



Goose Creek District Newsletter



December 2021

Volume 13, Issue 5

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Quick Calendar:


- Dec 8 – Roundtable
- Jan 12 – Roundtable
- Feb 4 – Scout Jumuah
- Feb 5 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 6 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 9 – Roundtable
- Feb 18-20 – Freeze-o-ree

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article
/Updated
Information



from Michael Surbaugh, the 13th Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America,
<https://scoutingwire.org/the-value-of-unplugging/>

The Value of Unplugging

I recently saw a [study](#) that looked into the technology habits of children, and some of the results really got me thinking about the benefits of the Cub Scouts experience. This study showed that on average, children between 5 and 8 now spend almost three hours each day in front of a screen. Similarly, 42 percent of children under 9 have their own tablet device, up from just 1 percent in 2011.

While there is no definitive rule for the right amount of time a child should spend engaging with technology, most researchers and pediatricians agree that limiting screen time is better for cognitive and social development. This is why I'm glad Scouting can be a place where kids spend time sharing fun, real-world experiences with their peers and families.

By introducing children to new experiences, the Cub Scouting program helps capture their creativity and encourage exploration. Cub Scouts offers many ways for kids to practice having low-tech fun: going on outdoor adventures, creating cars and rockets through derbies or helping the community through service projects. These experiences not only pay off in terms of development, but they also may start habits or hobbies that last for a lifetime!

Technology has an important place in all of our lives, though, so we also want to educate young people about how to use technology safely. This is why we offer the Cyber Chip program starting in Cub Scouts. Each year, young people can access age-appropriate lessons on topics such as cyber bullying, cell phone use, texting, blogging, gaming and identity theft. It's a good way to ensure children can experience the benefits and avoid the downsides of devices, while encouraging families to have important conversations about technology.

I hope Scouting family members of all ages will consider making a habit of regularly unplugging to spend screen-free quality time with friends and family. Getting device-free time can require intention and discipline, but it's a wonderful way to remind ourselves that technology is merely a tool that should facilitate our relationships and interests, not define them.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



District Award of Merit



The District Award of Merit is a council award presented by Districts in the same manner that the Silver Beaver is a national award presented by councils. The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the District level. It is the highest District award that can be given to a Scouter and the only “non-square knot” in the knot award group.

Nominees must:

- Be registered Scouters.
- Have given “noteworthy service to youth,” either inside or outside of Scouting—or both. Note: The nature and value of “noteworthy service to youth” may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.
- Consideration will be given to the nominee’s Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position.
- Maintain a positive attitude and work in cooperation with the district and council.

You can’t nominate yourself, but if you know anyone who should be considered for this award, application is attached.

Please submit your nomination on the attached form to Steve Wolfson, stevewolfson@verizon.net by December 15, 2021. Subject Line: District Award of Merit.



Scouting for Food Results



Scouting for food is our annual food drive service project open to all Scouts and families. This vital food drive teaches youth the value of helping others and giving back to their communities.

The 2021 Scouting for Food program has delivered more than 66,411lbs of food to local pantries around the Goose Creek District. The food collected represents over 55,000 meals for our Loudoun County community.

Although Scouting for Food's biggest collection date is in November, we support food drives year round. If you have any questions, please contact Forrest Bradley, Goose Creek District Scouting for Food Coordinator, sffgoosecreekdistrict@goosecreekdistrict.org.

LOL



You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You cannot walk by a piece of trash without picking it up.
- You can't remember which hand to shake with in the office on Monday morning.
- People don't recognize you when you're not in uniform.



Troop Invitational Events



Events hosted by troops around the district to introduce Webelos and Arrow of Light to Scout BSA.

Troop 1941 (Ashburn) - Webelos day at the Pond

Saturday December 4th, 2021 - 10AM

All Webelos & Arrow of Light Scouts are welcome

A day to enjoy the great outdoors with Troop 1941 around the pond at the Izaak Walton League

Contact - Jon D. Stuck, scoutmaster@troop1941.com, (703) 297-6408

<http://www.troop1941.com/>

Troop 950 (Sterling) - Bonfire and Shelter Building

Saturday December 4th, 2021 - 10AM

All Webelos & Arrow of Light Scouts are welcome

Troop annual bonfire and this year's theme is shelter building.

Contact - Leah Cabral, lpcabral0531@gmail.com, (407) 467-6677

<https://www.troop950sterling.org/>

Troop 572 (Sterling) - Holiday Gift Exchange -Weekly Meeting

Monday December 13th, 2021 - 7PM

Please join us for our annual white elephant gift exchange in the Parish Hall of Our Lady of Hope Church. You do not need to bring anything except for yourself!

