



# Goose Creek District Newsletter



April 2021

Volume 12, Issue 9

## Special Interest:

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### Training

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## Quick Calendar:

- Apr 14 – Roundtable
- Apr 29 – District Court of Honor
- May 12 – Program Launch
- Jun 9 – Roundtable
- Jun 28 – Day Camp

## Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /  
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article  
/Updated  
Information



from BobWhite Blather: <https://bobwhiteblather.com/the-best-way-to-help-dont/>

## The best way to help? Don't

A Scout is Helpful. It's right there in the Scout Law. Number three. A Scout cares about other people. He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting a reward.

Except... when helping someone takes away an opportunity for them to help themselves.

Of course we want to help. But as we know, helping others doesn't mean doing their work for them. You wouldn't "help" your child by doing her homework, would you?

Much of the time, we are tempted to just jump in, grab the wheel and take care of a task ourselves if we feel it's expedient, or we know how to do it better. But by doing so, we take away the opportunity for the other person to experience growth through self-enrichment.

This is true if we serve on a committee, but it's even more important in working with youth who are learning to lead themselves. It's in our nature to want the Scouts to learn the very best way – how to cook a meal, set up a tent or tie a knot – that we'd prefer to impart our years of wisdom. A cringe-worthy moment was when I visited a troop meeting where one of the adults was standing on a table, surrounded by Scouts, as he demonstrated how to tie various knots. The youth were followers, not leaders, and I'm sure there were at least a couple older Scouts who knew how to tie the same knots and who would have welcomed the opportunity to teach.

The point of Scout skill instruction is not mastery of the subject, but rather the personal growth that takes place as one Scout teaches another. Sure, the instruction might not be top-notch, but the learning Scout will learn, and the teaching Scout will learn even more. Doing it for them sends the message that they can't be trusted.

Leadership consultant Dan Rockwell makes the point in his blog post that we can be most helpful, especially with novices, if we create a safety net with them. Not for them – with them. We identify what would make it possible for the new learner to face the challenge, and then we provide that support. Not the answers, but the encouragement and guidance. It's much harder than just telling them or doing it for them, but there's no reward in that.

Adults can sometimes be impatient with this technique, though. They would sometimes just rather have it done for them. Indeed, "just tell me what I need to do now!" is a frequent cry. And a new den leader might be overwhelmed and just wants to know the quickest way from point A to point B. Be patient, guide with appropriate resources, and ask lots of questions.

So before you go charging in with your helpfulness hat on, stop and think about the other person and how to best create an environment in which they can feel like they accomplished something worthwhile.

## District News

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



### Goose Creek Day Camp and Twilight Camp



As 2021 dawns upon us, our Camp Staff is hard at work in the science lab, preparing for this year's camp. (No goop, we promise.) We already have a few campers registered and waiting to get out there and have fun in the sun! This Camp Newsletter will give you the basic information you need to get your family and your unit started in your camp plans, as well as a few new updates and need-to-know data.

#### The Basics

Dates: Monday, June 28 - Friday, July 2, 2021 for Day Camp

Monday, Monday, June 28 - Thursday, July 1 for Twilight Camp

Note: our annual Staff and Den Walker Trainings day and times are tbd.

Location: Loudoun County Fairgrounds, 17558 Dry Mill Rd, Leesburg, VA 20175

Activities: Our schedule is in progress, but you can count on a return of all our shooting ranges, Crafts, Sports, and lots of other goodies! Keep your antennae tuned.

#### What To Do For Now

##### -Prep Your Pack

Spread the word about camp to your families, so they can get in on the fun! It would also be smart to designate a Camp Coordinator for your unit. This person will act as a contact point for families to get ready for camp, and will register the campers. It's much more coordinated, and therefore easier, when one person does all the registration for the pack. That's why we recommend the Camp Coordinator do it.

##### -Prep Your Parents

You can also start dropping some hints to parents about volunteering. It's a pretty darn steep discount for campers whose parents volunteer their week in one of our Program Areas.

Unfortunately, the discount does not apply for Den Walkers, parents who walk with their packs through the week, and a good supply of those parents are needed, too; so spread the word now! It's always a struggle to find enough parents who can sacrifice their time to make camp work, so the sooner you can begin recruiting, the better.

