



Goose Creek District Newsletter



September 2021

Volume 13, Issue 2

Special Interest:

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Advancement

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Council/National

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Training

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Quick Calendar:

- Sep 8 – Roundtable
- Oct 2-3 – Webelos-o-ree
- Oct 13 – Roundtable
- Nov 10 – Roundtable
- Nov 18 – Annual Business Meeting
- Nov 30 – Final Date for Recharter Turn-In

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout / Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article / Updated Information



reprinted from www.ScoutmasterCG.com, May 30, 2013

...the business of the Scouter — and a very interesting one it is — is to draw out each boy and find out what is in him, and then to catch hold of the good and develop it to the exclusion of the bad. There is five per cent of good even in the worst character. The sport is to find it, and then to develop it on to an 80 or 90 per cent basis.

Baden-Powell

The Greek god Mentor was charged with the care of Odysseus' son Telemachus when Odysseus left for the Trojan War. Mentor's name has become identified with those who, more or less informally, share practical advice, wisdom, and knowledge with less experienced colleagues.

Mentors can be teachers, instructors or coaches but their role is distinct from teaching or coaching.

Mentors inspire sparks of interest into a fire of concentration and development that leads people to believe in themselves, to achieve the improbable or impossible. They concentrate on the talents and possibilities evident in those they mentor, working to help them push us past perceived limitations, self-doubt and realize our full potential.

Mentors have great faith in us when others may not, they are there when we falter, not to pick us up, but to show us how to pick ourselves up and keep on going.

Mentoring well is, as Baden-Powell said above, a 'sport' and an 'interesting business.' Words are the tools Mentors use to convey encouragement, instruction and real faith in the individual. Mentors are not busybodies or micro-managers; they don't suffocate their subjects. Mentors are not glorified cheerleaders; they maintain critical objectivity and tell you things only someone with an honest interest in your welfare can.

Mentoring Scouts can be aimed directly at building character, but shouldn't devolve into lecturing. As B.P. said above, our job is not a direct attack on the bad, but a strengthening of the good.

Mentoring Scouts is a continuous process for Scouters. Mentoring relationships may be casual or formal (the Scoutmaster, for example, is formally charged with mentoring the youth leadership) but they ought to be coordinated so Scouts aren't getting conflicting advice from several sources at once.

Mentoring Scouts is not doing things for them, it's clearing the way, inspiring and enabling them to do things for themselves.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



Webelos-o-ree 2021, Oct 2-3, Camp Snyder



The Webelos-o-ree is an overnight camping event designed to introduce Webelos Scouts and their parents to the Scouts BSA program. The weekend is filled with fun and skills and we will have troops hosting a bunch of stations that the Webelos can experience in any order they choose. These stations include

- Flag raising & lowering
- BB Guns
- First Aid
- Dutch Oven Cooking
- Fire Building
- Knots & Lashings
- Wilderness Survival
- and more!

The campfire is always a hit (any Webelos trying to finish their Showmanship badge?) and will include a special ceremony performed by the Order of the Arrow.

Importantly, the event will include an orientation session for parents of second year Webelos outlining the significant differences between Cub Scouting and Scouts BSA. This session is consistently rated high on the list of "most appreciated" events at WoR and you will not want to miss it.

Participation in the Webelos-o-ree is open to all Webelos Scouts (including those working on Arrow of Light). Register and pay online at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/082-48017>

Registration by pack/den is encouraged, although individual registrations will be accepted. All registrations made in advance by September 20 will receive Early-Bird pricing of \$5 OFF for each category. After this date, Regular pricing goes into effect, raising all fees by \$5 per person.

A commemorative Goose Creek District Webelos-o-ree patch will be distributed to the first 100 participants to register for this event.

All Scouts in a pack will be assigned to the same campsite, regardless of the way they are registered or when they register.

Here are the fee options for the weekend:

- Rate A – Camping overnight. The cost is \$35 (\$30 if Early-Bird) per person and includes dinner Saturday evening and breakfast Sunday.
- Rate B – Staying through campfire. The cost is \$30 (\$25 if Early-Bird) per person and includes dinner Saturday evening.
- Rate C – Visiting for the day. The cost is \$25 (\$20 if Early-Bird) per Webelos to cover the event fee. Adults are free in this category.