Contact - Abby Ghanta, (513) 290-3004, aghantas@gmail.com

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

Goose Creek District Freeze-O-Ree



The RETURN of this in-person event is now officially on the schedule - February 18-20, 2022 at Camp Snyder. Lots of games and Scout-skill competitions being planned, so don't miss it. Stay tuned for more details and reservation information. If you have any questions, please contact our Vice Chief Mikey Sierra or our Chapter Chief Emmitt Peek at FreezeORee@goosecreekdistrict.org.



Save the Date



2022 Goose Creek Spring Camp-o-See: March 25-27, 2022 at Camp Highroad.



Cheerful Service Chatter™

Chapter News for our Arrowmen
Lodge Website: www.ncacbsa.org/group/OA

Registration Open for the 2022 National Order of the Arrow Conference



Thousands of Arrowmen from around the country will meet at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, next year for the **2022 National Order of the Arrow Conference**. If you want to be one of those attendees, now is the time to sign up.

Registration opened this week for the flagship national Order of the Arrow event, which returns after the 2020 event was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. A virtual event called Momentum Launch was held instead.

Typically, the event draws about 8,000 Order of the Arrow members from every state. The conference features arena shows, national awards, competitions, training classes and a conference festival. Plus, there'll be time for everyone's favorite pastime: patch trading.

Since 1948, the modern NOAC has been held roughly every two years at a major university campus. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has hosted the conference in 1977, 1992 and 2000. Being at a university gives youth an opportunity to experience a college campus in a safe Scouting environment. Delegates will stay in the dorms for the week and will eat in the dining halls. You can attend NOAC via a number of different options: as a delegate, individual, staff member or virtual delegate.

Most attendees sign up as delegates. These Arrowmen register and attend with their local Order of the Arrow lodge. In 2018, the virtual delegate option was introduced; this option will be expanded for 2022. New for 2022 will be the individual option for attendees who are 21 years old or older who do not wish to attend with their local lodge.

NOAC fees are based on which option you sign up for. Conference fees cover housing, programming and food. Staff and individual attendees are responsible for coordinating their own transportation while delegates' transportation fees are at the discretion of their lodge contingent leadership.

Any registered member of the Boy Scouts of America and the Order of the Arrow as of the conference start date can attend with the review and approval of your council Scout executive or their designee. All attendees will need to provide BSA Annual Health and Medical Record forms A, B and C. Adults also are required to have up-to-date BSA Youth Protection certification.

Delegates will register directly with their lodge leadership. All other attendees can register individually at registration.oa-bsa.org. For answers to FAQ, check out oa-bsa.org/program/events/noac.

OA Election Season



Units wishing to schedule their annual election, including an overview of the Order of the Arrow, its purposes and its activities, should email our Chapter's election team. The Unit Relations team would like to schedule a visit even if your unit has no eligible candidates during this cycle, to help promote the OA, its camping, service and leadership missions, and the benefits of membership.

Both the Elections team and the Unit Relations team can be contacted at OAElections@goosecreekdistrict.org.

“Onward and Upward” On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Garrett Basinger – Troop 2950

Kenneth Bills – Troop 163



Introducing Citizenship in Society, the BSA's Newest Merit Badge



The first new merit badge for youth in the Scouts BSA program since 2017 officially launches today. Called Citizenship in Society, it provides Scouts with opportunities to learn more about our world by encouraging them to explore information on diversity, equity, inclusion and ethical leadership — and to learn why these qualities are important in society and in Scouting.

To earn the merit badge, Scouts must conduct research; explore resources; have conversations with merit badge counselors, peers, parents and community members; and identify actions they can take to ensure inclusivity and belonging in Scouting and society in general.

The full requirements for the merit badge and materials for merit badge counselors can be found at scouting.org/dei.

The merit badge will become Eagle required on July 1, 2022. Additional details will be provided by the National Youth Program team in coming weeks.

Citizenship in Society was developed carefully and thoughtfully by the BSA's Office of Diversity and Youth Program Development Office with input from a dedicated group of Scouting volunteers, BSA youth and professional staff — including 31 Scout Executives and more than 60 troops across different regions who participated in a pilot program to test out the new merit badge.

Overwhelmingly, Scouts in the pilot say the merit badge is a positive experience. Scouts were open to having conversations around their research and the answers, and they shared personal examples of encountering the concepts and ideals covered in the requirements.