##### -Paperwork, paperwork, paperwork

If you have gone to [gotodaycamp.org](http://gotodaycamp.org), and checked out the registration process, you may have noticed that links to all required paperwork have been posted right there on the registration site. No more searching all around! In that spot, you will also find instructions for what to do with said paperwork. Long story short: give it to your pack's Camp Coordinator.

Contact Shannon Klee at [goosecreekcubcamp@gmail.com](mailto:goosecreekcubcamp@gmail.com) with questions and to receive her newsletter which has lots more information about this.

## District Court of Honor



It's that time of year — time to recognize those amazing Scouters who've made a huge difference in the lives of young people here in Goose Creek District - NCAC. All Goose Creek Packs, Troops, and Crews are invited to the Goose Creek District Annual Court of Honor on Thursday, April 29th, via Zoom. Special recipients include the District Award of Merit, Unit Volunteer of the Year Awards, Eagle Scout Class of 2020, OA Vigil Honorees and the District Key 3 Awardees.

Schedule of events:

7:00pm - 7:30pm - District Committee Meeting

7:30pm - 9:00pm - District Court of Honor

Come meet your District Committee and see how they are working for you, or just log in for the main event. Same Zoom log-in for both. <https://ncacbsa-org.zoom.us/j/91869730908?pwd=UFFDN290RmUyU0FhR0V2Vlh0SGUydz09#success>

In addition to recognizing our adult volunteers, we invite all 2020 Eagle Scouts to please join us in Full Class A Uniform for a special recognition.

The Boy Scouts of America is a volunteer organization which relies on dedicated volunteers. If you haven't yet recognized that special volunteer from your unit as the Unit Volunteer of the Year, you still have time. Please submit:

- Your name
- The Unit Volunteer of the Year's name (one per unit)
- Unit type (Troop, Crew, Pack) and number (e.g. 1154)
- along with a short description of how this leader upholds the ideals of scouting in your unit

Submit this information to [stevewolfson@verizon.net](mailto:stevewolfson@verizon.net)

Please put your unit, number and Unit Volunteer of the Year in the Subject field of the email. (e.g. Troop 43 Unit Volunteer of the Year, or Crew 7070 Unit Volunteer of the Year)

Unit Volunteer of the Year nominations are due April 15, 2021.



## Roundtable



Please join the Goose Creek Roundtable staff at our next Roundtable on April 7 at 7:30 pm. We will share valuable information about what is going on across the district and help units get ready to launch their summer programs and have the best summer ever!

Pre-registration is required using the following link: <https://ncacbsa-org.zoom.us/j/93818504055?pwd=STRENk9YeEJFMW1nYW1qUFNWaytyZz09>

## ★ District Scout Earns 50th Anniversary Environmental Protection Agency Award



My name is Matthew Christman from Troop 1550B in Leesburg, VA which is part of Goose Creek District, National Capital Area Council. I earned the 50th Anniversary Environmental Protection Agency Award on March 6, 2021.

About the award: To commemorate the Environmental Protection Agency's 50th anniversary in 2020, the Boy Scouts of America and the EPA created an award that encourages youth in the Scouts BSA program to learn about and protect the environment. The award is a patch and can only be awarded in 2021.

To earn the award scouts must earn the Public Health merit badge and one merit badge from each of three following groups: Animal Study, Outdoor Activity & Earth Sciences. A scout could have earned the merit badges before the award came out but they must do their conservation service project hours in 2021.

There's a form to fill out with the dates you earned the merit badges and the date you completed your conservation service project. Your Unit Leader signs the and you take this to a scout shop and they will give you your award patch.

I completed a lot of merit badges before the award came out that I could choose from. Here's the ones I submitted with my paperwork.

1: Animal Science group: I chose Animal Science- I earned this merit badge in March 2017 at Frying Pan Park in Herndon, VA

2: Outdoor Activity group: I chose Fly Fishing- I did most of the work for this at a merit badge class at The Virginia Wine and Fly-Fishing Festival. My counselor for this was Pete Adams who's on the BSAs Fishing Committee. I went to Orvis for their Fly Fishing 101 class. I also participated in their Fly Fishing 201 outing and did some fly-fishing

3: Earth Science group: I chose Oceanography- I did this merit badge with Sea Scout Ship 1942 in Alexandria, VA during one of their Sea Scouts Afloat weekends in April 2018.

4: Public Health is a required merit badge that you have to earn to receive this award. I completed this merit badge at the Fairfax County Health Department in January 2018.

