Goose Creek District Newsletter

February 2013 Volume 4, Issue 7

Special Interest:

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Quick Calendar:

- Feb 10 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 13 – Roundtable
- Feb 16 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 23 – Univ. Scouting
- Mar 7 – AOL Recognition Ceremony
- Mar 9 – District PWD
- Mar 13 – Roundtable
- Apr 6 – Den Chief Training
- Apr 10 – Roundtable
- Apr 12-14 – Camporee
- Apr 13 – BSLST
- April 26-28 – OA Ordeal

Newsletter Key:

- Cub Scout Interest
- Boy Scout / Venturing Interest
- For Everyone

*reprinted from **www.ScoutmasterCG.com**, December 7, 2012*

No volunteer is expected to be an expert with an encyclopedic knowledge of Scouting. All we really need to is the will to learn and the good sense to accept and apply what we learn:

- We ought to take advantage of as many training opportunities as possible.
- Familiarize ourselves with informational resources.
- Have the humility to correct ourselves if we find we are off course.
- Be open to new methods and ideas.
- Learn from successes and failures.
- Practice our role with appropriate gravity tempered by a sense of humor.

Adversity will come our way, things will go wrong and plans will fall apart. No matter how carefully we prepare something is going to change, something unexpected is going to happen.

We'll be ready to take on what comes, even when we aren't quite certain what that is. We'll always see room for improvement. Let's face it; we may never have it all together. But we'll be patient with ourselves, long-suffering with others, and cheerful even when the going is difficult.

Your best asset is a resilient calm, determined attitude. We don't equate self-worth and accomplishment with immediate results – develop your tolerance for adversity and uncertainty.

Value experience above skill. Experience helps us avoid the common mistakes, weed out shortsighted solutions, and take measures that work in the long-term.

The only way to gain experience is to act – so we'll always be moving forward. Things will fail now and again but failure isn't indicative of a lack of character or ability; it's a part of the process of moving forward. So keep moving and don't be afraid of failing.

If we don't fear failure we develop clarity and decisiveness. We develop resolve and vision; we learn that we are not expected to be heroes but just to keep moving forward.

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Chairman's Corner

The 'About Us' page on our website has now been updated to reflect our current Committee members. Whether Officers or At-Large, everyone who chartered on the district committee is there: ***http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/about-us/18455***

An email address has been created for everyone (meaning any Scout, Scouter, interested party, etc.) to use to provide feedback to the the District about anything under the sun. The email address is ***Feedback@GooseCreekDistrict.org***. All emails to that address automatically go to our District Chairman and Scout Executives.

In an effort to increase our presence throughout the District and specifically within units, we also have created an email address for folks to make requests of District Committee members. For example, if your unit wants one of us to be a guest speaker at their Blue & Gold. The email address for requests is ***Request@GooseCreekDistrict.org***.

District News

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

Scout Sunday/Sabbath

The Boy Scouts of America designated February 3rd as Scout Sunday and February 9th as Scout Sabbath to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. Consider attending religious services in Scout uniform. You may do so as a unit or with your family. Whether you go to Mass or Services, Church or Temple or Mosque, remember that "A Scout is Reverent." For more information, including options for leaders within your faith click:
http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Media/Relationships/ascoutisrevernt.aspx

Survey for Units – Scouts/Scouters with Physical Disabilities

Scouts come in all shapes and sizes. Even though people think of Scouts as rugged outdoorsmen, not every Scout has to hike the high country at Philmont. Since its founding in 1910, the Boy Scouts of America has included fully participating members with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities.

Your Goose Creek District is always looking on how our program may be improved. We are conducting a survey focused on Scouts & Scouters facing physical disabilities. To participate go to the district website and check the bottom article on the splash page.

If you are a Scout, or a parent or a volunteer and you want to learn more about Scouting with Disabilities in general, to include mental and emotional disabilities go to: ***www.boyscouts-ncac.org/scouts-and-disabilities/50878***

Day Camp 2013

This year's Day Camp theme will be Wild Western Adventure.

Activities vary from camp to camp but most will offer traditional Scouting activities like archery and BB gun instruction, crafts, nature study, games, and fishing. Tiger Cubs through Webelos are eligible to attend day camp. Packs must provide one adult per five boys plus an adult partner for each Tiger to escort the adventurers through camp. All adult leaders must be Youth Protection Trained!

Online registration will begin mid-February, 2013. Cost per Cub is:

- Registered on or before April 16, 2013 – $165
- Registered on or before May 17, 2013 – $185
- Registered after May 17, 2013 – $205

Goose Creek's Day Camp: June 17-21, at Morven Park (41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg).

- Day Camp: 9 AM – 4 PM, M-Th; 9 AM – 2 PM, Friday
- Twilight Camp: 6:30 PM – Dusk, M-Th

Want To Be on Day Camp Staff?

Parents serving full-time on camp staff get one free registration for their Cub Scout! Registered youth members ages 14+ can earn $75 towards their week at Goshen Scout Reservation! Service hours can also be earned by youth who work at Day Camp.