Merit Badge Counselors for Citizenship in Society



Goose Creek District is looking for 2-3 potential counselors for this new merit badge to be part of the the initial Council level group.

Counselors are required to:

- Be a registered merit badge counselor (Code 42)
- Complete Youth Protection Training
- Complete on-line MBC Training or equivalent in-class D76 training if not already completed
 - Current on-line courses are: SCO 471, 472, 474, 486
- Complete DEI on-line training (SCO 1800)
- Attend Council and/or district Citizenship in Society training
- Review the BSA counselor facilitation guide including resources
- Provide list of training (received or taught) or work/research experience in the following:
 - Diversity, equity, and inclusion training for vocation
 - Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor with the federal, state, or local government
 - Disability awareness training and/or hidden disabilities training
 - Discrimination and anti-bias training
 - Military / DoD gender equity training
 - Public or private sector human resource department
 - Elementary, secondary, or high school guidance counselor
 - Teaching or researching in affiliated sociology domain
- Provide DEI-related life experiences, such as working through an outreach organization or a church; the experience should be specifically focused on working with youth, using mentoring skills, or facilitating challenging discussions
- Be available to openly communicate with the Scout's parent(s)/guardian(s) if questions or discussions require their assistance

Please let Rich Pender, Goose Creek Merit Badge Dean, know if you would like to be part of the initial group (meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org)



Mandatory Merit Badge Counselor Training - for ALL MBCs



Merit Badge Counselors - we're working to achieve a goal of 100% position-trained. Already, any new MBC application must be accompanied with documentation confirming completion of Merit Badge Counselor training, either doing the online sessions, or a live session that counts as training course D76.

The National Capital Area Council Advancement Committee has now extended the training mandate to existing MBCs, with a one-year grace period: you have until year-end 2022 to either experience the online training modules or take a live version at the University of Scouting or some other forum. Completion of one or the other will be required in order for you status as a MBC to be renewed for the 2023 District roster.

The training is not burdensome (takes about a half hour), and no post-training report is required if you complete the training online - your training records at my.scouting.org will be automatically updated. Here's a link that takes you directly to the training videos, once you've signed in to your my.scouting account:

<https://training.scouting.org/learning-plans/1188>

Please let Rich Pender, Goose Creek Merit Badge Dean, know if you have any questions (meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org)

★ Health Care Professions Merit Badge Debuts, Replacing the Medicine Merit Badge



Within the vast and vital universe of health care, there are pharmacists and phlebotomists, optometrists and orthotists, sonographers and speech therapists — to name just a half-dozen of the many specialists who keep us healthy and happy.

In fact, these professionals work in a field so vast that simply calling it all “Medicine” doesn’t quite cut it.

That’s why this month, the Boy Scouts of America is introducing the Health Care Professions merit badge, a STEM-focused, career-oriented badge designed to introduce young people to the roles that health care professionals play in the delivery of health care.

The badge will replace the Medicine merit badge and will feature a new merit badge pamphlet and new requirements, available here. The design of the merit badge emblem will not change.

“When the Medicine merit badge was first introduced in 1991, it was primarily developed to focus on the ‘doctor’ side of human health care delivery,” says Lisa Balbes, advancement lead of the Scouts BSA Committee. “As the fields of human medicine expanded through specialization, support services and technology, it became apparent that Scouts were interested in learning about other areas of human health care and medical support.”

Trying to develop an individual merit badge for each health care specialization would see the number of available merit badges more than double.

Instead, “the BSA has decided to create a single merit badge that will encompass a wide variety of health care careers,” Balbes says.

What’s the rollout plan?

Scouts who have begun work on the Medicine merit badge may continue working on it until they are finished or turn 18.

After Dec. 31, 2021, Scouts may not begin working on the Medicine merit badge and should instead work on the Health Care Professions badge.



Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org



The George C. Marshall Ethical Leadership Conference



The George C. Marshall International Center is hosting two in-person leadership education events for high school juniors and seniors from Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland in early 2022. The George C. Marshall Ethical Leadership Conference leverages lessons from the distinguished career of a soldier and statesman who serves as a positive and timeless model of effective ethical leadership.

Apply today and choose your session at www.georgecmarshall.org/elc

- Session 1: January 21 and 22
- Session 2: February 25 and 26

Please note that attendance for each session is capped at 20.

The conference is free of charge, thanks to the support of our sponsors.