For the 6 conservation hours needed for this award: My parents, Jim and Sandra Christman and I met Sara Holtz, who volunteers with Fairfax County Park Authority Invasive Management Area Program at Difficult Run Stream Valley Park on Oakton, VA three different Saturdays to pull Japanese barberry, multi floral rose and wineberry. These are all invasive species that grow and kill off native species. Removing these will help native species start to grow again which will help wildlife return to an area as well.





## New Goose Creek Unit



Please welcome Troop 2012-G to the mix!

This month Troop 2012G held their first official meeting in Aldie Virginia! These girls, and their leaders are excited to get these young ladies involved in the scouting program and they are excited to start their journey in Scouts BSA!.



Helene & Olivia Johnson, Allison Serotkin, Scoutmaster Tiffany Johnson. Via Zoom, Marie Hunter, Claire Moye and Nora Hattabaugh

## Unsubscribing from Goose Creek District Mail Groups



Many Goose Creek District Adult Leaders belong to one or more of our Mail Groups, such as [packs@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:packs@goosecreekdistrict.org), [troops@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:troops@goosecreekdistrict.org), etc. Subscribing to these Mail Groups enables you to receive periodic mailings from the various District communities, including the fabulous District Newsletter. But there may come a time when you no longer wish to receive these messages.

A self-service tool is now available to unsubscribe from the Mail Groups. Simply send an email to (put-mailgroupname-here)+unsubscribe@goosecreekdistrict.org. i.e., [packs+unsubscribe@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:packs+unsubscribe@goosecreekdistrict.org). You will automatically be unsubscribed from the Mail Group and receive a message back stating your unsubscription was successful.

Please note: To subscribe to a Mail Group, you'll still need to send an email to [communications@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:communications@goosecreekdistrict.org) as before. Please specify which Mail Group you wish to join (Packs, Troops, etc.).

You may still send all questions or requests to [communications@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:communications@goosecreekdistrict.org) or [john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org) for a human response to all your Goose Creek District Communications needs!

There is no separate subscription for the monthly Newsletter - it is sent out to all the major Mail Groups. Just subscribe to one of these (packs, troops, etc.) and you will receive it each month.



Pack 1151's Service Project



Pack 1151's Tiger Den of Ashburn, VA participated in a wonderful service project, cleaning up before the Mulch Delivery by Troop 1158 (also of Ashburn). The school recognized their efforts on social media..



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

Any questions, contact Jim Bonfils at [JimBonfils@icloud.com](mailto:JimBonfils@icloud.com)



Of all the Scouts in the average troop, 5% will occupy 95% of the Scoutmaster's time

## “Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail



### New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

**Joshua DiStefano** – Troop 969

**Benjamin Gonzalez** – Troop 997

**Nadeem Jahir** – Troop 1907

**Ian Pender** – Troop 997

**Patrick Noonan** – Troop 572

**Alex Stewerd** – Troop 2012

**Sachi Watson** – Troop 2970

**William Weitzel** – Troop 1159

**Ashley Wintermute** – Troop 2970G



### Other Advancements



Congratulations to Troops:

T711, T761, T997, T998, T1159, T1550, T1907, T2011, T2970B, T2970G on the scouts that have achieved the rank of SCOUT!

Congratulations to our Arrow of Lights from Packs:

39, 905, 910, 950, 956, 958, 961, 962, 965, 997, 1148, 1151, 1154, 1483, 1484, 1666,

We have 25 AoL Scouts to date



### President’s Volunteer Service Award



In 2003, the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation founded the President’s Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) to recognize the important role of volunteers in America’s strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action, too.

The PVSA has continued under each administration, honoring the volunteers who are using their time and talents to solve some of the toughest challenges facing our nation.

Led by the AmeriCorps and managed in partnership with Points of Light, this program allows Certifying Organizations to recognize their most exceptional volunteers.

To learn more about this award, it’s eligibility requirements and award packages, go here: [Presidents Volunteer Service Award](#)

## Revision to Eagle Scout Package Delivery to Council

 The image shows a sample of the Eagle Scout Rank Application form. It is a multi-page document with various sections for personal information, unit details, and signatures. The form is titled "EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION" and includes fields for Scout's Name, District, Unit Type and Number, and Unit Point of Contact (POC) information.

The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Advancement and Recognition Committee (ARC) is revising the process in the Eagle Scout Procedures Guide for providing the Eagle Scout materials to the council following a successful board of review.

