar



**October 2020**

- 8 Commissioner Mtg
- 12 Columbus Day
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 17 **Virtual Webelos-oree**
- 28 District Committee
- 30 Student Holiday

**November 2020**

- 7 **SFF Distribution**
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Mtg
- 14 **SFF Food Pickup**
- 18 District Committee & **Annual District Business Meeting**
- 25-27 Student Holiday
- 30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

**December 2020**

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 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

**May 2021**

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 26 District Committee
- 31 Memorial Day

**June 2021**

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 23 District Committee

**July 2021**

- 4 Fourth of July

**August 2021**

- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Mtg
- 25 District Committee

**September 2021**

- 6 Labor Day
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 22 District Committee