The conference opens with a Friday evening dinner, guest speaker program and guided tour for students and families at Dodona Manor, General Marshall's historic home in Leesburg, VA. On Saturday, students will spend the day discovering how Marshall navigated challenges during his career, discussing the leadership principles that guided him and applying his example in a modern context.

Questions? Email us at elc@georgecmarshall.org.

Learn more about us at www.georgecmarshall.org

Our Philmont Preparedness Seminars are back!



Philmont will be hosting monthly broadcasts to help offer you and your crew supplemental information to best be prepared for your upcoming trek. The seminars will be approximately one hour in length and be hosted live on our Facebook page. The following day, all content will also be uploaded to our website so there is no live commitment required! All live sessions will also host a Q&A.

Seminar Release Schedule:

- December 1st: Cavalcade
- December 15th: Itineraries, Crew Dynamics and Leadership
- January 19th: Health and Safety
- February 16th: Trail Food and Cooking
- March 16th, Base Camp Procedures
- April 20th: Recap and Updates

All sessions can be viewed live on the corresponding dates at 6:30 P.M. Mountain Time.

Live broadcasts on Facebook can be found at this [link](#).

All information can be found the following day on our [website](#).



High Adventure News



2022 NCAC High Adventure Expeditions!

- Philmont 12-day Backpacking: July 10-24! (4 crews)
Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-50158>
- Sea Base St Thomas STEM Eco Sailing: Aug 09-15! (2 crews)
Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-50854>
- Northern Tier Wilderness Canoeing – August 09-19! (1 crew)
Lenhok'sin: James River Canoeing – July 17-23! (1 crew)

NCAC High Adventure Vacancies List

- Lists vacancies in HA crews throughout NCAC
- Crews needing additional members – or –
- Individuals seeking opportunities in crews with openings
- <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/xWpkdrKHKAA9pCzwmHMNdbWb>

NCAC HAC Philmont Training Session I

- TOPICS: Expectations, med forms, physical prep, gear, program, treks
- Sunday, November 21st – 1:00 to 5:00 pm
- Mt Olivet UMC, 1500 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington VA 22207
- ALL 2022 PHILMONT-BOUND CREWS INVITED (limit: 2 per crew)

NEW NCAC High Adventure Sourcebook

Two-volume set extensively details HA opportunities in US & worldwide

Volume 1: current information on BSA and Council HA bases and camps
<https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/gPPyixZdGr1FLP5M2C8yuAt1>

Volume 2: Treks Prep Hikes and Overnights in the Mid-Atlantic Region
<https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/UEH3o3JD9c1XtSYRFmr9nFKS>

NCAC HAC Philmont Camperships

- AVAILABLE TO ALL 2022 PHILMONT- BOUND PARTICIPANTS
- NOTE: Philmont also makes scholarships available directly for each crew; you cannot receive both...
- <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/pvxerCxKKwU6GCiVhWDHBQz2>

John Blackwell, HAC Chair: john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org

HAC web page: www.ncacbsa.org/high-adventure

Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Cub Scout Day Camp is a great means for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their siblings to experience Camp Snyder without the overnight sleeping. Each day will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 4:00 pm with lunch included in the cost of camp.

Sessions run from Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Session 1: June 27 – July 1

Session 2: July 11-15

Early Bird Registration (up to Apr 16):	\$220 – Scout, \$50 – Adult
On Time Registration (up to May 14)	\$240 – Scout, \$55 – Adult
Late Registration (after May 14)	\$260 – Scout, \$60 - Adult

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/day-camp/>

Scouts BSA Merit Badge Week at Camp Snyder



Camp Snyder has some amazing facilities. Among those are our Woodshop and our STEM facility. We have created a Scouts BSA Specialty week designed to showcase the activities we can provide for all of our Scouts. Want to earn your Woodworking or Woodcarving Merit Badge? Want to learn about Drones and spend some time in our STEM lab. Come out and spend a week of your summer with us.

Combine your interest in merit badges with camping, dining, swimming, boating, and many other summer camp favorites.

There are two attendance options: 1) You can stay at Camp Snyder all week and camp overnight or 2) You can choose to be a day-only participant and just stay for the merit badges.

When: July 17 - 23

Early Bird Registration (up to Apr 16):	\$210 – Scout, \$165 – Adult
On Time Registration (up to May 14)	\$230 – Scout, \$185 – Adult
Late Registration (after May 14)	\$250 – Scout, \$62050 - Adult

1 Leader is FREE with your Troop registration of 5 or more Scouts. Units who plan to send 5 or more scouts must provide a minimum of 1 adult leader per 5 scouts.