Den Chiefs attend this event free of charge (Note: Den Chiefs are Scouts who work with the den, not the adult leader).

For additional information, download the Leader Guide found under Attachments on the registration site.

A collection of other Webelos to Scout Transition resources are also attached.

“Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek’s newest Eagles:

Aaron Babu – Troop 969

Stephen Economou – Troop 572

Nathan Kidder – Troop 2011

Nicholas Ravaris – Troop 1550

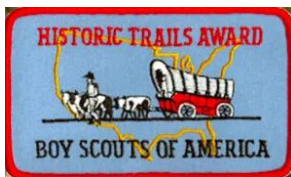
John Rigoli – Troop 572

Daniel Robinson – Troop 998

Venkata Yellapragada – Troop 761

To date, Goose Creek District has had 46 Eagles for 2021.

★ Step Back in Time to Experience A BSA Historic Trail Near You and Earn an Award



On certain special hiking routes across the country, Scouts can look back even as they move forward.

That’s the promise of the [BSA Historic Trails](#), a collection of nearly 300 hiking paths from 38 states, nine foreign countries and the District of Columbia designed to help young people connect with history in an immersive way.

You’ll find Historic Trails all over the United States — from the Iditarod Historic Trail in Alaska to the Barefoot Mailman Hike in South Florida. The list includes the Gettysburg Heritage Trails in Pennsylvania, the President Gerald R. Ford Trail in Michigan and the Mission Historic Trail in San Antonio.

Some of these trails follow the original journey or route taken by an important individual or expedition in history. Others connect several specific locations of particular historical significance.

“Experiencing the unique history of the areas we explore outside adds a deeper appreciation to adventures that Scouting provides and allows Scouts to learn the history that is right outside their doors,” says Andrea Watson, the BSA’s director of outdoor programs and properties. “We are so blessed to have so many well-preserved historic places to explore.”

All the trails on the official list:

- meet the BSA’s safety guidelines
- have genuine historic significance and/or wilderness beauty
- have elements that will appeal to young people, including something that can be seen, felt, walked through or experienced

Many of these trails are maintained by the local Scout councils in which they reside. If your council is on the official list, that’s a good place to start. Other trails are administered by non-Scouting public or private groups.

Hiking or camping near one of these trails is its own reward. But if it’s more tangible recognition you’re after, you’re going to want to earn the Historic Trails Award.



Key Changes in the 2021 Guide to Advancement



1. Online Scoutmaster conferences are OK but not preferred

Section 4.2.3.5 says that Scoutmaster conferences are “meant to be face-to-face, personal and individual experiences. Though virtual conferences should be allowed, they should only be held when circumstances preclude a more personal approach.”

2. The definition of a ‘month’ gets clarified

The 2021 Guide states that, “a month is a month regardless how many days it has. It is not defined as 30 days or four weeks. Feb. 2 up to Aug. 2, or Aug. 31 up to Feb. 28 (or 29 if a leap year) are examples of six-month periods. Six months does not mean 180 days.”

3. Alternatives to merit badge ‘blue cards’ allowed

Blue cards aren’t going anywhere, but the latest Guide (section 7.0.0.2) encourages councils and units to use other innovations — such as Scoutbook or computer-generated spreadsheets — to track advancement, if they wish.

4. More guidance given on what to do when merit badge requirements change

Once new or revised requirements are made to a merit badge, any Scout beginning work on that merit badge must use the new requirements.

If a Scout has already begun work on a merit badge before the update, they may continue using the previous requirements.

5. Eagle Scout boards of review can occur up to 24 months after the 18th birthday

6. Venturing, Discovery, Pathfinder and Summit are now ranks, not awards

This change brings Venturing in line with Scouts BSA, where Eagle Scout is the highest rank, and Sea Scouts, where the highest rank is Quartermaster.