Effective immediately, units may implement the following:

### Electronic Submission

- For electronic submission, send an e-mail with the following information to: [ncac\\_eaglecert@scouting.org](mailto:ncac_eaglecert@scouting.org). This is the same address used for ESRA verification, so clearly indicate in the subject line the purpose of the e-mail.
  - Eagle Submission - Scout's Name, District, Unit Type and Number
  - For example: Eagle Submission – Joseph W. Smith, Patuxent, Troop 1111
- In the body of the e-mail, provide the following information for NCAC to notify when credentials (e.g., certificate, award, etc.) are ready for pick-up:
  - Unit Point of Contact (POC) Name
  - Unit POC Phone #
  - Unit POC E-mail
- Attach to the e-mail a single, good quality, scanned file consisting of the following:
  - Completed, signed Eagle Scout Rank Application – both sides
  - NCAC signed local council verification page
  - Scout's Statement of Ambitions and Life Purpose and Listing of Honors and Awards
  - Approved time extension(s) (if applicable)
  - Approved board of review extension (if applicable)
  - Approved request for board of review via videoconference (if applicable)

### Hand-carried Submission

- In a folder, bring the following to the reception desk at NCAC:
  - Completed, signed Eagle Scout Rank Application – both sides
  - NCAC signed local council verification page
  - Scout's Statement of Ambitions and Life Purpose and Listing of Honors and Awards
  - Approved time extension(s) (if applicable)
  - Approved boards of review extension (if applicable)
  - Approved request for board of review via videoconference (if applicable)
- The reception desk will have the submitter complete a card which will be sent to notify the unit once the credentials are received from the BSA at NCAC.

### Notes

- The Unit is responsible (not the Scout) for arranging delivery of the Eagle Scout Package to the NCAC in Bethesda, Maryland, and it is the Eagle Board Chairperson's responsibility to confirm how this will be done and inform the Scout at the conclusion of the Board. Whether submitting electronically or hand-carrying the Eagle Package to NCAC, it is imperative all the material is included otherwise it will not be processed by NCAC staff.
- Completed Project Workbooks are not required
- Letters of reference and blue cards are not required



## Merit Badge Counselors – Registration Status



For years, BSA policy has been that all leaders, including merit badge counselors (MBCs), be registered and that their registration be entered into ScoutNET. To be registered, all MBCs must be current in Youth Protection Training (YPT) and deliver a signed criminal background check authorization (CBC) to their council. In order to further implement these policies, in the fall of 2020, Scoutbook was updated so that MBCs would be imported directly from ScoutNET. At this time, units were no longer able to add MBCs to their unit rosters.

Councils were notified that, as of February 1, 2021, all MBCs must be registered in ScoutNET and that the merit badges that the MBCs counsel must be listed either in ScoutNET or uploaded to Scoutbook by a council administrative person.

Accordingly, on February 1, 2021, the BSA removed any remaining unregistered MBCs from Scoutbook, deleted MBC connections with any Scouts they are counseling, and removed the ability of units to change which merit badges are approved for MBCs. For MBCs that were registered in ScoutNET but had merit badges that were not in ScoutNET, or in the last MBC list uploaded to Scoutbook by the council, those merit badges were removed from their records in Scoutbook.

As a result, as of February 1, the only remaining MBC positions in Scoutbook are those that have come in via ScoutNET (council registration,) AND their approved merit badge listing will also come in via ScoutNET or a council upload. Merit badges and requirements previously approved by removed MBCs will remain. Note: Until the 2021 registration process is completed, this will not affect MBCs whose registration expired on 12/31/2020 and are waiting for council rechartering.

Merit Badge Counselors who need registration help should contact Goose Creek District Merit Badge Dean Rich Pender at [meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org).

## Crowdfunding an Eagle Project

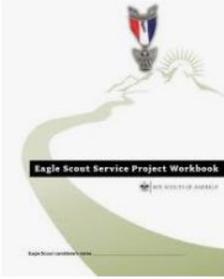


The National Council allows “crowdfunding” for Eagle projects. But those that plan to use it should be aware of the following:

- If the amount to be raised is \$500 or more, then a fundraising application is required by NCAC.
- For some crowdfunding sources, Eagle projects may not comply with their terms of service.
- If a contract is required, it must be signed by someone over 18 years of age.
- The website may take a percentage of the funds raised, so factor that percentage withhold in your calculations of fundraising needs.
- Funds must be raised in the name of the beneficiary, not BSA.

