



Goose Creek District Newsletter



August 2022

Volume 14, Issue 1

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Quick Calendar:

- Aug 10 – Roundtable
- Aug 20 – Life to Eagle Training
- Sep 14 – Roundtable
- Oct 1-2 – Webelos-o-ree
- Oct 13 – Roundtable
- Oct 14-16 – JOTA/JOTI

Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout / Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article / Updated Information



from Scoutmaster Clarke Green, <http://scoutmastercg.com/what-do-scouts-decide/>, Oct 18, 2013

What Do Scouts Decide?

There's a lot of discussion about who makes decisions about what activities Scouts put on their schedule. What do Scouts decide? Should adults be part of that process, or must we always allow Scouts to make these decisions? Some would argue that who makes these decisions is a good test of whether a troop is youth-led or not. 'Youth led' is a key component of the patrol system, so the question we ought to be asking is if we are applying the patrol system.

I think it's safe to say we sometimes place too much value in the "what and where" decisions in Scouting and don't think enough about the "why, how, and who".

Where you go camping is inconsequential; how you go camping is everything.

All of Scouting's program elements (pioneering, backpacking, cooking, cycling, canoeing, etc.) are slightly different iterations of putting the patrol system into practice. We could return to the same campsite ten times a year and do ten different things, or the same thing each time, but in the end applying the patrol system is all that really matters.

If you ask a patrol leader's council to start with a blank calendar and fill it in you are asking them to re-invent the wheel. Some Scoutmasters complain if patrol leaders choose the same activities from year to year, there are a few that require they don't repeat anything from one year to the next.

I don't see any appreciable difference between a camping trip to a local park where patrols are functioning at a high level, cooking, hiking, playing games, and a high dollar trip to an incredible something-or-other. I like a change of scenery, enjoy a big exciting activity or challenging adventure; but I see comparatively little value in those things when compared to the real work of Scouting that happens in a humble campsite set up by a patrol.

A common counter argument is "If we don't go to different places and do different things our Scouts will get bored and quit". This is only true if you aren't applying the patrol system. Scouts, especially older Scouts, aren't nearly as interested in doing new, different, big things as they are in the patrol system. They are endlessly inspired and energized when they have real responsibility with the accomplishment and freedom that comes from governing themselves. If they are just participants in various activities and those activities don't change, yes, they will get bored and quit.

All that being said Scouts should choose their own activities, and adults should respect those decisions so long as they are within the bounds of the program. We encourage invention and innovation, but I don't think we need to require it. Some of my Senior Patrol Leaders have been very energetic and interested in new ideas, some are happy to use ones we have repeated many times.

Who makes 'where and what' decisions is a small percentage of what constitutes any objective indication of a troop applying the patrol system. The "why, how, and who" are much more important.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek

2022 Webelos-o-ree



Mark your pack calendars for the 2022 Webelos-O-ree the weekend of October 1-2 at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, VA. The Webelos-O-ree is a day-long event of scouting activities culminating in a highly entertaining campfire. The pie throwing skit is a must-see!

Troops will run activity station activities using EDGE to show Webelos what scouting is like at the troop level. Stations include fire building, first aid, cooking, monkey bridge crossings, shooting sports and more. Participation in the Webelos-O-ree is open to all Webelos and is a great way to ensure your cubs efficiently visit several troops. Dinner is on us, and camping overnight is encouraged.

Troop Participation in the Webelos-o-ree



GCD's annual Webelos-O-ree is an opportunity for troops to be on their best footing and "pay it forward" to the Webelos of our district with several goals in mind. The most important of these goals is demonstration of scout spirit in showing younger scouts what troop life has to offer. The EDGE method will serve you well in teaching scout skills, and troop leaders will indulge in cub-to-scout transition discussions with prospective parents.

If your troop is interested in participating in this year's Webelos-O-ree, even if you were at last year's, please contact Charles Thornton at scouterchalis@gmail.com. We have space for seven troops to camp over and, as always, there is no fee for troops to attend. You just have to supply your own food. Reservations are already filling so do not hesitate to volunteer.



Scouting for Food Coordinator Needed



Goose Creek District is looking for a dedicated Scouter to help coordinate our Scouting for Food (SFF) effort. SFF is our Council's largest community service project collecting tons of food for our food insecure neighbors. Must be self driven and motivated to work with scouting units throughout the District and local pantries to ensure a success. Duties to include (but not limited to): working with individual units to help set up their efforts and territories; work with local food pantries to help set up collection sites; working with Council representation to help roll out and publicize the program.

Anyone interested can send an email to Program Vice Chair, Steve Wolfson at stevewolfson614@gmail.com

Save the Date – Freeze-o-ree 2023



The Arrowmen of the Goose Creek Chapter of the Amangamek-Wipit 470 Lodge invite you to:

The ZOMBIE INVASION OF THE Great White North

Feb 10-12, 2023 at Camp William B. Snyder

Registration opens this fall.

Newsletter Email Address



The Goose Creek Newsletter now has its own email address:

Newsletter@GooseCreekDistrict.org. If your unit has done something special (unique service project, camping trip, STEM event, ...) or will hold an event that others are invited to, just let us know and we will put it in the newsletter. We can even include pictures of the event.

Friends of Scouting



The annual Friends of Scouting giving campaign helps ensure that the National Capital Area Council can continue to provide quality programs for our youth. This campaign provides approximately 15 percent of the council's annual budget. What does your investment in Friends of Scouting provide?