District Championship Pinewood Derby

The 2013 Goose Creek District Championship Pinewood Derby, hosted by Venture Crew 7070, is pleased to announce the support of Easterns Automotive Group. And, returning for a second year, Leesburg's family restaurant, Chic-fil-A. All participating scouts at this championship event will receive a coupon redeemable for a free 4-piece chicken meal at the Leesburg location. Also for another year, prizes will also be awarded to the top three overall winners, provided by Leesburg Hobbies & Collectibles. Please support these businesses in Loudoun County that support the Goose Creek Boy Scouts of America.

The 2013 Goose Creek District Championship Pinewood Derby will take place on **March 9, 2013** at **Tolbert Elementary School** and is open to all Unit Event Winners placing 1st thru 3rd in all ranks including Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelo 1 and Webelo 2. This year a special "**Cow Cub**" rank will be eligible to race against the Chic-fil-A Cow, which took home 1st place honors in last year inaugural event. This class is open to all Cub Scout age siblings, or younger, of entrants.

Unit Leaders:
On-line registrations is now open. Registration can be accessed from the district website either from the calendar or the Cub tab on the left sidebar. Please have you scouts pre-register to facilitate the registration process the day of the event. Registration fees will be collected at the event.

Any questions can be directed to Steve Wolfson at ***SteveWolfson@verizon.net***.

Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony

The 11th Annual Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony will be conducted by the Order of the Arrow (OA) on Thursday March 7, 2013 at 7:00, location TBD. This very impressive Ceremony is presented by the Goose Creek OA ceremony team, wearing handcrafted native Powhatan Indian regalia.

This event does NOT replace your own pack Arrow of Light ceremony, nor will the Webelos receive their actual Arrow of Light patch at the ceremony. The Ceremony honors their achievement in a unique way by the older Scouts who are waiting to welcome them into their troops and all of the fun and adventure they will have along the Trail to Eagle Scout! The Webelos will receive a special OA-Arrow of Light Ceremony badge, designed by the OA chapter for this event.

Registration will be required to attend this event though there will be no registration fee. Information on how to register will be available in February.

OA Elections

If there is any troop who wishes to have an election for the Order of the Arrow, but haven't scheduled it yet, please contact Nicolas Freeman at ***nfreeman1996@aol.com*** as quickly as possible so that we can get it on the election calendar.

Goose Creek Nominating Committee

Now that the new year has begun, and the holidays are behind us, I would like to focus some effort on recruiting fine Scouters to District level committee positions and also, very importantly, new unit commissioners. While we our intention is not to lure leaders away from their units, there are many times when a Scout has moved on and/or a parent is looking for a way to serve a broader section of the program. We are looking for YOU!

There is no better way to serve your community than to give your time towards a youth program that has proven the most successful in our history. Since your boys are already enrolled in Scouting, you know how important it is. Equally important are the roles that need to be filled at the District level.

We have an enthusiastic new Chairman of the District Committee, Priscilla Martinez. She is excited and happy about the prospects this year in Scouting.

If you are eager to serve on the District Committee, or someone in your pack, troop, crew or post would like to become involved, please contact me or another Nominating Committee member (see below).

Remember, you never stand so tall as when you stoop to help a child.

Yours in Scouting,

The Goose Creek District Nominating Committee

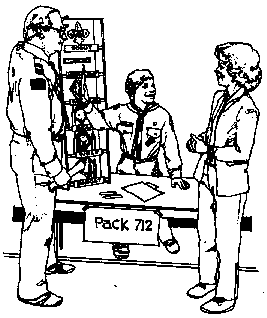
Mary Gail Swenson, Chair	***me4gop@verizon.net***
Randy Minchew	***jrminchew@ldn.thelandlawyers.com***
Bob Wertz	***bobwertz@hotmail.com***
Tom Hayes	***robinhayes@comcast.net***
Scott Bashore	***swbashore@aol.com***

Looking for 'Foster Packs'

One of the great joys and experiences of being a Webelos Scout is being able to go to Goshen for summer camp. One of the great disappointments is finding out you can't go because of family or other commitments the same week that your pack is going. Well there is an answer to this problem – go with another pack!

If your pack is going to Goshen this summer and would be willing to 'foster' a Scout or two from another pack (and most likely their parent) we would like to hear from you. Just send to us, ***GCProgram@verizon.net,*** your pack number, a contact point (name and phone # or email address), the week you are going, and which camp (PMI or Ross). We'll post this information in upcoming newsletters and on the district web site for others to see and contact you to make arrangements.

Spring 2012 Join Scouting Night Event



Goose Creek District will be holding a Spring "Join Scouting Night" that will focus on the recruitment of new Tigers to get a head start on summer activities with packs, leading to the fall startup of cub scouting to coincide with the beginning of school. We will be reformulating and refocusing our approach to the Spring JSN event and look to tentatively hold this in April (no later than May) immediately after the March Spring Break week. Our goal is to get the message out to the greatest audience possible detailing the value of Cub Scouting in the development of a young boy. To that, we are looking at a new District-wide Tigers event during the summer months to show that the fun never ends in scouting.

Please look forward to the upcoming JSN-specific Newsletter which will detail a more focused year-round plan for unit and membership growth across Loudoun County along with firm details of these new events currently being planned.