7. Venturing board of review decisions must be unanimous

8. Sea Scout ‘bridge of review’ now called ‘board of review’

Sea Scouts, like Scouts BSA members and Venturers, participate in a sit-down conversation with three to six adults to discuss their progress and goals in the program. Courts of honor in Sea Scouts are still called “bridges of honor.”

9. Process for Eagle Scout time extensions modified

The 2021 Guide simplifies and clarifies section 9.0.4.0, which outlines the “tests” that a Scout must meet to qualify for an extension that allows them to earn the Eagle Scout rank up to six months after turning 18.

10. Guidance for Cub Scouts who are home-schooled or educated in nontraditional ways

Section 4.1.1.0 of the 2021 Guide to Advancement adds a paragraph about Cub Scouts who are home-schooled or educated in nontraditional means.

11. Index revamped

The 2021 Guide to Advancement significantly revamps the index, expanding it to six pages from four and making it easier to quickly locate the information you need.



Life-to-Eagle Seminar



After an unintended hiatus of more than 18 months, the Life-to-Eagle Seminar returned last month (Aug 21) and we had a great turnout. It's too early to reserve the room at one of the libraries yet, but please keep an eye out for the announcement.

The **next** L2E Seminar for 2021 is planned for ...

Date: mid/late November (13?, 14?, 20?, 21?)

Time: TBD, but usually 10:30-2:30

Place: TBD Library

While primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level, these trainings, 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.

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.

Any questions about Life-to-Eagle training can be directed to Brad Scales ... MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com; or 703-850-6679.



2021 Woodwork Merit Badge Shop Sessions



Who: This course is open to all registered Scout Youth. Scouts must have completed the Woodwork Merit Badge Classroom Session before attending this session.

Be Prepared: Scouts need to determine which project requirement(s) they will work on and bring the necessary project plans and materials with them to the session. Project plans may be formal drawings or hand sketches. For additional preparation details, please review our [Preparation Notes document](#).

Questions: If you have any questions about project requirements please send us an email MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com. Youth must copy a parent on all email communications.

Where: Michael's Woodshop, Camp Snyder (Haymarket, VA). Please see the Camp Map for the location of the Michael's Woodshop at Camp Snyder.

Cost: \$10

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-39948>

NOTE: To reduce the number of attendees in the wood shop, we are running these events with one volunteer Shop Steward. Therefore, we require a parent to attend the shop sessions with their Scout.

Merit Badge Counselors!!!



Merit Badge Counselor List

In early July, BSA purged the Merit Badge Counselor status of all MBCs with expired YPT credentials. They're no longer listed on the District roster, and no longer have the ability to approve requirements or badges in Scoutbook. The process to re-establish those credentials is relatively simple, but **REQUIRES** that YPT status is current - as we all know, it must be renewed every two years.

Once your YPT is up-to-date, please contact Rich Pender at MeritBadgeDean@GooseCreekDistrict.org for info on resubmitting a MBC application.

Quizlet: Great Boy Scout Oath and Law Test



Quizlet (<http://quizlet.com>) is a free website providing learning tools for students, including flashcards, study and game modes. All of the material is user-generated. It also has a free app available for iPhone, iPad and Android devices.

A "study set" is pretty much a list of terms and definitions. You can create your own or search for a set that someone else has created.

But here's where it can be very helpful for our Webelos who are working on their Arrow of Light. They can study the requirements to become a Boy Scout using Quizlet! Learning the Boy Scout Oath and Law is so much easier when it's a game. You can make your own set or use one that someone has created.

Here are some that you might like:

- [Boy Scout Law](#)
- [First Class Scout Badge Parts](#)
- [Boy Scout Oath and Law, Motto, Slogan, Outdoor Code & Cub Scout Promise](#)



Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

BSA Membership Fee to Change Beginning Aug. 1, 2021



The Boy Scouts of America has worked to keep the annual membership fee as low as possible, but with rising operating costs, the fee will be increased to maintain the program.

Starting Aug. 1, the membership fee for Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants will be \$72, a \$6 increase from the \$66 fee enacted last August. The fee for Exploring participants will be \$45, up from \$42.