The website must allow excess funds to go to the project beneficiary or the beneficiary’s designee.

## New Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook for 2021



The **Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook** file used by Eagle candidates in preparing for, proposing, planning & reporting on their Eagle Scout Service Project (ESSP) has changed effective 1/1/21. Scouts who have already started completing the prior (2019) version can stay with that file through completion of the project. But any Scouts who have not started using the workbook to propose their Eagle Scout Service Project, must be sure to download and use the 2021 form.

- The Jan 2021 version has been revised to work on both iOS and Windows based platforms, provided the Scout still uses Adobe to open the file

## 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](mailto:rjfm1f99@hotmail.com)

## Council / National News

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



### Camp Snyder is Open for Small Group Camping



Only one patrol sized group per campsite, 12-13 attendees, and no more than 25 members per scout unit can camp at Camp Snyder on a specific weekend. This is in compliance with Executive Order 72 for the State of VA. The goal is that the small group method help to mitigate COVID-19 virus transmission. There will be no formal activities provided during your stay but there is plenty to do at the camp on your own.

For more information and to register for a weekend go to

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-42563>



## 'Hit a Bulls Eye! with Spring Family Camping



Registration is open now for two weekends at Camp Snyder: April 23-25 and May 21-23. Activities will include climbing, woodwork, STEM, shooting sports, handicrafts and more. All activities will be scheduled to provide the safest possible environment for you and your family.

These events will be limited to 150 overnight campers per weekend to avoid crowding. There will be no more than 3 families per unit-sized campsite and with assigned shower houses, which will be disinfected daily per CDC guidelines. Each family and staff member will certify they performed virus temperature and symptoms checks the day of arrival or will be checked by a staff member on arrival. Each family and staff member must wear a mask any time physical distancing cannot be maintained from others. Family groups are also responsible for their own food storage and preparation. Program activities are conducted on a scheduled appointment basis to limit the number of participants and maintain physical distancing during the activity. Activity areas and equipment will be disinfected between each use, with hand sanitizer or soap and water are available at each station for personal hygiene. These procedures were used successfully during the Camp Snyder 2020 Family Camping events. You will find more information in the attached documents at the bottom right of this page.

Cost is \$25 per person. Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-45030>



## Raisy - Digital Savings Membership Supporting Boy Scouts of America



Craving pizza or fine dining? Looking to catch a movie, spend a day at the zoo or planning a vacation? Entertainment® helps you get it for less!

Use the Entertainment Coupon App, or website, to conveniently access 2-for-1 and up-to-50% off discounts. Choose from 1,000s of coupons near you and nationwide, with coverage in 10,000+ cities across the U.S. and Canada!

Every purchase benefits Boy Scouts of America National Capital Area Council.

For more information go to [Raisy](#)

## Michael's Woodshop



Here is a link to [Michael's Woodshop News, Spring 2021](#) which was just posted to the Camp Snyder website. We have several exciting new offerings this spring, including our "Baloo the Builder Workshop" which we expect to become one of our most popular activities. In addition, please see the upcoming Paddle making class being offered by the Aquatics Committee. This is a unique opportunity to learn how to make canoe paddles from an expert. Please act quickly, space is limited.

If you have any questions, or would like to be added or removed from our distribution, please send an email to [MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com](mailto:MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com)



## 'Smart Marketing, Social Media and a Bit of Luck': How this Cub Scout Pack is Growing



The odds were stacked against Pack 173 even before COVID hit.

As a Cub Scout pack on a military base, turnover is extreme. Families stay at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts for one to four years before being assigned to a new location.

"We turn over approximately one-third of our families each year," says Committee Chairman Chris Nichols, whose own family's stops have included Montana, California, Texas and Arizona.

Turnover aside, most of the dads in Pack 173 are incredibly busy and often unable to help with the unit because of long work hours, military work trips and overseas deployments.

"Without our strong mom leaders, we wouldn't function," says Nichols, whose wife, Courtney, is a Webelos den leader.

And yet, even with those hurdles, Pack 173 isn't just surviving the pandemic. It's actually growing. All of Pack 173's dens have at least five Cub Scouts apiece. One den has 10, and another has 15.

So how'd they do it?. Find out in this [Bryan on Scouting article](#).