If you have any questions, comments or constructive advice, please route it directly to Chris Goda at ***ChrisGoda@gmail.com.***

"Onward and Upward"

On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles

Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts:

Douglas P Breton - Troop 969

Marcus Adam Joseph - Crew 1106

Keegan J Ottoson - Troop 969

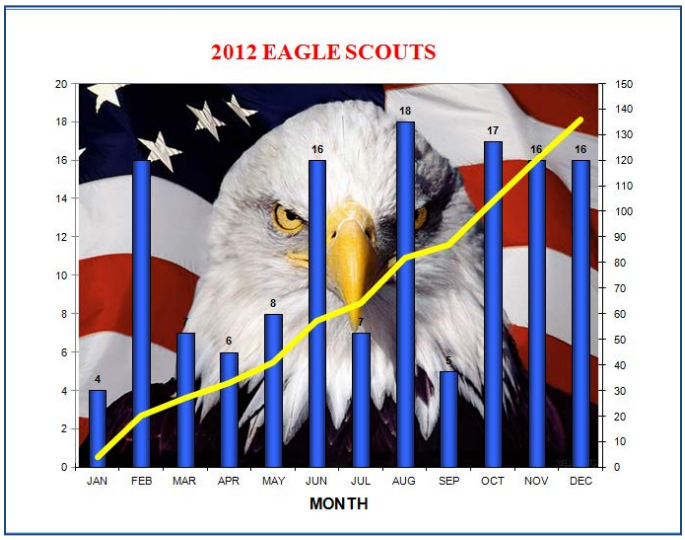
Eagle Database Reconciliation

We recently completed an extensive reconciliation between our own (district) records of the Eagles in 2012, and those in the Council files. You can imagine our surprise when it was discovered that according to Council records, Goose Creek had almost 40% MORE Eagles than were in our own records. Those boys who achieved the rank of Eagle last year, but who were not recognized for such in the Newsletter are listed below. Congratulations guys!

Jason Allred (VC-1173)	Austin Lush (VC-953)
Anthony Beninca (T-1430)	Austin Morrical (T-1430)
Paul Beninca (T-1430)	William Parkin (T-1173)
Matthew Crowder (VC-1173)	Shane Pearce (VC-533)
Ian Cunningham (T-572)	Nicholas Pfeifle (T-761)
Jonathan de Steuben (T-1154)	Christopher Seven (T-1430)
Thomas Fairholm (T-1173)	Colin Shutler (T-2970)
Ryan Fuller (T-2010)	Matthew Simmons (T-663)
Benjamin Gerhart (T-956)	Matthew Smidt (T-2010)
Thomas Graham (T-2010)	Adam Stevenson (VC-953)
Grayson Gunderson (T-1165)	Connor Sullivan (T-956)
Joshua Guszak (T-663)	Chapman Tagg (VC-533)
Joshua Hagerott (VC-743)	Jonathan Wither (VC-533)
Michael Hickey (T-997)	Erik Yeomans (T-1430)
Brenton Jackson (VC-1173)	Kristopher Yorke (T-982)
David Lewis (T-1173	

Centennial Year Eagles – A Banner Year

From an Advancement perspective, Goose Creek had a stellar year in 2012, and we can probably attribute some of that to the fact that it was the Centennial Anniversary for the Eagle Rank. After averaging roughly 81 Eagles per year since 2006, Goose Creek can boast of having seen no less than 136 young men earn the rank of Eagle. Congratulations to you all!

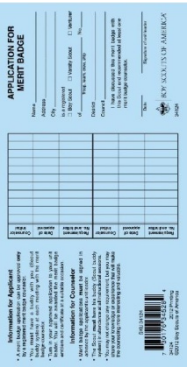


Life-to-Eagle Process Reminders (and FYIs)

In light of the above recognition of following bullets are offered as reminders to things that should (or should not) be done … culled from conversations had and observations made over the last few weeks of serving the district's Eagle Candidates and their units.

- **Eagle Recognition …** Our new Eagles deserve recognition, and for the last year or so, we've reserved space in the Newsletter to do just that, for the boys who have successfully completed their Eagle Board of Review. However, some appear to fall through the cracks, with me – the Advancement Chair – not knowing of the accomplishment. The district's Eagle Advisers on my team have the basic responsibility to communicate these to me, but like many of us, they're wearing 3, 4 or even 5 different "hats" in Scouting … so we need your help. As a means of making sure that no one is overlooked, we're asking ALL unit Advancement Chairs (or Unit Life-to-Eagle Advisers) to send me (Brad Scales) an email as soon as possible following the successful EBoR. In that email, I would ask for 'the minimum'; Unit, Scout Name, EBoR Date, and name of District Eagle Adviser/representative who sat in on the Board. Those emails should be sent to my email (***MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com***); and I can take it from there. Thank you!
- **Life-to-Eagle Training …** Please spread the word, and keep your eyes open for details on some district-level Life-to-Eagle training that will be provided in late March or early April. In addition to offering you a chance to ask questions, those sessions will help explain some of the nuances of the 'new' Guide to Advancement, and the manner in which NCAC will be implementing that, along with some district-specific stuff as well. Don't miss it!
- **Pre-review of Eagle Scout Rank Applications …** Council personnel have explained that there are still a surprisingly large number Eagle Scout Rank Applications (ESRAs) that are sent in to Council in 'less than ideal condition'. Since the staff is so thin there, Council is asking district Eagle Advisers to conduct a preliminary review of the ESRAs – and to initial same – before the unit sends them into Council. This should cut down on the number of ESRAs that need to be modified and re-submitted. At some point – perhaps April or May – Council will insist upon this review, but for the time being, it's only a request … but one we would be well advised to adopt soonest.
- **Eagle Notebook Overload! …** There is an overabundance of Eagle packages (notebooks, project workbooks, etc.) piling up at the Council office … and they're begging for people to come retrieve them. Once the unit receives the postcard from National confirming the youth's advancement to Eagle, those notebooks can (and must) all be retrieved from the Council offices. They're running out of space!