The one-time \$25 joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting will still be required. There is no joining fee for Exploring, participants previously registered in any BSA program, those transferring from one program to another, council-paid memberships or adult volunteers.

Fees for all adult volunteers will be \$45, also up from \$42. That includes the cost of a background check. Council-paid memberships will remain at \$30 and the unit charter fee will stay at \$75.



CLIMB NCAC!



Enjoy the adventure of outdoor climbing on real rock. For \$50 per unit per day, eight participants per session can climb fully equipped under the supervision of at least two council-trained instructors.

Leaders may schedule two sessions in a day. Roped climbing on natural rock is age-appropriate for Scouts BSA, Sea Scouts, and Venturers. Webelos may rappel.

Climb at Great Falls, Carderock, Sugarloaf Mountain, Annapolis Rock and many other local favorites. Complete requirements for the Climbing and Camping merit badges and the Ranger Mountaineering elective.

This program is available fall, winter and spring, from after Labor Day until Memorial Day. Contact the Climbing Committee at NCAC.Climbing@gmail.com for [details](#)

Become a climbing mentor for your unit and help Scouts climb on nearby natural rock. The NCAC Climbing Committee will offer September 2021 Climbing Level I Instructor training on Saturday, 9/25 and Sunday, 9/26 at the Devil's Kitchen climbing area on Maryland's Sugarloaf Mountain. We will meet each day at 8:15 am near the East View Parking Area and conclude by 6:00 pm. Details are available in our [logistics memo](#). Contact the Course Director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com to register for the event.

★ **Make Sure New Families in Your Pack Have This Info as Soon as They Join**



The data is in! New Scout families want to feel welcome and a sense of belonging in their new unit. And when they do, these Scouts will stay in Scouting programs for a long time.

So what does this mean for Cub Scout leaders? Of course, being welcoming and kind to newcomers is at Scouting's core. But there is one tool you can start using right now to get families the info they need to feel welcomed right off the bat.

Check out the new "[Welcome to Cub Scouts one-pager](#)" and fill in the blanks for your unit. Then, make handing, mailing, emailing or texting this info sheet to new parents part of your welcoming process.

Don't overthink it. The most important information to impart to a new family is how to make it to their first Cub Scout meeting. A family needs the time, date, and place of the meeting as part of the "onboarding" journey.

Onboarding means getting new Scouts and parents looped in with what's going on in your unit and demonstrating the welcoming atmosphere of Cub Scouts. If someone doesn't come from a Scouting background, they may not know the difference between a "den" and a "pack." They likely have no idea how often Scouts meet. And they certainly don't know when and where your unit meets.

That's why it's critical to give new families this info as soon as possible, as simply as possible. Then, parents and kids have a foundational understanding of how Cub Scouts is structured and you can ensure they make it to that first, crucial meeting.

★ **2021 Woodworking 101**



Woodworking 101 is an instructional class to teach beginners basic woodworking terminology, tools and techniques.

What: This class introduces Scouts and adults to woodworking; taking them through the entire process from lumber making to a completed project. It is a great course for Scouts interested in earning the Woodwork Merit Badge or preparing for their Eagle Scout project or for anyone who would like to learn basic woodworking skills. Please review the Class Syllabus for additional details about the class.

Who: This course is open to all registered Scout youth and adults. Youth younger than 11 require instructor approval prior to registration. Please email inquiries to MichaelsWoodshop.CWBS@gmail.com

When: See the list of classes at the website. .

Where: Michael's Woodshop at Camp William B. Snyder. Please see the Camp Map for the location of the shop at Camp Snyder.

Cost: \$5

★ Zia Experience Makes High Adventure More Accessible to All Scouts, Families



For decades, Scouts with special needs have attended Philmont Scout Ranch, enjoying adventures at the BSA base in New Mexico. However, not every activity has been accessible to every Scout.

The BSA is working on changing that via the Zia Experience.