- Local programs and activities throughout the council
- Camp scholarships, uniforms and registration fees for youths who otherwise could not participate
- Scout service center that coordinate Scouting activities and provide customer service to members
- Accident and liability insurance to protect both youth and adult members
- Professional staff who counsel, guide, and inspire volunteer leadership
- Camps and facilities available for year-round camping and Cub Scout family outdoor events
- Opportunities to attend summer camp and high-adventure events
- Advancement programs where Scouts are recognized for learning and achievement of goals they set
- Distribution and development of literature and training-materials
- Leadership training for young people who will become future community leaders

To make a donation to Friends of Scouting, please go to

<https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/082/appeal/3971>

Please include Goose Creek District and your unit number with your donation. If you want to pledge and pay over time just follow the easy steps on the website.

If your unit has not scheduled a Friends of Scouting presentation this year please email development@goosecreekdistrict.org to get on the calendar. Thank you for investing in Scouting!

Shooting Sports Corner



The February Feeze-o-Ree and March Camp Highroad Camporee shooting sport events were hugely successful and supervised by certified shooting sports instructors. These individuals ensured each Scout experienced an enjoyable and safe Camporee.

GCD Summer Day/Night Camp was a huge success as each shooting event was supervised by certified shooting sports instructor. Special thanks go out to certified Rangemasters Jeffrey Wright, Ryan Klee, Tom Price and John Witek who ensured each Scout experienced a safe shooting event.

Goose Creek District still needs more certified Shooting Sports personnel to strengthen our Shooting Sports volunteer pool to support upcoming Freeze-o-Ree and Camp-o-Ree events.

If interested, please respond to: shootingsports@goosecreekdistrict.org to help serve our youth. Our Scouts are counting on your help.

Range Safety Officers (RSO)

RSOs are needed at all GCD Shooting Sports events. If you're interested in serving as an RSO, visit: <https://www.NRAinstructors.org/search.aspx>, scroll down to the Safety section and select the "NRA Chief Range Safety Officer Course" on the right side of the page.

To become a certified BSA Rangemaster to supervise the BB-gun and Slingshot events is rather easy. Attend and complete one of the offered BSA Rangemaster courses at Camp Snyder, the next one is 21 May 2022

Archery

Completion of U. S. Archery Level 1 certification is required to supervise BSA Archery Events. If you have one, please contact John Witek, the GCD Shooting Sports Chair, john.witek@goosecreekdistrict.org, to get your name added to NCAC Shooting Sports Committee Approved Instructor list.

Rifle/Shotgun

Completion of NRA Rifle and/or Shotgun Instructor Course and Certification is required to supervise Scouts BSA Shooting events. This certification is good for 2 years and renewable through the [NRA Instructors website](#).

Tomahawk

Tomahawk-throwing must be supervised by an experienced Scouter when being thrown at Unit or District events. If interested in serving, send your name, years of experience and unit # to: John Witek, GCD Shooting Sports Chair, john.witek@goosecreekdistrict.org to be processed through the NCAC Shooting Sports Committee.

If you are interested in applying for a Shooting Sports event in GCD, be sure to visit our Basecamp District Committee Team, select 'Shooting Sports' in 'Docs and Files' and download and fill out the Shooting Sports Event Request.

If you are interested in hosting a Shooting Sports event on a non-BSA property, be sure to visit the same area in Basecamp and download and review "Private Property Approval for Shooting Sports by Units, Districts, and Councils" and "NCAC So You Want to Hold a Shooting Activity" document to properly set up your range.

Contact John Witek, Chief Range Safety Officer to review and approve your shooting range. Without approval, BSA will not insure your activity.



Cheerful Service Chatter™

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



August OA Meeting



Goose Creek Chapter meetings resume on August 10, 7 PM at Leesburg Presbyterian Church. There's lots coming up on the schedule, including service projects, Fall Fellowship, Webelos-O-Ree, Camping Palooza and much more, so all Arrowmen are encouraged to attend.

Note to Scoutmasters - we're trying to update the Lodge database regarding which Arrowmen are serving as OA Unit Representatives for their respective Troops or Crews. If you haven't already done so, please send us the name of your OA Unit Rep if you have one, the name of your OA Unit Rep Adviser if you have one (usually an ASM) and the date that such service started. Please send to ChapterChief@goosecreekdistrict.org.

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Hudson Barth – Troop 966
Emma Carmichael – Troop 998
Joshua Jones – Troop 998
Mateo Merida – Troop 1910
Emmitt Peek – Troop 163
Alex Reif – Troop 1907
Ryn Stetter – Troop 961
Spicer Wadman – Troop 711



Merit Badge Counselor Training



Reminder - All Merit Badge Counselors are required by NCAC to complete the online BSA training for MBCs, available at the training part of my.scouting.org. If you haven't completed this training by year-end 2022, your MBC status will not be renewed for 2023. It's important info, but actually only takes about 30 minutes of your time to complete. Please check your training records - if you've completed live MBC training (course D76) or done the four virtual modules (SCO_471, 472, 474 and 486), you should be all set. If you're not sure you've completed the training, you can check your my.scouting.org training profile, or send Rich Pender your name and BSA ID (meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org), and he can check the District training records.