Merit Badge Blue Card Revised



A new version of the “Application for Merit Badge,” No. 34124, commonly referred to as the “blue card,” is being released later in January 2013. The availability of the new card will vary locally, and the old cards are still acceptable as councils exhaust their inventories. The new version will remain the old familiar blue and the change is a small one, but as it takes effect it will make a significant difference in the process.

On the front side (first tri-fold portion) above the unit leader’s signature line, the statement with the word “qualified” is being changed to: “I have discussed this merit badge with this Scout and recommended at least one merit badge counselor.” The wording change has been made due to confusion over the interpretations of “qualified,” “approved,” and “approval,” as applied to when a Scout could begin work on a merit badge. With the new statement, the unit leader’s signature indicates that he or she and the Scout have talked about the Scout’s desire to work on the merit badge and that a merit badge counselor has been recommended.

The intent of the modification is to give the unit leader the chance to offer counseling as to whether or not the merit badge is a good choice for the Scout, based on his abilities and any prerequisites. The terms “qualified” or “approved” were never meant to indicate that the Scout needed to pass some sort of pre-qualifying test before pursuing a merit badge, or that the unit leader had pass/fail authority to allow—or to not allow—the Scout to undertake work on a badge.

Other than this single change, the good old “blue card” is the same as before. Unit leaders are requested to use this new approach now. With release of the revised Guide to Advancement 2013 during the first half of the New Year, the practice will become mandated.

Climbing Merit Badge

Sportrock, located in Sterling and Alexandria, offers a comprehensive rock climbing program that fulfills the requirements of the Climbing Merit Badge. All points of the official B.S.A. Handbook are covered in a fun and safe environment. Scouts will learn the basics of top rope climbing, practice climbing, rappelling, site conservation tactics and much more!

For more information: go to ***www.SportRock.com*** and click on **Kid’s Programs** on the left side menu.

Council / National News

Council Website: www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

Spring Cub Family Campouts

This spring Camp Snyder will host two Cub Scout Family Campouts. These campouts are a great experience for both Cub Scouts and their families to spend a weekend camping together. There will be a variety of activities ranging from shooting sports, outdooor camping skills, crafts and games, to academic and sports belt loops and much more. Each weekend will be different providing the opportunity for families to attend both weekends for different experiences.

This year's dates are:

- April 12-14
- May 10-12

Registration will be open for individual families, dens or entire packs. Individual families may also choose to join us for just the day if they don't wish to campout, although the campout is encouraged.

For more information and to register: ***www.GoToSnyder.org***

2013 Goshen Summer Camp Availability

Key: Available Almost Full Full

Camp (as of 11/06/2012)		Week 1	2	3	4	5	6
	Bowman (Patrol Cooking)						
	Marriot (Heater Stack)	LDS Week					
	Olmsted (BS Dining Hall)						
	Lenhok'sin High Adventure						
	PMI (Dining Hall)						
	Ross (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/22 to 6/29
Week 2 – 6/29 to 7/6
Week 3 – 7/6 to 7/13
Week 4 – 7/13 to 7/20 (National Jamboree week)
Week 5 – 7/20 to 7/27 (National Jamboree week)
Week 6 – 7/27 to 8/3

Specialty Week will be held during the week 6, July 27 to August 3, at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle, Beach & Yacht, and Field & Stream are the featured programs for this year. Scouts attend these specialty programs provisionally, rather than with their home troops and will spend the entire week earning merit badges and participating in activities focused around the program theme. Specialty week is open to Scouts ages 13 and up.

Scout Related Expenses and Income Tax Returns

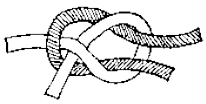
Scouters who heeded the Scout Motto last year remembered to track and document their Boy Scouts of America-related expenses. And now, they know that they can include those expenses if they plan to itemize their deductions.

But what if you didn't know that BSA expenses were deductible? Or what if your "filing system" is really your glove compartment that's stuffed with gas receipts and crumpled-up napkins? And what qualifies as an eligible expense, anyway?

For help in figuring all of this out check out the following web article: ***http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2011/03/03/tax-time/***

For the best advice, find a professional, use tax-preparation software, or check out the IRS website.

Knotmaker – Software for Drawing Knots



Knotmaker 2.1 is a windows program for drawing knotting diagrams. It is developed by Derek Smith and Dave Root, and available as a free download from ***www.RopesAndPoles.BlogSpot.com***. The software originated from discussions on the International Guild of Knot Tyers forum.

Chaos Machine!