Under the Family Adventure Camp program, the Zia Experience provides an adaptive high-adventure course, designed to help Scouts with special needs enjoy all of the activities their peers do. Last month, Philmont hosted a trial week-long course for five families from across the country. Using adaptive equipment, the Scouts got to go hiking, shooting, horseback riding and try out the C.O.P.E. course.

After the week was over, the Scouts didn't want to leave. It was a hit.

How to adapt

The Zia program, named after the indigenous people whose symbol is emblazoned on the New Mexico state flag, started as an idea two years ago. Scouts with special needs have attended high-adventure bases with their units. Some families elect not to send their Scouts on such adventures, knowing the accommodations their Scouts require.

So, how do you make these life-changing adventures more inclusive?

Since the launch of *Family Adventure Camp* in 2018, families have been able to experience Philmont together. If a parent or caretaker of a Scout with special needs wants a high-adventure experience tailored to their youth, then Family Adventure Camp could be the ideal place.

Zia Experience organizers and Philmont staff members worked together to see what adaptations would be needed for the small visiting group. For example, a Scout in a wheelchair would need a rugged personal vehicle to traverse the trails.

With those accommodations in place, Scouts and their families came to Philmont. The course ran the same time as the Adaptive Special Needs Conference at the Philmont Training Center. Scouters attending the conference came over to see the Zia Experience in action as well as to help out. More volunteers meant parents and caretakers could relax and savor seeing their kids have the time of their lives.

Future plans

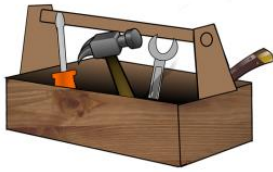
The Sea Base in Florida is set to host a similar program, called the Keys Experience, next March at Camp Sawyer. Another session at Philmont is in the works for next summer. After this recent trial course, staff members realized they can accommodate more families for future courses.

For more Family Adventure Camp offerings at Philmont, Sea Base and the Summit Bechtel Reserve, [click here](#).

For more information on working with Scouts with Special Needs and Disabilities, contact Goose Creek's POC for Special Needs Scouting, at blackndecker@gmail.com



Introducing the Inclusion Toolbox



The ***Inclusion Toolbox for Special Needs and Disabilities*** is a printable website that keeps special needs and disability information accessible 24/7/365 for the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) community, including Scouts BSA. The Toolbox will replace the printed and PDF Scouting for Youth with Disabilities Manual from 2007. The first two modules are now available:

A: ***Introduction***

B: ***Basics of Scouting From a Special Needs Perspective***

Future modules will provide guidance for advancement, aquatics, and other program topics. There will also be modules to introduce the different disabilities and special needs a unit leader might encounter.

The Toolbox does not read like a novel or textbook. It is designed to allow you to jump to the topics of greatest interest and then read other sections later. Use the Tools menu on the AbleScouts site to find the Toolbox and list its modules. Each module contains a Table of Contents outlining its material. You may also use the web site's search feature to jump to what you need.



Questions from a New Den Leader



If your Cub Scout pack is typical, you'll not only be recruiting Scouts this fall – you'll also be recruiting adult leaders. Den Leaders are the ones that packs usually need the most, and they're the most important because they deliver the program.

Your prospective den leaders will undoubtedly be full of questions, since many will come to you with either no Scouting background or perhaps have experienced Scouting as a youth member many years ago. If so, direct them to these Bobwhite Blather articles:

- <https://bobwhiteblather.com/questions-from-a-new-den-leader/>
- <https://bobwhiteblather.com/more-ideas-for-den-meeting-planning/>



Advice on Recruiting Cub Scouting Volunteers



It's a common sight at join-Scouting nights: Parents of new Cub Scouts sit around a table waiting for someone to blink. Perhaps it's the dad who acknowledges being an Eagle Scout. Perhaps it's the mom who starts filling out the den roster she finds on the table. Whoever blinks first ends up as den leader, while the rest of the parents breathe a sigh of relief.

The pack committee chairman and Cubmaster may breathe a sigh of relief as well; glad to be done with an unpleasant task that comes around only once a year.