Minor Modifications to Scouts BSA Rank Requirements



In 2021, all outdoor-related rank advancement requirements were reviewed and realigned based on guidance from the National Outdoor Ethics and Conservation Subcommittee. These adjustments will help more effectively build a Scout's outdoor ethics knowledge and align with the information in the Scouts BSA Handbook and Fieldbook. The requirements now build in a logical way through the ranks, with Leave No Trace (LNT) and the Outdoor Code (OC) used as references throughout.

Beginning **August 1, 2022**, these minor modifications to the Scouts BSA requirements for the ranks of Scout through Star will take effect. Scouts may continue using the existing requirements for the rank on which they are currently working, or they may choose to use the new requirements. Scouts must use the new requirements once they advance to their next rank. On **January 1, 2023**, all Scouts must use only the new requirements.

The specific changes are detailed below (changes are marked in red).

Scout 1e: Repeat from memory the Outdoor Code. **List the seven principles of Leave No Trace. Explain the difference between the two.**

Scout 5: Tell what you need to know about using a pocketknife safely **and responsibly.**

Scout 6: With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide and earn the Cyber Chip Award for your grade **or view the Personal Safety Awareness videos (with your parent or Guardian's permission)**

Tenderfoot 1c: **Explain how you demonstrated** the Outdoor Code and **Leave No Trace** on campouts or outings.

Tenderfoot 5a. Explain the importance of the buddy system as it relates to your personal safety on outings and **where you live.** Use the buddy system while on a troop or patrol outing.

Tenderfoot 5c: Explain the rules of safe **and responsible** hiking, both on the highway and cross-country, during the day and at night.

Second Class 1b: **Recite the principles of Leave No Trace from memory. Explain how you follow them on all outings.**

Second Class 2b: Use **a pocketknife, and a saw or axe if needed,** to prepare tinder, kindling, and fuel wood for a cooking fire.

Second Class 2c: **Using a minimum-impact method,** and at an approved outdoor location and time, use the tinder, kindling, and fuel wood from Second Class requirement 2b to demonstrate how to build a fire. Unless prohibited by local fire restrictions, light the fire. After allowing the flames to burn safely for at least two minutes, safely extinguish the flames with minimal impact to the fire site. **Properly dispose of the ashes and any charred remains.**

First Class 1b: Explain **the potential impacts of camping, both on the environment and on other outdoor users. Explain why the Outdoor Code and Leave No Trace principles are important for protecting the outdoors.**

First Class 2d: Demonstrate the procedures to follow in the safe handling and storage of fresh meats, dairy products, eggs, vegetables, and other perishable food products. Show how to properly dispose of camp garbage, cans, plastic containers, **wastewater** and other rubbish.

Star 6: With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide and earn the Cyber Chip Award for your grade **or view the Personal Safety Awareness videos (with your parent or Guardian's permission)**



New Eagle Scout Rank Application (ESRA) with Cit in Society



EAGLE SCOUT RANK APPLICATION

By the Eagle Scout Rank Application, the applicant is to be certified for the rank of Eagle Scout. The applicant must be at least 17 years old and have completed the requirements for the Eagle Scout rank. Please be an Eagle Scout for the month of August. You will need to be an Eagle Scout for the month of August to be eligible for the rank of Eagle Scout. The application form and instructions are available at www.scouting.org.

The new ESRA with Cit. in Society listed as a required Eagle MB is posted here: [Advancement Resources / Boy Scouts of America \(scouting.org\)](http://www.scouting.org)



Completing Partial Merit Badges



Partials refer to merit badges that for whatever reason are not completed during the summer camp session. The Scout has done some of the requirements towards being awarded the merit badge but for one reason or another, has not been able to cover all of them. Partials may also occur when a Scout starts the badge with a counselor who has since moved away or retired from Scouting while the Scout is still working on the requirements, or most likely, taking a break from working on the requirements.

To finish the merit badge, it is up to the Scout to make an appointment with another merit badge counselor to complete the missing requirements. There is no requirement that the original counselor be the one to whom they go or that they have to wait till the next summer camp to complete it. If troop level or district level merit badge counselors exist for the subject badge, the wise Scoutmaster, Troop Advancement Chair, and/or Troop Committee would make certain that the list of those counselors is readily available to the Scout, so he knows where to begin the trail to completion.

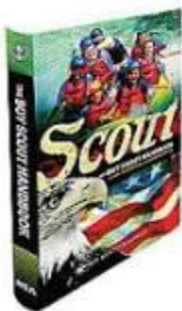
Important Facts:

- The only expiration date on a partial is the Scout turning 18. If a Scout got the partial when they were 11, they can still complete it when they are 17 years and 11 months old.
- The only requirements the Scout needs to do are the ones not signed on the Blue Card. The new merit badge counselor cannot make a Scout redo a signed requirement as a test or not accept it because they suspect the 'quality' of the work done. If it's been signed then it's done, period. Conversely, if all the Scout has is a worksheet from camp of what was done, and it wasn't also signed on the Blue Card then it officially wasn't done and it is up to the counselor on whether to accept it or not.

Changes in the merit badge requirements that have occurred since the partial was done are not to be considered. The Scout must complete only the requirements in place when the badge was started. This means that any new requirements do not have to be done, on the other hand, any requirements that were dropped but were not completed do have to be done.



What Happens if a Scout Loses their Boy Scout Handbook?



The loss of the Scout's handbook does not negate the requirements he has already completed, so he would not have to start from scratch. With unit advancement software and other tools, their advancement can be confirmed. The dates and signatures entered into the handbook are for the Scout's benefit and an added means to prove completion.