Nova Labs will be exhibit their Chaos Machine Saturday and Sunday, February 9-10 from 10AM to 6PM at their Reston facility. This is a great opportunity for Cub Scouts to see the machine in action and talk about the creativity, engineering and physics that go into it.

Nova Labs' Craig Trader is a wonderful ambassador for making, bringing fun physics to kids with his Chaos Machine. It's a component system with which structures can be built which provide paths for steel balls to travel. Think of it as a massive marble machine on creativity steroids. Building and using it provides endless edutainment.

But where does the physics fit in? That comes in the successful construction of marble paths. If a ball falls and bounces on a trampoline then it must land back on a track if it's to continue down its path. If a marble makes it to the bottom then to continue its journey it needs to make it back to the top. How? By traveling up a screw column? By riding a conveyor system? The beauty is that kids get to decide and then watch their decisions in action.

When: Saturday and Sunday, February 9-10, 2013, 10AM-6PM

Where: 11409-F Sunset Hills Rd, Reston, VA

More about the Chaos Machine: ***http://www.nova-labs.org/blog/2012/04/01/zany-wonderful-chaos-machine/***

Cub Scout Resident Camp

Camp Snyder will conduct five 3-day sessions (Thursday 6 PM – Sunday 9 AM) for Cub Resident Camp in 2013. Cub Resident Camp is your introduction to what Boy Scout camp can be like. Scouts and their adult leaders/parents will live in 5-person BSA wall tents with cots and platforms, eat at the camp dining hall and experience a wonderful program. The program at camp includes opportunities for Scouts to earn Achievements, Pins, Belt Loops, and several just-for-fun activities. The importance of Cub Resident camp to a Cub Scout and their family is tremendous! Resident Camp will develop your son's or den's self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well being.

Session 1: July 4-7	Cost:	$160 – register by March 15
Session 2: July 11-14		$180 – register by April 15
Session 3: July 18-21		$200 – register by May 15
Session 4: July 25-28		$220 – register after June 15
Session 5: August 1-4		$85 – adults

Cub Adventure Days

Camp Snyder will conduct four Adventure Days sessions for Cub Scouts in 2013. Cub Adventure Days is a great Day Camp experience for all Scouts from Tiger through Webelos and their families to experience a campout 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. Every day will be different from the one before with Scouts visiting all of the Camp Snyder program areas by the end of the week.

Session 1: July 8-11	Cost:	$175 – register by March 15
Session 2: July 15-18		$195 – register by April 15
Session 3: July 22-25		$215 – register by May 15
Session 4: July 29 – Aug 1		$235 – register after Jun 15
		$20 – one adult for a week
		(may be a different adult each day)

Webelos Camp

Camp Snyder will conduct two Webelos Resident Camps in 2013. Webelos camp is a big step for the Webelos I or II working on Activity Badges. Scouts will camp overnight just like when they become Boy Scouts to get the full summer camp experience in a shorter setting. Most of your time will be spent working towards advancing in your Webelos trail on the way to becoming a Boy Scout. There are plenty of other fun activities to fill your week including games, trips to the pool and more. Webelos will also be able to work on some free time activities that will include the more advanced pins from the Cub Scout Academic and Sports program. Camps go from Sunday 6 PM to Friday 9 AM.

Session 1: Aug 4-9	Cost:	$210 – register by March 15
Session 2: Aug 11-16		$230 – register by April 15
		$250 – register by May 15
		$270 – register after Jun 15
		$50 – adults

Lenhok'sin High Adventure

Lenhok'sin High Adventure is Goshen Scout Reservation's nationally accredited high adventure program. The program offers Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and their adult leaders exciting high adventure opportunities they will enjoy and remember forever. The staff at Lenhok'sin will work with you to customize a trek based on your Crew's interests.

Lenhok'sin is a trail camp and you will have the opportunity to hike the 4,000+ acres of Goshen Scout Reservation as well as some of the 35,000 acres of surrounding state wildlife game lands in addition to visiting Lenhok'sin's Staffed outposts. Treks run from Monday through Friday, allowing crews to select 4 outposts to attend.

Trail food is provided to you by the Lenhok'sin staff and prepared by your crew on the trail. Breakfasts and suppers are cooked meals and lunches are generally "no-cook" meals consisting of high-protein foods.

For more information: Council web site → Camps → Lenhok'sin

High Adventure – Space Available on Provisional Crews

The Council's High Adventure Committee still has room on our contingents to Sea Base, Philmont and Lenhok'sin! Visit the council website (About Us → Council Committees → High Adventure Committee) or contact us (***Wes.Haynes@scouting.org***) to get more information.

Spaces are available for:

- **Lenhok'sin Provisional Treks**: July 14 – 20 & July 28 – Aug. 3
- **Philmont Provisional Treks**: July 16 – 30
- **Sea Base Provisional Treks**: July 17 – 23

For those already planning a High Adventure trek for this summer, we have experts on hand for all the High Adventure bases ready to assist with your plans!

For More Information visit ***www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure***.

Amateur Radio Operator Strip

BSA is now offering a special patch for licensed aficionados of amateur radio. The Amateur Radio Operator Rating Strip, above, shows others that you're available for communication services for events, like Jamboree on the Air, and emergencies.