## Chainsaw Certification



This is an opportunity for experienced chainsaw operators to get certified to use chainsaws at Camp Snyder to help with clearing downed trees. Camp Snyder always has plenty of downed trees in or near campsites, buildings, and roads that just can't wait to be turned into Scout firewood. We could really use your help.

This chainsaw safety session is a chance to get checked out and learn about the safety practices to be followed on National Capital Area Council - Boy Scouts of America camp property. The session is expected to run approximately 2-3 hours. You must be an experienced chain saw operator, and must bring your own equipment (chainsaw, fuel, maintenance items) and safety gear (hard hat, eye protection, hearing protection, gloves, chaps, boots).

To sign up, please email Dan Kurtenbach, [danielkurtenbach@hotmail.com](mailto:danielkurtenbach@hotmail.com), and Ryan Alford (Camp Snyder Ranger) at [ryan.alford@scouting.org](mailto:ryan.alford@scouting.org).

COVID-19 protocols will be in effect: Don't come if you are sick or have recently been exposed to someone with COVID; temperatures will be taken; bring hand sanitizer with you and use it often; maintain social distance; wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth; sanitize any gear used by someone else.

and simplified [SAFE Project Tool Use Guidelines](#).



## Jamboree On The Trail



Jamboree On The Trail (JOTT) is an annual day for the World Scout Movement to hike together. All Scouts, whatever their age and wherever they may be in the world, are invited to participate in whatever way they can. Cubs and younger Scouting sections could visit a local nature trail as part of a weekend camp. A Scout Troop might check out a hiking trail while working on badge requirements. A Venturing Crew might make a Service Project out of restoring or maintaining a hiking trail.

In their own way, everyone will be hiking the same direction: towards a better future through Scouting. JOTT is held on the second Saturday of May each year (that would be May 8, 2021).

Register your Den, Patrol, Unit, District or Council for a traditional in-person group hike or doing a social distanced hike with your family.

<https://jamboreeonthetrail.org/>

### History

JOTT started with a Canadian Scout Troop who hiked part of the Trans Canada Trail in 1997. This led to the idea of a Scout hiking day for all sections and on any trail. Further discussion set the date for the first event as April 25, 1998; late enough that those in the Northern parts were likely to have trails free of snow on which to walk.

Reading list messages about the idea, UK Scouters began to wish that he could take part in this too. It then occurred to them that this needn't be limited to the shores of Canada as there are trails to walk on all over the world. Scouters quickly agreed that this could be a world-wide event.

Now that the event was born, they discussed what to call it. For a while it was going to be World Wide Walk because it had been started through discussions on the World Wide Web. In the end, they decided on Jamboree On The Trail (JOTT).

The inaugural JOTT had over twenty-four thousand participants in seventeen countries around the world. From this beginning, Jamboree On The Trail has grown. JOTT 1999 had thirty thousand participants and JOTT 2000 was bigger still.

Jamboree On The Trail is the only international annual event for every member of the Scouting family; Scouts of all ages and all sorts. It is an ideal opportunity to come together in spirit with Scouts all over the world and to promote the world-wide aspect of this growing Movement.



## High Adventure Base Updates for Summer 2021



- All four National Bases plan to open – fully or partially – for Summer 2021
  - Philmont will announce its status for the summer during the final Philmont Preparedness Seminar on April 15 th (8:30 pm ET).
  - Northern Tier will only operate out of Ely base this summer; with the Canadian border still closed, Atikokan and Bissett will not be available.
- All National Bases have added a \$50 surcharge for COVID-19 related expenses.
- Screening of all participants will include required steps that must be taken before departure and also upon arrival. Rigorous screening of staff will also occur.
  - Because of similarities between COVIDS-19 symptoms and those of altitude sickness, Philmont has issued a Supplemental Risk Advisory requiring anyone who has been hospitalized for Covid-19 since the beginning of the pandemic be cleared by their primary care provider.

Philmont also recommends that participants who had a positive Covid-19 test or Covid-19 illness, regardless of severity, within 6 months of scheduled arrival at Philmont be cleared for high levels of exertion at high elevations by their primary care provider. Additionally, anyone in a high-risk category for COVID-19 should be vaccinated.