As for what to do now, a Scout may purchase another handbook and, based on their current advancement records (unit software, ScoutNET, and advancement reports), the unit leadership can go through and supply the dates and initial the completed requirements.



Helping Cub Scouts Learn to Protect Themselves



The Boy Scouts of America is committed to creating safe environments for Scouts and leaders. As program planning starts in anticipation of the new program year, pack leaders should be aware of a change in this area that will affect the Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light Cub Scout ranks. The Lion program does NOT have a rank requirement which requires the Protect Yourself Video.

Because BSA's supporting partner organization had retired its Cyber Chip, that requirement is being replaced for these ranks The new set of Adventures called "**Protect Yourself Rules,**" was developed in partnership with the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation.

Child abuse is an uncomfortable topic but an important one to cover to ensure the safety and well-being of our Scouts. The Boy Scouts of America has partnered with the subject-matter experts at the Foundation to create "Protect Yourself Rules" Adventures that help children recognize, respond to, and report abuse.

Before starting work on this adventure, den leaders should review Scouting's **Barriers to Abuse**, because this new Adventure is intended to complement BSA's existing youth-protection measures. After their den has completed its age-appropriate Adventure, we would value den leaders' thoughts, so we ask that they complete the quick survey that is provided at the website where they reviewed the lesson plan. For their analysis, feedback from the survey will be shared with the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation.



Life-to-Eagle Seminar



The next L2E Seminar for 2022 is scheduled for.

Date: Saturday, August 20, 2022

Time: 10:30 – 2:30

Place: Meeting Room B, Gum Spring Library (24600 Millstream Dr, Stone Ridge, VA)

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.

Come to think of it, District Eagle Reps ... when was the last time you attended this training? SO much has changed in the last 6-7 years, please come on out!

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



Citizenship in Society MBC Training



As you know, NCAC has established an additional training protocol for this important new and now Eagle-required badge. Besides the normal requirements for MBCs, there's additional DEI training, self-certification of your review of certain materials, and participation in a badge-specific training class taught by existing MBCs for the badge.

We are working to set up a District training class for MBCs (the last step listed above) during September. If you want to work with Scouts on this badge, you must provide evidence of completion of all the other training and certification steps before you can be added to the class in September. If you don't already have the list of requirements and the forms for certification, please contact Rich Pender at meritbadgedean@goosecreekdistrict.org, and he'll provide a full rundown.



Does picking up trash constitute conservation?



Scouts serve their communities in many ways. One popular way involves picking up litter, thereby keeping their hometowns, parks and local environments clean.

Some of these efforts are global, while others have been part of awards. Every Star Scout seeking to advance to the next rank must contribute six hours of service, at least three of which must be conservation related. But what exactly does “conservation-related” mean? Does it include picking up trash?

On Scouting addressed the requirements for the BSA Distinguished Conservation Service Awards and, no, a trash clean-up day would likely not qualify. To count for the prestigious award — the BSA’s highest honor for conservation and environmental service — Scouts would need to plan and carry out projects that have a long-lasting impact.

Does the same level of commitment apply to Scouts BSA rank advancement? They asked Brian Gray, the BSA’s national director of conservation, who says it can be difficult to define but is up to the unit’s leadership.

“The definition of conservation is that it is the act of protecting Earth’s natural resources for current and future generations,” Gray says.

(So, no, it’s not about preserving manmade artifacts. If your Scout is interested in learning those techniques, check out the Archaeology or Collections merit badges.)

Can picking up trash protect the Earth’s natural resources? It could, especially if it inspires more people to be aware of the impact they’re making on the environment. That leaves some room for interpretation, though projects like building a trail or removing an invasive species would more likely have a lasting effect.

What’s more important, though, is looking at the intent behind the requirement.

Conservation service teaches Scouts to study the world around them. Scouts can see the beauty of nature and how resilient — yet how fragile — it can be. It shows how humans affect nature and that we should consider our impact on this planet.

So, keep picking up trash. According to the nonprofit Keep America Beautiful, there’s 50 billion pieces of litter across this country that can be collected. But also challenge Scouts to think beyond what they see along the roadways and consider other ways they can help the environment.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org



Special Needs Interests



The BSA Special Needs and Disabilities Committee (SNDC) has just released a new A-to-Z online resource for special needs information. Formally called the Inclusion Toolbox for Special Needs and Disabilities, it is tailored to Scouting and written for any Scout leader who wants to help his/her Scouts without having to wade through special needs jargon on the internet.

“The Toolbox,” as it is sometimes affectionately known, is filled with stand-alone modules, set up so you can use it just like a physical toolbox: rummage around for what you need and pull it out to read. No need to read the whole thing, page by page; just check out the links for each module and read and use what interests you or suits your needs.

For example, let’s say you are interested in the advancement of a Scout in your unit who is experiencing some issues making progress in the program. Two modules, both of which provide useful commentary and explanations of the rules in the GTA, are available for you:

- Module E - Navigating Advancement Requirements, which is for families and unit leaders to help them understand what they need to do to get alternatives approved.
- Module V - Evaluating Advancement Alternatives, which is for BSA volunteers who are decision makers for advancement issues.