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/specialty-week/>

Cub Scout Weekend Resident Camp at Camp Snyder, Haymarket VA



Cub Resident Camp is your bite sized introduction to a Boy Scout summer camp program. All registered Cubs, Tigers – Webelos and their adult leaders/parents sleep on cots in 4-person BSA wall tents that sit on raised platforms, eat in the camp dining hall and experience a whole day into the night program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Adventure Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a registered Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or dens' self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well-being.

Sessions run from Friday at 9:00am to Sunday at 9:00am, and feature 2 nights of overnight camping. Meals are provided starting with Friday lunch through Sunday continental breakfast. New for 2022 is a Thursday night check in for all 3 weekend programs! Come in on Thursday night, get your campsite set up and your swim tests out of the way to make more time for Friday fun!

Session 1: June 23 – June 26

Session 2: June 30 – July 3

Session 3: July 5-7

Session 4: July 7-10

Early Bird Registration (up to Apr 16):	\$215 – Scout, \$80 – Adult
On Time Registration (up to May 14)	\$235 – Scout, \$105 – Adult
Late Registration (after May 14)	\$255 – Scout, \$130 - Adult

2 Leaders FREE per Pack with your unit's Resident Weekend registration

Each unit can make only one registration per camp session. Only one person, the Unit Registrar, should manage the registration, enter information, and make payments on behalf of the unit. (Parents should contact their unit registrar to register their youth to go to camp.)

For more information and to register: <https://www.gotosnyder.org/summer-camp/resident-weekends/>

The Akela Chess Classic Cub Scout Tournament



Take on the fun and challenge of playing chess! The Akela Chess Classic is a five-round chess tournament open to all Cub Scouts from Lions through Arrow of Light. Tournament play is in two brackets: Lions/Tigers/Wolves and Bears/Webelos/Arrow of Light.

When: February 5, check in at 8:30 AM. Rounds are at 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM and 2 PM. Awards at 3:30 PM.

Where: Microsoft Technology Center, 12012 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 20190

Fees: The cost is \$25.00 per Scout.

Awards: Each participating Scout receives a custom tournament patch and year rocker. Trophies/medals will be awarded to first, second, and third place by rank for each of the Cub Scout ranks. Multiple awards will be issued for ties.

Registration: Registration is open at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-ChessCubs>

The Akela Chess Classic BSA Tournament



Take on the fun and challenge of playing chess! The Akela Chess Classic is a five-round chess tournament open to all Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts from age 10 to 20. Tournament play is in three brackets: age 10-12, age 13-15, and age 16 and up.

When: February 12, check in at 8:30 AM. Rounds are at 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM and 2 PM. Awards at 3:30 PM.

Where: Microsoft Technology Center, 12012 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 20190

Fees: The cost is \$25.00 per Scout.

Awards: Each participating Scout receives a custom tournament patch and year rocker. Trophies/medals will be awarded to first, second, and third place by rank for each of the Cub Scout ranks. Multiple awards will be issued for ties.

Registration: Registration is open at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-ChessClassic>

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.

Scholarships



Dozens of universities, BSA local councils, and religious, civic, and military organizations offer college scholarships to Eagle Scouts and Venturing Summit Award Recipients. Some scholarships are needs-based; others are merit-based. Some go to everyone who applies; others are highly competitive. A listing of these can be found at www.scouting.org/awards/scholarships/

National Jamboree 2023



In case you missed the livestreamed announcement or the multitude of promotional announcements and e-mails, the next National Scout Jamboree will be held July 19-28, 2023 at the Summit in West Virginia.

Eagle Scouts, Be Prepared to apply for NESAs soon



Earning the Eagle Scout rank is an impressive achievement that provides lasting impacts on one's life. One of those impacts can be financial support for higher education.

Beginning December 1, the [National Eagle Scout Association](#) will be accepting applications for five annual scholarships of varying amounts. Applicants must have completed an Eagle Scout board of review before January 24, 2022; must be members of NESAs ([click here](#) to join); and must submit their application through the [NESAs scholarship portal](#) between December 1, 2021, and January 31, 2022. Full requirements and conditions are listed [here](#).

Other eligibility requirements include:

- Eagle Scouts may apply for NESAs scholarships beginning in their senior year of high school through their junior year in college.
- Recipients may receive a NESAs scholarship one time only.
- NESAs scholarships are available to Eagle Scouts attending four-year colleges or universities, vocational trade schools and other approved programs.
- NESAs scholarships are not available to students attending any of the U.S. military academies.
- NESAs scholarships are not available to graduate students pursuing a master's or doctoral degree.