The requirements for the strip couldn't be simpler: You must be a registered youth or adult member with a valid amateur radio license, of any class, issued by the Federal Communications Commission, known to you and me as the FCC.

That's it. If you're eligible, grab the $1.59 strip (Supply No. 617431) from the Boy Scout Supply Group at 800-323-0736 or ScoutStuff.org. The strip's release date is Feb. 15, and you can't preorder it. So mark your calendars to fire off an order the day after Valentine's Day.

Leave No Trace Trainer Course

This course is designed to train Boy Scouts (age 14 and older), Venturers, and adults (Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venture) to serve as Leave No Trace Trainers for Scouting and the wider public. *For a Scout or Venturer to serve as a Leave No Trace Trainer, they must complete the Leave No Trace Trainer Course*.

The youth leaders of a busy outdoor adventure program must be able to apply Leave No Trace to a variety of activities in differing environments during all seasons of the year; all done in the company of Scouting youth and adults with varying levels of outdoor skills, self discipline, and commitment to an outdoor ethic.

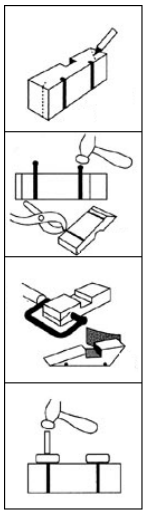
Additionally, the course will provide participants with a deeper understanding of Leave No Trace to help individuals make and guide others in making good choices to minimize recreational impacts to help protect the wonderful outdoor locations they choose to enjoy.

Individuals planning trips to National High Adventure Bases, camp staff members, unit leaders and those in District or Council training positions are urged to attend.

The current plan is to hold the course at Camp Snyder, on April 26-28, 2013. It would be open to about 20 participants and the estimated cost is $40 which includes materials and food.

For more information please contact George Birsic (***GBirsic@gmail.com***).

Dremel and Lowe's Pinewood Derby Days



The 2013 Dremel Pinewood Derby Days Program, brought to you through Lowe's Home Improvement Stores, aims to provide you with a source for all of the materials and know-how you need to create a winning Pinewood Derby car you can be proud of – regardless of your skill level. Every Lowe's store will be hosting Pinewood Derby car clinics for the experts to share their tips and tricks for making the fastest cars on race day. Everyone who attends an event will be given a BSA-approved badge and a 10% off Dremel coupon.

Demo Dates: Feb 4, Feb 18. All demos are from 11 AM – 1 PM.
Please contact your local store prior to the event.

Important!!! Before building your car make sure you check your Pack's construction rules. If your car is to race in the District derby then it must also follow the District's Derby Construction rules posted on the district website.

NYLT (IMPEESA) 2013

The National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is the council-level youth leadership course provided by BSA. In order to reach the widest possible youth audience with our BSA training, NYLT is open to Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturing members and Sea Scouts. This is in line with the Mission and Vision of the BSA as well as the Strategic Plan of BSA. In NCAC, the course has adopted a Baden-Powell nickname, "Impeesa" (the wolf that never sleeps), to further identify our program.

The objective of our NYLT program is to equip our young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their Scout unit and in LIFE. Impeesa brings together Scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice the leadership techniques in a risk-free, Scout-friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.

NYLT is an experience designed to train the participant in team building and leadership skills, taught in an outdoor setting. The course is led by a staff of Scouts from the Council. These peer level instructors have completed the Impeesa course and an intense staff development process.

The course is presented around actual Scout events and activities. Scouts will get to SEE the Scouting program modeled and the Scouting ideals come to life as they learn and practice their leadership skills.

Impeesa is not another summer camp; it is an intense and challenging leadership experience. There is no merit badge training offered. Every game, activity, ceremony, and even each meal is designed to be part of a total training experience. Participants are treated with the respect they are due as future leaders in their troops. They are expected to put forth the time and energy needed to learn and practice the leadership skills.

The course fee is $225 there is a $25 discount if the youth is registered prior to April 16, 2013. A $50 non-refundable deposit must accompany the participant application.

There are three courses during 2013:

Impeesa Weeklong Course
Date: June 23-28, 2013
Time: 1:00 PM (Sunday) - 5:00 PM (Friday)
Location: Cheltenham, MD

Impeesa Weeklong Course
Date: July 14-19, 2013
Time: 1:00 PM, July 14 - 5:00 PM, July 19
Location: Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket Virginia

Impeesa Weekend Course
Date: July 26-28, 2013 and August 2-4, 2013 (2 Week-ends)
Time: 1:00 PM (Friday) - 5:00 PM (Sunday)
Location: Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket Virginia

For more information go to: ***www.boyscouts-ncac.org/impeesa-nylt/18907***

On-Line Resource of the Month

Posted on December 28, 2012 in *The Scoutmaster Minute* (***http://thescoutmasterminute.net***)

Hey folks.. THIS IS AN UNSOLICITED Blog post about perhaps my favorite of the packaged "Just add water" meals.

www.PackitGourmet.com makes some fantastic food for backpacking or for those of you that are getting ready for a zombie attack.. I suppose you can add this to your preper stock.

(Editor Note: When we use a person's post we display it exactly as written, regardless of spelling errors or unknown words. In this case we believe the word 'preper' in the previous paragraph stands for 'pre-prepared'.)