Another example might involve some confusion on your part about some common stereotypes concerning a certain disability or need that might be getting in the way of coming to a viable decision for all involved. “The Toolbox” could help you find answers in its “Understanding” series, which has a whole variety of subjects from which to choose, ranging from Module H - Understanding Allergies and Food Issues, to Module S - Understanding Speech and Language Disorders. Information contained in one or more of these modules may dispel some of your preconceived notions or help you to get a better understanding of how actual disabilities impact a Scout's life and what kinds of accommodations could work for those Scouts.

The Inclusion Toolbox for Special Needs and Disabilities can be found at www.ablescouts.org/toolbox. This site, which is managed by the BSA Special Needs and Disabilities Committee, contains other useful resources and articles, as well. Whether you are a brand-new Scout parent or a seasoned council volunteer or professional, there will be something in “The Toolbox” that you can use to help make Scouting better. Who could ask for more? ! Check it out!

As always, if you have a question, feel free to contact specialneedschair@scouting.org.



2022 Journey to Excellence Scorecards



The Boy Scouts of America has released the latest update to the annual *Journey to Excellence scorecards*, which list the unit evaluation items that go into determining a unit's JTE status at the end of the year. We've always encouraged unit leaders to use the scorecard a few times a year to see how they're doing. Now is a good time to see how the first half of the year went and what might need to be improved upon going forward.

Here are the key differences:

PACKS

Just about every line on the scorecard has been updated in some way.

Item 1 changes from Planning and Budget to just Planning, but includes using the steps included in the *Annual Program Planning for Cub Scouting* training module, using the Planning your Annual Pack Budget worksheet. The annual program and budget is distributed to all members of the pack, and for Gold, conduct an annual family orientation and have 80 percent of families engaged on Scoutbook. Virtual meetings are okay for 2022.

Item 2, Building Cub Scouting, requires units earning Silver and Gold to start new Lion or Tiger dens.

Item 3, Retention, ups the re-registration quotas to 62 percent for Bronze and 70 percent for Silver, and for Gold requires at least 50 percent of families to volunteer for at least one task.

Item 5, Advancement, has Bronze units have 90 percent of new Cub Scouts earn Bobcat by December 31, and for Silver, at least 80 percent complete at least six adventures.

Items 6 and 7 are rearranged somewhat. Item 6, formerly Outdoor Activities, moves to Item 7 (formerly Day/Resident Camp) and item 6 becomes Activities. Item 6 encompasses the pack conducting activities other than regular meetings, and for Gold, conduct a derby and a Blue and Gold Banquet.

Item 8, Service Projects, changes from requiring a set number of projects to requiring time spent on projects and percentage of participants. There's just a minimum of one project per year required.

Item 9, Pack and Den Meetings, is deleted.

Item 10, Leadership recruitment, becomes Volunteer Opportunities, requiring identifying volunteer positions and encouraging parental participation, selecting den leaders for existing dens prior to the program year and for new dens by October 31, and for Gold, having a succession plan for key leaders.

Item 11, Trained Leadership, now includes committee members in required training, has new leaders complete the Before Your First Meeting module within 30 days, and for Gold, have all den leaders complete position-specific training by December 31.

TROOPS

Other than minor wording, there are virtually no changes to the troop scorecard. Item 8, Service Projects, now has troops enter service hours in Scoutbook rather than on the JTE website. For Gold on item 10, Leadership and Family Engagement, troops must now recruit one new adult leader.



Trekking Poles 101



Modern trekking poles are usually made from aluminum or carbon fiber and come in either fixed length or adjustable. Some poles will fold up, or collapse telescopically, to fit onto the outside of your backpack. Most hikers will choose a collapsible trekking pole, with either a twist-lock or clip-lock system to secure them in place. Twist-lock systems are usually cheaper, but can be less secure and may come loose over time.

Fixed-length poles are lighter, but if you regularly change footwear for your hikes and have different sole thicknesses, you could find your fixed-length no longer works for you. Your trekking poles should sit comfortably in your hand with your elbow bent to 90 degrees.

The handles on these poles are usually straight-staff handles, but these are shaped for a more ergonomic fit and are made from plastic, foam, or cork for comfort. Foam or cork are usually preferred as plastic doesn't breathe and can lead to blisters more easily. These grips usually have straps on that are used to keep your poles in place so you don't have to grip your poles tight all day.

Why Use Trekking Poles?

Reduce Strain

Trekking can put a load of strain on your knees and your ankles — especially if you're carrying a heavy backpacking load. The jury is still out on whether poles help to relieve this generally, but what they do help with is reducing impact. On steep downhill sections, you can use your poles as extra limbs and lower yourself gently onto a foot placement, rather than dropping down onto it.

Keep Your Balance

Away from protecting your knees, sometimes it's just great to have some help with balancing. Even on easy ground, your balance can suffer as you tire and your poles can help. On steep-sided trails or slippery hillsides, you can use your poles to dig into the ground and support you as you move. Anyone who has had to make a sketchy traverse will appreciate how beneficial it can be to dig a downhill pole below you and lean uphill.

Get Into a Rhythm

When you get yourself into a rhythm on a hike, you find yourself eating up the miles with ease. Swinging your arms and using your poles creates a rhythm that carries you along the trail and turns your trek into a full-body workout. Your swing will come from your core and — so long as you plant your poles at a slight angle — your poles will drive you forward and help to keep your momentum up. You will also find the added benefit that using poles improves your posture and oxygen intake.

Why Doesn't Everyone Use Trekking Poles?