Other leaders take a different approach, recognizing that recruiting leaders is a year-round process and that effective recruiting will ensure their pack's health not just for the current program year but for many years to come.

To see the rest of this article go to:

<http://scoutingmagazine.org/2014/10/advice-recruiting-cub-scouting-volunteers/>

Use This New Recruitment Kit to Help Spread the Word About Scouting

KIT RECRUITMENT



After last year, many families are looking to get out of the house. What better way for them to do that than through Scouting, the worldwide movement that has introduced young people to adventure, character development, and leadership skills for more than a century?

You can help families escape the indoors by showing them the benefits and fun found in the Boy Scouts of America. To help your fall recruitment efforts, check out this **new recruitment kit**, including marketing materials and social media tools.

This online kit contains email templates, fliers, photos, peer-to-peer cards, postcards, posters, radio spots, social media graphics, brochures and videos. Materials are available in English and Spanish.

The social media tools feature guides and a calendar to help you plan and organize a social media campaign for your unit or council. If you struggle with scheduling, the calendar lays out which days to post certain messages, such as calls to action and events. The guide provides sample text to aid in your messaging.

The recruitment kit also has graphics to promote uniforming, including a checklist for insignia and uniforms as well as Scout Shop deals.

Additionally, you can find **registration links** to upcoming webinars that will offer tips for recruiting new leaders and welcoming families into Scouting.

The recruitment kit was created to simplify and streamline your efforts so you can spend less time on recreating the wheel and more time going on adventures with your Scouts.

The **Scout Life mini-mag** can also help you with fall Cub Scout recruitment. This miniature version of Scout Life magazine contains all the information families need to know about joining Cub Scouts; information about subscribing to Scout Life, and great for parents and kids to read. You can read more about the 2021-22 mini-mag [here](#).

For more tips, watch **Cub Chat Live**, the BSA's official weekly Cub Scout-focused Facebook livestream, which features expert guests and insiders who share their experiences, advice and the occasional behind-the-scenes look at the Cub Scout program. You can watch past episodes about recruiting [here](#).

BSA High Adventure Bases - Find Your Adventure Website Now Open!



BSA recently launched **Open4Adventure** (scouting.org/outdooradventures/open4adventure), a consolidated High Adventure portal where detailed information on all four National High Adventure bases is available for you to explore and Find Your Adventure. Booking your unit's ultimate Scouting experience is immediately available. There are still some openings for 2022 Adventures, so check Open4Adventure out soon!

Get answers to your High Adventure questions! Contact john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org or 301-346-0551.



Michael's Woodshop



Here is a link to [Michael's Woodshop News, Fall 2021](#) which was just posted to the Camp Snyder website. We have several exciting new offerings, 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.

Eagle Scout Scholarships



Every year, the National Eagle Scout Association bestows scholarships upon Eagle Scouts pursuing higher education. These scholarships are made possible by generous donors and NESA members that help the alumni organization to continue developing young adults beyond their traditional Scouting experience.

To find out more on how to join NESA, [click here](#).

Some scholarships are part of the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year awards. You can read about recent regional and national winners [here](#).

Other scholarships Eagle Scouts who meet certain eligibility requirements can apply for include:

Lawrence S. and Mabel Cooke Scholarship

One scholarship of up to \$48,000 (up to \$12,000 per year for four years) and four \$25,000 scholarships (up to \$6,250 a year for four years) awarded annually to an Eagle Scout who has shown academic performance, financial need and active participation in school and Scouting activities. Established by Lawrence S. Cooke in memory of his late wife, Mabel Cooke.

National Eagle Scout Association Scholarship

\$5,000 scholarships awarded on a regional basis to Eagle Scouts who have shown active participation in school, Scouting activities and community service.

Hall/McElwain Scholarship

\$5,000 scholarships awarded on a regional basis to Eagle Scouts who have shown active participation in school, Scouting activities and community service.

Palmer Scholarship

Three \$2,500 scholarships awarded to Eagle Scouts who have shown active participation in school, Scouting activities and community service.