But seriously, I order from Packit Gourmet frequently and enjoy their meals. They are hearty, great tasting, and pretty inexpensive compared to some of the name brands that you may find at your local outfitter.

The customer service at Packit Gourmet is fantastic and they are great at answering questions, getting your order to you on time and following up with any issue you may have… I promise it won't be with the food.

For Scout units, the pot is even sweeter… Sign your unit up and you can let your Scouts reap the benefits of great meals and financial savings.. on the food that is.

When you sign your unit up for the Scout Discount, you and your Scouts can save 15% on every purchase.. and that's not a one time thing. Every Purchase! You don't have to order as a unit, you don't have to order a specific amount and no you are limited to a few of the meal selections. The store is open to you and you get the discount every time you order.

Training Opportunities

Training Records

At the last NCAC Leadership Training Committee meeting they announced an improvement in the ***www.MyScouting.org*** site that allows the unit Key 3 to get a Training Report for everyone in their unit.

To access these reports, log into the MyScouting site, and in the upper left-hand frame, just under Training Validation, there is a new link title "Unit Training Tracking." Clicking this link allows a unit Key 3 to retrieve the Training Report. District Committee members can select District and Unit from dropdown lists, and then obtain the report.

NCAC Powder Horn 2013

Scouting leaders want to provide challenging and fun outdoor programs to meet the needs of their older youth members, but may lack the knowledge and/or resources to do so. Powder Horn responds to this problem with an exciting training opportunity that exposes Venturing, Boy Scout, and Varsity adult leaders to a wide range of outdoor, high-adventure activities. Powder Horn provides its participants with valuable resources and contacts to assist leaders in delivering the promise of Scouting's high-adventure experiences to our youth.

Powder Horn is based on the requirements for the prestigious Venturing Ranger Award. This award requires demonstrated proficiency in a challenging set of core and elective topics. During the course, presentations on Ranger topics are made by knowledgeable consultants with demonstrated skills and certifications, as appropriate. They demonstrate the skills required and explain where resources, such as equipment, facilities, guides, instructors, and certifications that can be obtained locally. Most of the presentations involve actual hands-on experience by the participants, including shooting (pistol, rifle, shotgun), archery, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, fly fishing, mountain biking, SCUBA, land navigation, Leave No Trace, Project COPE, and much, much more.

Many participants report that they picked up a new hobby as a result of a Powder Horn class.

The course is 4-days long, August 22-25, and will be held at Camp Snyder. Details for registration and cost (in the past it was about $275) will be forthcoming. It is for any older Scouts, Venturers, and adult leaders interested in experiencing a unit-level, high-adventure program.

For more information: contact Steve Wolf at ***NCACPowderhorn2013@gmail.com***

Wood Badge

Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters, including Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Varsity Coaches, Venturing Advisors, committee chairs, den leaders and other unit, district and council leaders. The Wood Badge course incorporates more than 80 years of traditions while adding the management and leadership training necessary to become a successful leader in the 21st Century.

Please take a minute to read about Wood Badge and to add your name to the next course roster. NCAC's Wood Badge courses fill up quickly so register soon!

Spring 2013 Wood Badge (both sessions are required):

Session 1: Friday, 4/12/2013- Sunday, 4/14/2013 at Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

Session 2: Friday, 5/17/2013 - Sunday 5/19/2013 at Camp Highroad, Middleburg, VA

For more information about Wood Badge go to:
www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/wood-badge/16143

University of Scouting

The "University of Scouting" is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, Varsity Scouts, District, and Council). Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cubbing, Scouting, what we call "Adventuring" (a combination of Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout activities), as well as Electives opportunities.

When: Feb 23, 2013, Registration opens in January

Where: Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria

Cost: $30

Registration (open till 2/17): ***http://doubleknot.doubleknot.com/event/1283803***

Leave No Trace Master Educator Course

Sponsored by the Baltimore Area council, this five-day, five-night course trains interested adults, ages 18 and up, to serve as Leave No Trace Master Educators. Master Educators work with their council's Outdoor Ethics Advocates to provide Leave No Trace Trainer, BSA Leave No Trace 101 and outdoor ethics awareness courses. Each BSA Master Educator course is taught by a set of nationally-designated Master Educator Instructors, so your Master Educator standing is recognized nationally the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics.

When/Where: April 12 (7 pm)-14 (2 pm) & May 2 (7 pm) -5 (2 pm), 2013 at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation (1929 Susquehanna Hall Road, Whiteford, MD 21160-1703).

Prerequisite: Leave No Trace Trainer or approval from Council Outdoor Ethics Advocate

Instructed by: Nationally-designated Leave No Trace Master Educator Instructors

Participants receive: Leave No Trace Master Educator card from BSA, BSA Leave No Trace Trainer Course Manual, Leave No Trace 101 Course Guide, Leave No Trace Master Educator certificate from the BSA and the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, and National Park Service Leave No Trace DVD courtesy of the National Park Service.

Cost: $250—Includes meals for both weekends, educational materials, LNT The Center for Outdoor Ethics Membership Fee. Attendance at both weekends is required.