They Cost Money

Hiking is meant to be simple, right? You just lace up your boots and hit the trails. Once you start adding in extra equipment, the sport becomes far less accessible and poles are no exception. Poles cost money and even the most affordable poles aren't free.

They Don't Suit Every Trail

Not every trail requires poles. In fact, some trails are made more difficult with the use of poles. On some narrow trails, you can find yourself tripping over poles easily and they are more of a hindrance than a help. If your trail involves regular scrambling, you need your hands free. Unless you stow your poles for every feature, you'll spend all day finding precarious ledges to rest your poles on while you climb up.

They Use More Energy

As we said earlier, poles turn your trek into a full-body workout. Okay, they increase oxygen intake, but they also raise your heart rate and oxygen requirements. This extra exertion means more calories and you need to make sure you fuel yourself for the hike. Sure, the extra effort is minimal and is generally outweighed by the benefits, but that extra few percent can make a difference if the trail is going to take it out of you.

Michael's Woodshop



Conveniently located at Camp William B. Snyder, Michael's Woodshop is an incredible resource which may be reserved for use by all NCAC Units & Scouts.

Michael's Woodshop operates year-round with opportunities for youth of all ages to participate in a variety of shop activities. Holding a Den project session is just one way to use the shop. Michael's Woodshop also offers great Baloo the Builder and Webelos Build It workshops, Woodwork Merit Badge classes and has recently added several new Woodshop Specialty Classes. In addition, the shop is a great venue for hosting Eagle Scout and Summit Award projects as well as conservation projects and other unit activities.

Here is the link to their latest quarterly newsletter [Michael's Woodshop News Summer 2022](#) which was just posted to their webpage.

2022 Goshen Family Camp



Come on down and enjoy some family fun at Goshen Scout Reservation over the Labor Day (9/2-5) weekend. We will have the Waterfront, Shooting range, and Handicraft areas open. All are welcome, not just registered Scouts.

Cost is \$30 per person (over 5 years of age). For more about this event and to register go to: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-51073#>

JOTA/JOTI



Jamboree on the Air - Jamboree on the Internet (JOTA-JOTI) promotes a Scout's sense of belonging to the worldwide Scout Movement and builds cultural awareness, develops tolerance, advocates sharing and collaboration as well as demonstrates teamwork. It provides exciting opportunities for young people to explore technology and to develop technical skills including fostering innovation and creativity through communicating with other Scouts.

A wide range of activities using communication technology are the chief methods of attaining these goals. JOTA-JOTI strives for a meaningful engagement of as many young people from as many parts of the world as possible annually on the third weekend in October. This weekend is also an occasion to celebrate Scouting and to generate positive energy to support the development of the Scout Movement.

The event seeks to promote quality Scouting in a manner faithful to the purpose, principles and Methods of Scouting and consistent with the needs and aspirations of young people in today's world.

The JOTA-JOTI programme shall be a reflection of the Promise, Law, Principles and Methods of Scouting, as defined by the WOSM Constitution, and shall also reflect the most up-to-date policies and initiatives of WOSM relating to youth programme for all ages.

When? JOTA-JOTI is an annual event that takes place the third weekend of October. This year that would be 14 to 16 October 2022,

For more information please visit the event website: www.world-jotajoti.info



National/International Recognition Days/Weeks/Months Calendar

2022 AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Here is a listing of some of the things we can celebrate in June. To get a full list of the Day, Week, or Month celebrations for June go to [National Day Calendar](#)

- Aug 1 - [Respect for Parents Day](#)
- Aug 2 - [National Ice Cream Sandwich Day](#)
- Aug 3 - [National Watermelon Day](#)
- Aug 4 - [National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day](#)
- Aug 5 - [National Water Balloon Day](#)
- Aug 6 - [National Disc Golf Day](#)
- Aug 7 - [American Family Day](#)
- Aug 8 - [Global Sleep Under the Stars Night](#)
- Aug 9 - [National Book Lovers Day](#)
- Aug 10 - [National S'mores Day](#)
- Aug 12 - [National Middle Child Day](#)
- Aug 13 - [National Bowling Day](#)
- Aug 14 - [National Creamsicle Day](#)
- Aug 15 - [National Leathercraft Day](#)
- Aug 16 - [National Tell a Joke Day](#)
- Aug 17 - [National I LOVE My Feet Day](#)
- Aug 18 - [National Ice Cream Pie Day](#)
- Aug 19 - [National Potato Day](#)
- Aug 20 - [World Honeybee Day](#)
- Aug 21 - [National Senior Citizens Day](#)
- Aug 23 - [National Sponge Cake Day](#)
- Aug 24 - [National Waffle Day](#)
- Aug 25 - [National Banana Split Day](#)
- Aug 26 - [National Dog Day](#)
- Aug 28 - [Rainbow Bridge Remembrance Day](#)
- Aug 30 - [National Beach Day](#)



A Scout Leader noticed that his new Scouts were having difficulty getting organized for their first cook-out. He asked if they had forgotten any essential equipment.

"Yes, " one boy replied. "My mother."



Save the Date - Camping Palooza



Coming this fall to Camp William B. Snyder is Camping Palooza, a day event celebrating scouting in NCAC by showcasing aspects from all areas of scouting. Including activities from STEM, Scouting History, food, music, games, and more, Camping Palooza will be hosted by the Amangamek-Wipit Lodge and will be open to all ages of scouts and scouters. Some hints of what's to come include nature, handicrafts, a marching band, special guests, and to end the day, a closing show sure to wow and excite. This jamboree of sorts will be taking place on October 15 2022, and our team can not wait to see you there!

