

January 2024



THE TRIBUTARY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL

Steve Hammond
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Matt Phillippi
COUNCIL COMMISSONER

Sue Hart
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Virginia Headwaters Council (VAHC)

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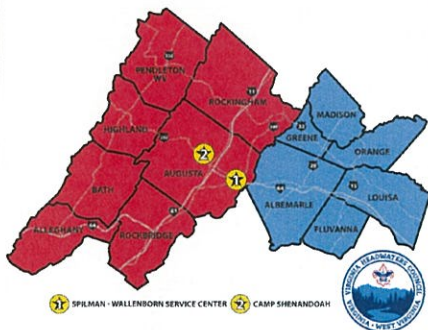
Hours of Operation:
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Happy Scouting New Year 2024



2023 HONORS

VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 24, 2024—6:00 PM

Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church
30 Tinkling Spring Drive, Fishersville, VA

Join us in celebrating the accomplishments of our
Eagle Scouts and Volunteer Leadership

Registration is live on vahcbsa.org/2023-Honors
Registration cut off FEBRUARY 12th — No Walk-ins

Cost:

- \$100** Eagle Scout Sponsorship (Includes Eagle Scout dinner, sponsor dinner, Eagle neckerchief and csp)
- \$35** Adult
- \$25** Per Additional Guest in your party (not a 2023 Eagle Scout)

NO WALK-INS, REGISTRATION CLOSES FEBRUARY 12th



Happy New Year!

We made it. Although there was much well-founded concern this time last year, 2023 turned out to be a year of renewal in our Council. There was significant change in the professional staff and how the Council did business. We cut expenses to a reasonable level, sold an office that no longer served our needs, paid our debts, and favorably refinanced our long-term debt. We had four, uninterrupted, good weeks of Summer Camp, a well-attended Aviation Day, Apple Harvest Camporee and numerous other outings and events that reflect well on our program. Our Order of the Arrow Lodge continued its tradition of excellence, and our Camp staff received the highest camper approval ratings in years. It was a good year for Virginia Headwaters Council.

That's the good news. The bad news is that we are not completely out of the woods yet. We recently reviewed a budget for 2024 that had us operating at a loss. We are currently taking steps to address that deficit before it even happens. That is the difference now, than before, we are identifying financial problems early and addressing them aggressively to resolve them before they adversely impact the Council and our program. But we can't do that without the support you all provide. And you all have been magnificent. A solid popcorn and peanut sales performance, along with successful special events have been crucial in keeping the Council financially stable. I believe that those programs and events will continue to grow and provide funding for our program.

I would also like thank Lowe's Corporation. Several Lowe's stores contributed a significant amount of building materials and appliances that have enabled us to remodel the Camp Administrative building and replace the roof. Moreover, we recently were

awarded a grant from a charitable trust in the amount of \$40,000 for a new roof for our Camp dining hall. Our Camp is our crown jewel, and we intend to continue a program of maintenance and improvement. That brings me to this year's Friends of Scouting Campaign.

The major component of our budget comes from Friends of Scouting. Our families that are involved in Scouting and see the benefit of the program are willing to invest and contribute towards its success. Family FOS is our cornerstone of the campaign. Each unit should plan on having a FOS presentation at an event where most of the Scouting parents will be attending. We need 100% participation in scheduling a FOS presentation. This year our campaign is focused on Camp Shenandoah. If you have been there, you know the magic of Camp. You can appreciate the financial needs required to perpetuate the experience for our current Scouts and those in the future. Keep that in mind when you consider your contribution. Give generously.

Again, Happy New Year!

Steve Hammond - Council President
steve.hammond@hammondtownsend.com
(cell) 434-962-5813

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9th from 7 to 8pm on Zoom. Come join us to hear about and work on all the ways we are making sure Scouting is for everyone. We are looking to establish a Scholarship Committee to make decisions regarding awarding Scholarships and Camperships. Any interested Scouters should contact Anne Blair at annehwangblair@gmail.com or come to the meeting in January.