Last year, 45 Eagle Scouts received a total of \$425,500 from NESAs to aid in their educational endeavors. These scholarships are made possible by generous donors and NESAs members that help the alumni organization.

To learn about scholarships offered to Scouts from other institutions, [click here](#).

American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year



How much: \$10,000 for the winner and \$2,500 apiece for three runners-up

Who's eligible: Eagle Scouts who are at least 15 and registered, active members of a Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit or Sons of The American Legion squadron — or Eagle Scouts who are registered, active members of a chartered Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew, and the son or grandson of a Legionnaire, Sons of The American Legion or Auxiliary member,

Nomination Window: Nov 1 - March 1

What's required: Application, photograph, school participation record, Scouting record, community service record, religious award record and four letters of recommendation.

Link: www.legion.org/scholarships/eaglescout

Questions: Email scouting@legion.org

Training Opportunities



What is BALOO, And Why Is It Good for You?



A few years ago, longtime Cub Scout training experts Matt Markham and Jessi King-Markham found that volunteers who willingly attended Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation to learn to take their Cub Scouts camping often balked at signing up for a second and separate training, what was then called Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders (often referred to as “OWLS”).

“One of the challenges we ran into with splitting the course out into OWLS was that people wouldn’t go, because it was another course that they had to take,” Markham says.

There seemed to be a lot of overlap in content, too, so the couple’s district in the Northern Star Council ran a hybrid course that covered both syllabuses. The overnight event allowed leaders to get hands-on training in outdoor skills for Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts.

That hybrid is still the official approach. The *BALOO syllabus* covers what Cub and Webelos Scout leaders need to know. And it does so in a single 30-hour weekend — all day Saturday and Sunday morning, for example.

What the weekend covers

Cub Scouting has changed significantly in the past few years, most notably with the introduction of a new advancement program in 2015. That meant significant changes to the syllabuses, especially on the Webelos side. OWLS was built around the old advancement program.

What’s more, Markham says, is that Cub Scout camping has evolved with the advent of activities like geocaching.

“There’s a whole lot of people that want to do it that have no idea how, and there wasn’t really a way to teach them,” he says. “Now there’s actually a course that captures some of those outdoor activities and methods.”

Those activities and methods help explain why the course is longer.

“We had a lot more skills to fit into the program, so we needed to take more time,” says Dennis Kampa, who started overseeing BALOO as a member of the National Cub Scout Committee back in 2000.

Online and in the field

The weekend experience is just part of BALOO. The course begins with eight brief online modules, available at my.scouting.org. Each module lasts 10 minutes or less, and covers basics like the benefits of the outdoor program and health and safety considerations. Once you’ve completed those prerequisites, you’re ready for the weekend.

Of course, knowledge is only part of BALOO’s goal, King-Markham says.

“If we can get Cub Scouts camping, they’re going to be lifelong Scouts,” she says. “They’re going to be people who want to save the outdoors. They’re going to be people who bring their own families into the outdoors.”

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?

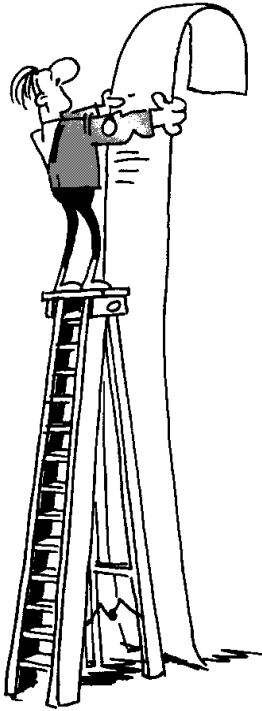
For information about specific courses, contact the Course Director listed on the [registration page](#).

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

District Calendar



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
18-20 **Freeze-o-ree**
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

September 2022

5 Labor Day
14 Roundtable
14 OA Chapter Meeting
15 Commissioner Mtg
29 District Committee

October 2022

9 Columbus Day
12 Roundtable
12 OA Chapter Meeting
13 Commissioner Mtg
26 District Committee

November 2022

5 Scouting for Food
Notice Distribution
9 Roundtable
9 OA Chapter Meeting
10 Commissioner Mtg
12 Scouting for Food
Pickup
30 **Final Date for
Recharter Turn In**