Registration Deadline: April 1, 2013. Campsite location, equipment list and other course details will be emailed out to all participants on April 1, 2013

For additional information: please email Thomas Willis at ***willisthomasmichael@gmail.com*** or 410.599.8840

Backcountry Outdoor Leader Skills

This course is aimed at all adults working with older youth regardless of program (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Explorer). This training IS NOT recommended for Cub Scout leaders. All participants must have completed Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the position-specific training for their program area prior to attending this course and be able to meet physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record.

The target audience is leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, inasmuch as unit shakedowns will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure.

The course is in two parts: one 6-hour classroom session followed by a two-day weekend outdoor session.

Part 1 — Sat. 3/9/2013 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Aldersgate UMC, 1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA) — Addresses ways to effectively work with older youth. Covers the detailed preparation and planning that must be done before you go out including risk management. Summarizes the personal and crew equipment used for lightweight camping. Plans the weekend overnight session.

Part 2 — Sat. 4/6/2013, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 4/7, 1:30 PM (Camp Highroads, Middleburg, VA) — Participants will practice core leader skills for the outdoor program — Leave No Trace, navigation (map & compass plus GPS), terrain awareness, expedition menu planning and food preparation, stove and stove maintenance, wilderness first aid issues, expedition health and hygiene, team building.

Scouters planning to accompany a crew to any of the BSA-sponsored High Adventure Camps should also attend the High Adventure Training provided by the Council's High Adventure Committee.

Cost: $40, class size limited to 32.

To Register: Registration opens Jan 1, 2013, closes Mar 8. Registration can be done on the Council website, under Training → Back country Outdoor Leader Skills.

You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You always read by flashlight
- Instead of building a fence around the yard with nails and wood, you lash it with poles and rope
- A trip to Philmont is a pilgrimage.

Wilderness First Aid and CPR/AED First Aid Courses

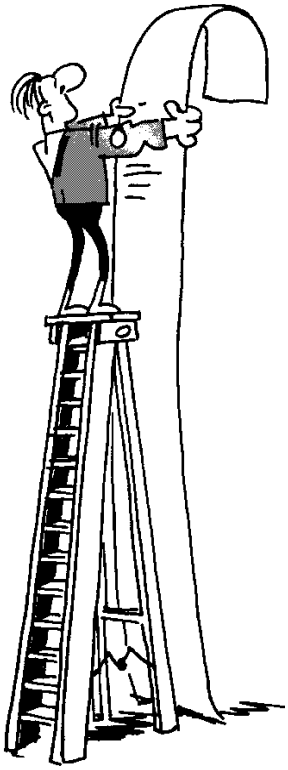
The Center for Wilderness Safety (a non-profit organization dedicated to wilderness and remote medicine education and training) has announced their spring calendar of courses for:

Wilderness First Aid - This 16-hour course teaches the assessment of and treatment given to an ill or injured person in a remote environment where definitive care of a physician and/or rapid transport is not readily available. In our Wilderness First Aid classes, participants learn to assess, treat, and when possible, prevent medical and traumatic emergencies within the scope of their training.

CPR/AED First Aid - An emergency responder; a lifeguard at your local pool; a trusted babysitter. Each year, an average of more than 9 million people gain the skills they need to prepare for and respond to a variety of emergencies by becoming American Red Cross certified. Learn important new skills that could help save the life of a friend, loved one, or a complete stranger.

For more information and to register: ***www.WildSafe.org***

District Calendar



February 2013
- 10 Scout Sunday
- 13 Roundtable
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 16 Scout Sabbath
- 18 President's Day
- 23 Univ. of Scouting
- 27 District Committee

March 2013
- 7 ***AOL Recognition Ceremony***
- 9 ***District Pinewood Derby***
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 25-29 Spring Break
- 27 District Committee

April 2013
- 1 Moveable School Holiday
- 6 ***Training – Den Chief***
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 Venturing Forum
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 12-14 ***Spring Camporee***
- 13 ***Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific (at camporee)***
- 24 District Committee
- 26-28 ***OA Ordeal***

May 2013
- 4 ***Cubmobile Derby***
- 4 ***Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific***
- 8 ***Program Launch***
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18-19 ***Training – IOLS/OLSWL***
- 22 District Committee
- 27 Memorial Day

June 2013
- 1 ***Soda Bottle Rocket Derby***
- 6 Last Day of School
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 17-21 ***Day Camp***
- 26 District Committee

July 2013
- 4 Independence Day
- 15-24 National Jamboree

August 2013
- 8 Commissioner RT
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 Venturing Forum
- 28 District Committee

September 2013
- 2 Labor Day
- 3 First Day of School
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 Venturing Forum
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 28-29 ***Webelos-o-ree***
- 25 District Committee

October 2013
- 7 Columbus Day
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 14 Columbus Day
- 19-20 JOTA/JOTI
- 23 District Committee

November 2013
- 2 ***Scouting for Food Bag Distribution***
- 4-5 Student Holiday
- 10 ***Scouting for Food Bag Pickup***
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 20 District Committee
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

December 2013
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 Venturing Forum
- 18 Annual District Business Meeting
- 23 Winter Break Starts

January 2014
- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 8 Roundtable
- 8 Venturing Forum
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 20 MLK Jr. Day
- 27 Moveable School Holiday
- 22 District Committee