Camping Palooza not only provides exciting activities, but also opportunities to network and meet other scouts. Camping Palooza is open to everyone! From Cub Scouts to Eagles, Sea Scouts, Venture Crews, all branches and ages of scouting are welcome at this event. With as many activities as we have planned, there is sure to be something for everyone!

We are still thinking up tons of thrilling program activities that are sure to excite everyone from the youngest Lion Scout to the most experienced adults, so if you have an idea for an awesome activity, or if you would like to join the event staff and lend your assistance for the day, let us know at campingpalooza@wipit470.org.

2023 National Jamboree – Registration is now Open



Next year, Scouts, Venturers, Explorers and Sea Scouts from all over the country are invited to the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia from July 19 to 28, 2023. There, they can enjoy whitewater rafting, biking, rock climbing, shooting sports and much more.

You will need to make sure items in your My.Scouting account profile are up-to-date to ensure the online [registration process](#) goes smoothly.

First, your BSA membership must be current, and your member ID number must be linked in your [My.Scouting](#) account profile.

All of the information in your profile of the My.Scouting account should also be current, especially the email address. Jamboree registration pulls the information from My.Scouting accounts, and the email address linked to that account will be used to correspond with you.

After submitting the application, you will receive an email to complete the required disclaimers. That step must be completed before the application is considered complete and made available to your local council to review. If you don't see it in your inbox, check the junk/spam folders.



Climboree



Camp, climb, hike, and have fun at the Climboree! The NCAC Climbing and High Adventure Committees will host a weekend of family camping fun and adventure at **Camp Rock Enon** on September 16-18, 2022. Open to all ages. Enjoy the best climbing on natural rock on a Scout camp close to DC. Hike to scenic Pinnacle Rock on the Tuscarora Trail. Join Cub games. Relax at a wooded campsite with nearby restrooms and showers.

Youth 11 and older can climb and rappel on Camp Rock Enon's massive sandstone climbing wall. Scouts BSA can complete on-rope Climbing and Camping merit badge requirements. Webelos can rappel. Cubs and Webelos can climb on Camp Rock Enon's mobile climbing tower, boulder, walk a slackline, join a photo scavenger hunt, geocache, hike, launch water or air-propelled rockets, and more.

See our [flyer](#) and [Climboree Guide](#) for details. Contact NCAC.Climboree@gmail.com with questions. Register today at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-Climboree!>

Training Opportunities



Climbing Instructor Training



You can become a climbing mentor for your unit and help Scouts enjoy the adventure of climbing on nearby natural rock. The NCAC Climbing Committee will offer Fall 2022 Climbing Level I Instructor training at the Devil's Kitchen climbing area on Maryland's Sugarloaf Mountain. We will teach two Saturday/Sunday class sections: the first section on October 1-2 and the second section on October 15-16, meeting each day at 8:15 am near the East View Parking Area and concluding by 6:00 pm. Details are available in our [10-1-2022](#) and [10-15-2022](#) logistics memos. Contact the Course Director at ncac.climbing@gmail.com to register in one section.



Paddle Craft Safety Class



The NCAC Aquatics Committee will hold the next Paddle Craft Safety Class on September 10-11, 2022. This course expands Safety Afloat training to include the skills and knowledge needed for a unit leader to confidently supervise canoeing or kayaking excursions on flat water. The schedule (same as in past years) will be: September 10th - Still Water Safety at Camp Snyder in the morning followed by Silver Lake in the afternoon. September 11th - Moving Water Safety at Riley's Lock on the Potomac. The class is limited to 12 persons. Fee is \$30 per day. Registration opens July 1. For further information, contact Mark Wray, redshoestwo@juno.com.



Registration now Open for National Wood Badge Course at the Summit



Registration is now open for the next National Model Linked Troop Wood Badge Course, set for Oct. 24–28, 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.

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 details

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 36 members.

When: Oct. 24–28, 2022

Participants are asked to arrive by 6 p.m. ET on Sunday, Oct. 23. The course concludes at 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28, and participants can leave that night or the next day (Saturday, Oct. 29).

Wood Badge veterans may notice that the course is now five days instead of six. That streamlined schedule was part of the 2020 update designed to better accommodate families' busy schedules.

Where: The Summit Bechtel Reserve, the BSA's national high-adventure base in West Virginia.

The course will take place indoors at the sleek new training facilities at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. You'll sleep in the new lodge bunkhouses and be able to take hot showers daily.

Who's invited: Any registered member of the BSA age 18 or older who has completed the basic training courses for their Scouting position. Members of all BSA programs are welcome — Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts and Exploring.

Who's leading the courses: You'll learn from devoted volunteers who share your passion for Scouting. Staff members are a diverse group representing all regions of the country. There's even one international staff member. The all-female Gray Troop will be led by Ashley Steigerwald. Andrew Miller will lead the all-male Orange Troop.

Dave Savone is the coordinator of the whole thing. He was course director for the all-male troop in 2020.

"Because of this linked troop Wood Badge experience, I personally have a better understanding of the linked troop model of Scouts BSA," he says. "They always talk about Wood Badge being a life-changing experience, and this course has changed my life for the betterment of the linked troop model."

How much: The course fee is \$550, which includes food, lodging and training materials. The full amount is due at the time of registration. Transportation to and from the Summit is not included in the fee.