- Additional risk mitigation steps being taken at all bases include:
  - Each incoming Crew remains together as a cohort
  - Masks and social distancing are required in basecamp and program areas
  - A new youth leader position is established: Sanitation Chief
  - Adapted food service procedures will be in place at all bases
    - Two outdoor dining pavilions were constructed at Philmont
  - Sea Base participants are required to provide their own mask, fins and snorkel
  - A minimum of one WFA-trained crewmember is required (all bases)
  - Here are links to COVID-19 protocols at the four National Bases:
    - Philmont: [www.philmontscout ranch.org/covid-19-mitigation/](http://www.philmontscout ranch.org/covid-19-mitigation/)
    - Sea Base: [www.bsaseabase.org/about-sea-base/covid-19/](http://www.bsaseabase.org/about-sea-base/covid-19/)
    - Northern Tier: [www.ntier.org/Covid-19/](http://www.ntier.org/Covid-19/)
    - Summit: [www.summitbsa.org/newnormal/](http://www.summitbsa.org/newnormal/)

Obtain answers to your High Adventure questions by contacting John Blackwell, NCAC High Adventure Committee Chair at:

[john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org](mailto:john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org) or (301) 346-0551



## Use These Two Newly Updated Tools Prior to Conducting Service Projects



Prior to any service projects, use the [SAFE Service Project Planning Checklist](#) and the [SAFE project tool use guidelines](#).

## What are Scouts Seeing on your Facebook Page?



From Bryan on Scouting, <http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/04/16/what-to-do-when-your-scouting-and-personal-worlds-collide-online/>

Your boss views your tailgating photos on Instagram, your Facebook friends see you complaining about your job or your Scouts read your tweets in favor of a politician.

You've just encountered context collapse. That's the phrase for something intended for a specific audience that becomes seen by a much wider, unintended audience.

It happens in the real world, like if you run into a coworker, Scout or Scouter at church or a political rally. But it happens even more frequently online, where we can instantly share sometimes-controversial views with a few simple taps on the keyboard.

Eagle Scout Mark Ray, skilled author and regular contributor to both *Scouting* and *Eagles' Call* magazines, writes on his blog about this phenomenon:

*Thanks to context collapse, your boss can see your vacation photos, your friends can see what you're saying about work, and — most importantly for our purposes — your Scouts can see what you're liking on Facebook, whether that's Lolcats, a political cause or your favorite microbrewery.*

We know that more than two-thirds (71 percent, to be exact) of online adults use Facebook, meaning chances are good you're dealing with context collapse even if you don't know it. So it's a good idea to take a second to think about your online existence and who in your life sees what. That's especially relevant when Scouts are involved.

Mark shares three strategies for dealing with context collapse and making sure you don't reveal more about yourself than you're comfortable sharing. Ranging from the most extreme to the simplest, they are:

### **1: Keep Scouting contacts out of your social networks altogether.**

This is the most radical approach and would mean not communicating with Scouts and Scouters at all online.

Though I wouldn't recommend this isolationist approach, social networking certainly is not mandatory in Scouting, and this would prevent context collapse.

### **2: Create separate social media accounts for Scouting.**

I've seen several Scouters use this strategy. They have one Facebook or Twitter account for their Scouting life and another for their personal life.

Only friending non-Scouts/Scouters on Facebook and making your Twitter profile private would facilitate this approach.

### **3: Adopt a lowest-common-denominator approach where everything you post online is safe for all audiences.**

This is the strategy Mark uses. "You'll never see me post anything online that wouldn't be appropriate for the youngest Scout to read, and if you want to know about my political leanings or adult-beverage preferences, you'll have to ask," he writes.

## Training Opportunities

### Wood Badge



Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. It is a fun, energetic, and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth is getting everything they are promised from the program.

Reflecting the best of nearly a century of Scouting experience, Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles and successful organizations throughout the country. Participants can expect to develop skills in many areas, including leadership theory, team building, problem-solving, communication, project planning and more. These skills can be taken back to packs, troops, crews and ships to help leaders guide youth in dynamic Scouting programs. Scouters will find these skills invaluable in their business and personal lives as well.

Wood Badge consists of two parts:

- The first five full days is the initial group training, usually held over two weekends – the first weekend Friday through Sunday, and the second Saturday and Sunday.
- The second part requires participants to apply the skills they learned by completing a 5-part plan (called a “ticket”) over the following 18 months, leading towards the individual participant's vision of a better Scouting future.

Requirements for attending Wood Badge:

1. Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
2. Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
3. Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Parts A, B, and C are required which includes a physical. Part C is required for everyone, including people who are not present for more than 72 hours.