The application window for scholarships this year will open in December. At that time, check the [scholarship page of the National Eagle Scout Association website](#) to find applications. Another scholarship page to bookmark is [this one](#), which includes scholarships for Scouts, Sea Scouts and Venturers from Scouting committees, universities and high-adventure bases.

Cub Chat Live



Watch [Cub Chat Live](#) every Friday at 3pm EST on Facebook Live for tips, tricks and ideas to help your den or pack

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](#).



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)



Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS) is an optional course offered to adult leaders who have completed the required training in their Scouting program. This course assists Scouters working with youth in the backcountry by providing the skills necessary to conduct a safe and risk-managed high adventure program in venues outside those supported by BSA infrastructure.

BCOLS has three key goals:

- Provide adult leaders with an understanding of safety and risk management issues in the back country environment.
- Expose adult leaders to interpersonal, small group dynamics, and leadership models consistent with National syllabi and curricula.
- Familiarize adult leaders with the planning processes, skills, and equipment necessary to a successful back country adventure.

BCOLS consists of two parts:

- One day-long classroom session (Saturday September 25, 2021 at Heritage Presbyterian Church 8503 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308)
 - Working Together — covers needs and characteristics of the age group; discusses group dynamics and the interpersonal skills needed to build and maintain a high-performance team.
 - Trek Planning and Preparation — covers the detailed preparation and planning that is necessary for a successful Trek and includes risk management, Leave No Trace principles, and discussion and displays of the personal and crew equipment used for Trekking, as well as other Trek tools.
- Two-day weekend outdoor session (Saturday October 23 thru Sunday October 24, 2021 at Camp Big Mac 12647 Moss Hollow Road Markham, VA 22643) provides a mix of skill presentations and hands-on practice. Activities include Leave No Trace camping skills, problem solving through initiative games, the use of bear bags/canisters, equipment maintenance, stove maintenance, water treatment, menu planning and trail cooking (and clean-up), terrain awareness, health and safety and personal hygiene issues, hands-on land navigation, and trail meditations.

Requirements for attending BCOLS:

- Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
- Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
- 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.

Both Session Must be Attended to get credit for the Course.

Cost is \$65. Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-47562>

QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact Course Coordinator, Dominick Caridi at dscscouting@aol.com .



Leave No Trace Trainer Course - Outdoor Ethics



Participants in the Trainer Course learn Leave No Trace skills and ethics as well as techniques for educating others about these low impact practices. Research has shown that this course significantly improves participant knowledge and understanding of how Leave No Trace protects the outdoor places we love. The goal of this course is to teach students taking the course how to introduce the concept of Outdoor Ethics in a fun and engaging way to a group with little experience in outdoor ethics. It should help youth and adults at all program levels understand the general principles behind Scouting's outdoor ethics program. Graduates of a Trainer Course are prepared to lead Outdoor Ethics Orientation and BSA Leave No Trace 101 courses and to offer Leave No Trace Awareness Workshops to their community.

We recommend that youth complete this course before serving as in the troop Outdoor Ethics Guide position.

Who should attend?

This course will be of interest to any youth or registered Scouter who is associated with either implementing or training for any BSA outdoor program at any level. It is also well-suited for anyone who would like to pass on the knowledge of how to treat the outdoors and protect its beauty for others to enjoy. Youth must be at least 14 years old. Youth must be willing and able to conduct themselves appropriately for an adult training experience that is tightly scheduled and highly interactive.

Course Structure

This course will take place in three parts.

The first part of the course is offered using a combination of online self-study modules. This portion of the course will begin about 10 days before the final outdoor portion of the course and will take approximately 6 hours to complete.

The second part of the course is a one-hour online Zoom meeting held the Monday before the Saturday outdoor portion of the course.

The final part of the course is an all-day outdoor session on a Saturday.

Key Dates

- For the September class, <https://scoutingevent.com/082-49967>, registration closes September 3.