Register and learn more: [Here](#)



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. It has been continuously designed to address new and emerging issues, techniques, and gear.

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: (Both Session Must be Attended to get credit for the Course)

- One day-long classroom session (Saturday September 24, 2022 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 to 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 22 thru Sunday October 23, 2022 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.

Cost: \$65

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-59004-151836> (closes 9/23)

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

Powder Horn 2022



When: 26 - 28 August 2022, (Friday 8 AM – Sunday 5 PM)

Where: Camp St Charles, 15375 Stella Maris Dr, Newberg, MD 20664

Like the powder horn used as a vessel to carry gunpowder in the days long gone, in Scouting, Powder Horn is the vessel to sustain the spirit of the outdoors in our youth today. Along with the spirit of the outdoors, you will also gather knowledge to share, motivate and direct youth. Powder Horn will give you the necessary skills to oversee a high adventure program. It will also help you identify local resources for your group's program.

PRE-REQUISITES:

- Must be a registered adult or youth member of the Boy Scouts of America, within the Scouts BSA, Venturing, or Sea Scout Program.
- Youth must be 14 years of age (or have joined a Venturing crew if 13 years of age and completed eighth grade).
- Youth must have completed the unit's version of leadership training (Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops, Ships, or Crews, etc.) and National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is highly recommended for youth participants.
- All adult participants must be fully trained for their program and position, to include a valid Youth Protection Training certificate which covers the course dates.
- All participants must complete the Hazardous Weather training, Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense, Climb on Safely online, and Drive Safely through My.Scouting.org prior to the course.
- Meet the physical requirements contained in the Annual Health and Medical Record physical in a back-country environment (Forms A, B, and C).

Cost: \$350.00

Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-49585#> (closes 8/21)



Leave No Trace Trainer Course - Outdoor Ethics



Purpose of this Course

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 the troop Outdoor Ethics Guide.

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.

Student Self Study (10/11 – 10/20) - The first part of the course is offered using a combination of online self-study modules. During this portion of the course, students will also prepare a 10–15-minute lesson which they will present to other students in their assigned patrol during the outdoor session of the course. This portion of the course will take approximately 6 hours to complete.

Zoom Meeting (10/17, 7-8 PM) - The second part of the course is a one-hour online Zoom meeting. At this meeting, students will accomplish two goals. They will review with an instructor how they plan to present their lesson on Saturday. This is also when meal planning for the Saturday session will be done.

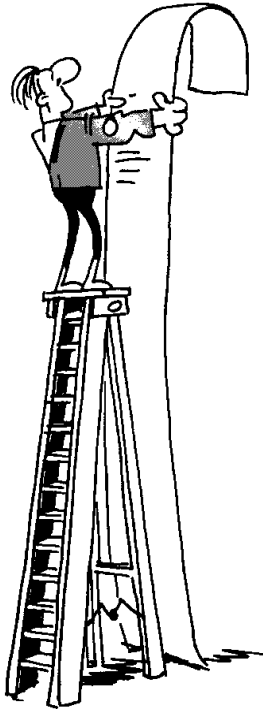
Outdoor Session (10/22, 9 AM – 7 PM, Camp Snyder) - The final part of the course is an all-day outdoor session. During this session, students will:

- Present to their fellow patrol members the lessons they have prepared
- Practice Leave No Trace cooking techniques
- Learn about Leave No Trace activities and games
- Learn how to use education to help others reduce their outdoor recreation impacts
- Share ideas with other students and instructors
- Learn about the resources available to help spread the message of Leave No Trace
- Prepare an action plan for how you will use what they've learned

Cost: \$50.00 per participant (same price for both youth and adults).

Registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-55114>, closes Oct 10.

District Calendar



August 2022

- 10 Roundtable
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Mtg
- 20 **Life to Eagle Training**
- 25 First Day of School
- 25 District Committee

September 2022

- 5 Labor Day
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Commissioner Mtg
- 26 Student Holiday
- 29 District Committee

October 2022

- 1-2 **Webelos-o-ree**
- 5 School Holiday
- 10 School Holiday
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 14-16 JOTA/JOTI
- 24 School Holiday
- 26 District Committee
- 31 School Holiday

November 2022

- 1 School Holiday
- 5 Scouting for Food (SFF) Notices out
- 8 School Holiday
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 Commissioner Mtg
- 12 SFF Food Pickup
- 19 **Life to Eagle Trning**
- 30 **Final Date for Recharter Turn In**

December 2022

- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Commissioner Mtg
- 19 School Break Starts
- 29 District Committee

January 2023

- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 12 Commissioner Mtg
- 16 MLK Jr. Day
- 23-24 School Holidays
- 26 District Committee

February 2023

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 10-12 **Freeze-o-ree**
- 10 Scout Jumuah
- 11 Scout Sabbath
- 12 Scout Sunday
- 20 President's Day
- 23 District Committee

March 2023

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 Commissioner Mtg
- 13 Student Holiday
- 23 District Committee
- 27 Student Holiday

April 2023

- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 Commissioner Mtg
- 14-16 **Spring Camporee**
- 27 District Committee

May 2023

- 10 **Goose Creek Court of Honor/Program Launch**
- 10 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Commissioner Mtg
- 25 District Committee
- 29 Memorial Day

June 2023

- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Commissioner Mtg
- 22 District Committee

July 2023

- 4 Fourth of July