A minimum (non-refundable) deposit is due with registration, and then full payment is due 45 days before the start of the course. Each Wood Badge course is limited to 48 participants. Per national guidelines, any course not having 30 fully paid participants 30 days prior to the start of the course is subject to cancellation.

QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact the Course Director listed on the [registration page](#).

## National Youth Leadership Training



National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is an exciting 6-day program designed for youth to learn leadership skills that will help them succeed in Scouting and in life!

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Scouts who have completed their unit's introduction to leadership course, have been practicing these skills, and are ready for the next level of training should attend NYLT once they meet all Eligibility Requirements.

### NYLT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Scouts must:

- Complete their home Unit's Introduction to Leadership Skills course\*
- Receive approval from your Scoutmaster or Unit leader
- Be at least 13 years of age by course start date
- Earn First Class rank, if registered in a Troop
- Have current BSA Health Form (Parts A, B, and C)
- Be comfortable camping and cooking outdoors
- Commit to attending the entire six-day course

\* Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Crews (ILSC), and Ships (ILSS) should be offered through a Scout's home unit. Ask your Unit Leader how you can participate in this course.

### WHAT NYLT IS (AND IS NOT)

NYLT is not like summer camp and is not designed for rank advancement or earning merit badges. NYLT is an intense and challenging hands-on leadership training program. It is essential that NYLT participants be physically, emotionally, and mentally prepared to handle the demands of this advanced training. In order to get the most benefit from this unique experience, participants must exhibit emotional maturity, a positive attitude, proficiency in basic camping and outdoor cooking, and have an ambition to serve in leadership roles.

Behavior at NYLT: Participants agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Law.

### QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact the Course Director listed on the [registration page](#). General inquiries about the NYLT program may be directed to [contact@myNYLT.org](mailto:contact@myNYLT.org).

You can follow NCAC NYLT Youth Training online on Facebook [facebook.com/myNYLT](https://facebook.com/myNYLT)

NYLT Resources:

- [NYLT General Packing List](#)
- [NYLT Scholarship](#)
- [Youth Staffing Application](#)

## Winter WFA Courses at Camp Snyder



Get Wilderness First Aid Certified with the NCAC's own Outdoor Preparedness Initiative (OPI)! Be prepared for a BSA national or local high adventure, your own trip, or just outdoor adventure in general.

OPI's winter WFA course dates have been set. Check out the dates and register on [www.ncacbsa.org/opi-wfa](http://www.ncacbsa.org/opi-wfa).

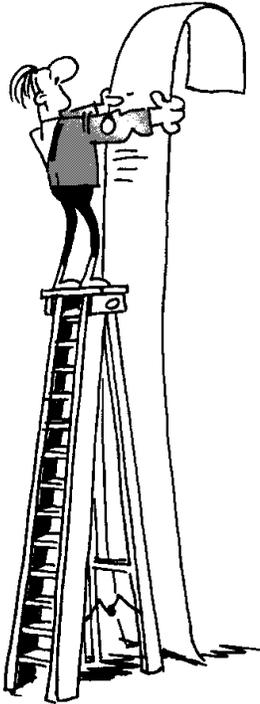
OPI provides certification from the American Red Cross and offers courses at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, VA. The training is for adults and youth, ages 14 and up.

Make sure to sign up soon, since course sizes are strictly limited due to COVID-19!



**“Anybody wanna cross the street?”**

# District Calendar



## April 2021

- 12 School Holiday
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Commissioner Mtg
- 29 **District Court of Honor**

## May 2021

- 12 **Program Launch**
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 27 District Committee
- 31 Memorial Day

## June 2021

- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 24 District Committee
- 28 **Day Camp Starts**

## July 2021

- 4 Fourth of July

## August 2021

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

## September 2021

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

## October 2021

- 11 Columbus Day
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 OA Chapter Meeting
- 14 Commissioner Mtg
- 28 District Committee

## November 2021

- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Mtg
- 18 District Committee & **Annual District Business Meeting**
- 30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

## December 2021

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 16 District Committee

## January 2022

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 17 MLK Jr. Day
- 27 District Committee

## February 2022

- 4 Scout Jumuah
- 5 Scout Sabbath
- 6 Scout Sunday
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 21 President's Day
- 24 District Committee

## March 2022

- 5 **District Pinewood Derby**
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 24 District Committee