Student self-study Tuesday, September 7 through Thursday, September 16

Zoom meeting Monday, September 13, 7:00pm to 8:00pm EST

Outdoor session Saturday, September 18, 9:00am to 7:00pm EST (IWLA Rockville Chapter, 18301 Waring Station Rd, Germantown, MD 20874)

- For the October class, <https://scoutingevent.com/082-49967>, registration closes October 5

Student self-study Tuesday, October 5 through Thursday, October 14

Zoom meeting Monday, October 11, 7:00pm to 8:00pm EST

Outdoor session Saturday, October 15, 9:00am to 7:00pm EST (Camp Snyder)

Cost - This course will cost \$50.00 per participant (same price for both youth and adults).

Registration Now Open for National Wood Badge Course at The Summit



At first, it sounds like a reality TV pitch: What happens when you bring together 64 strangers from across the country and challenge them to spend five days living, learning and working together?

But the reality behind the National Wood Badge Course, planned for January 2022 at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, is better than anything seen on TV.

This reality has the potential to change your life forever.

That's not slick marketing copy. That's the message we're hearing from participants and staffers who attended this course the last time it was held, in 2020. Kaleen Deatherage of Portland, Ore., was there as a troop guide for the Antelope Patrol.

"The energy and enthusiasm from participants and staff alike resulted in powerful sharing, learning and collaboration that will make each one of us better Scouters," she says. "My hope is that we all brought that energy and some new skills home — and now we are better prepared to deliver Scouting programs to our youth."

That course in 2020 was so popular that it required a wait list, but there's no waiting necessary if you're ready to accept the challenge of Wood Badge early next year.

Registration is now open for the next National Model Linked Troop Wood Badge Course, set for Jan. 17–21, 2022, at the Summit in West Virginia. It's a chance to learn the latest leadership techniques, form connections with fellow Scouters from other parts of the country, and enjoy hands-on experiences sure to make you a better Scout leader, spouse, boss, employee, parent and person.

The course is open to any registered member of the BSA age 18 or older who has completed the basic training courses for their Scouting position.

Participants and staff not only benefit from meeting people from across the country and around the world, but those in the female troop will be inspired from seeing so many female leaders in one room.

The course uses the new Wood Badge syllabus first introduced in 2017 and piloted in 2018. All courses held in 2020 and beyond use the new syllabus. The course is also a model course because it uses the "linked troop" model introduced as an option for Scouts BSA units.

The course is actually two courses run concurrently, with a combination of separate and joint learning sessions of all-female and all-male troops. Each troop will have six patrols and no more than 32 members.

For more information go to this [Bryan on Scouting article](#).

LOL

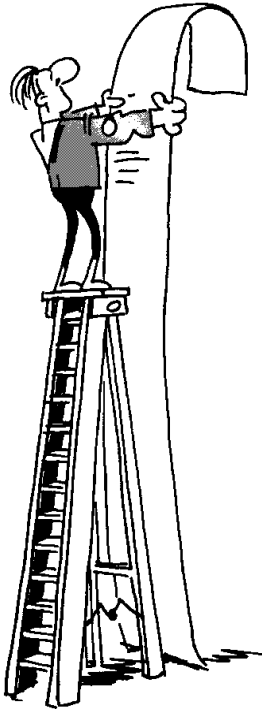


A Scoutmaster was surprised to see one of his Scouts had brought an umbrella to summer camp.

He asked, "Why did you bring an umbrella to camp?"

The Scout answered, "Did you ever have a mother?"

District Calendar



September 2021

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

October 2021

2-3 **Webelos-o-ree**
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

9 Roundtable
9 OA Chapter Meeting
10 Commissioner Mtg
11-12 **District Pinewood
Derby**
24 District Committee
25-27 **Spring Camporee**

April 2022

13 Roundtable
13 OA Chapter Meeting
14 Commissioner Mtg
27 District Committee

May 2022

11 **Program Launch**
11 OA Chapter Meeting
12 Commissioner Mtg
26 District Committee
30 Memorial Day

June 2022

8 Roundtable
8 OA Chapter Meeting
9 Commissioner Mtg
23 District Committee

July 2022

4 Fourth of July

August 2022

10 Roundtable
10 OA Chapter Meeting
11 Commissioner Mtg
25 District Committee