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84712335100?pwd=DCbOEmcU33ZWbljBKNjkiok5uXCWZT.1>



The new year is upon us and it is sure to be an exciting one! We really worked hard throughout 2023 and I look forward to sharing our

successes with the board and our chartering organizations at the annual meeting this month as we look forward to the year ahead.

2024 needs to be a year of growth for our council. Scouting faced hardships prior to the pandemic, but COVID-19 did us no favors. We lost so many Scouts nationwide, but we also lost Scouters. I know that many of you reading this understand this situation. We all wear multiple hats, stretching ourselves thin to support this movement that we believe in. I know you love Scouting like I do and it's why you do it. But I also know you'd love some help.

We need more Scouts and we need more volunteers; there is no other way to put it. That must be our primary focus in 2024. We need to make sure that our wider community knows we are still here. They need to know we are still teaching the values of the Scout Oath and Law, that we are a safer program than ever before, and that we still value an outdoor experience that is hard for them to get anywhere else.

2024 will bring with it changes to the Cub Scout program that will make it easier for families to get involved, and we should make sure we focus on that. We need to prepare now so that when we are recruiting families later this year we have a plan and we just need to make it happen. It's a time for resolutions, and I'd like to see that as one of yours.

One more resolution for you is to become a trained leader. If you are not trained for your position(s), take the time to make that happen. If you are trained, look for opportunities to learn more. On February 3rd there is the College of Commissioner Science at the Heart of Virginia Council which we partner with them for. It is open to all Scouters, not just commissioners. We have courses on the importance of roundtable, charter

renewal, difficult conversations, and more. So please consider attending to further your knowledge in Scouting.

Thanks for all you do and thank you for a fantastic 2023.

Your Friend in Scouting,

Matt Phillippi - Council Commissioner
matt.phillippi@virginiaheadwaters.org
 (cell) 540-560-2807



We have a Facebook Group for our **Scouting Alumni!** Scouting alumni include any individual who participated as a youth, an adult or was a third-party recipient of Scouting's good work. All have benefited from the Scouting movement and are alumni. So join our Facebook group and send the invite to others!





Dear Scouting Families,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. Happy New Year, and may 2024 be a year filled with joy, growth, and unforgettable adventures for you and your loved ones.

A new year signifies new beginnings and opportunities. It's a chance for us to embark on fresh adventures, to learn, grow, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Personally, I hope to invite our Council Key Three to join me in running a 5k. It's a small step towards promoting wellness and camaraderie within our Scouting community.

Speaking of adventures, what new journeys and escapades are you planning within Scouting this year? Whether it's exploring new trails, earning merit badges, or taking on leadership roles, I'd love to hear about the exciting plans you have in store. Let's make this year one of discovery, growth, and boundless possibilities.

Once again, Happy New Year and get ready for an amazing year ahead!

Yours in Scouting,

Sue Hart - Scout Executive

Virginia Headwaters Council, BSA

susan.hart@scouting.org

(cell) 434-872-3320



Get ready to mark your calendars for an exceptional event! On March 4th, 2024, our Friends of Scouting Luncheon awaits, featuring the esteemed CEO Ken Young. He'll be sharing invaluable insights from his journey through Scouting and his impactful work at APEX energy.

It's an opportunity not to be missed! For those eager to support this event as a Luncheon or Table sponsor, please reach out to Sue Hart at susan.hart@scouting.org. Your participation will help make this gathering an incredible success. Let's come together and make this Luncheon one for the books!





KLONDIKE DERBY

FEB 9 - 11, 2024
CAMP SHENANDOAH



Open to all Scout BSA units and Crews -- Registration ONLINE is NOW OPEN!

Registration deadline is February 2, 2024.

LEADERS GUIDE coming soon

We are all really excited for this year's Klondike that will be held on the weekend of February 9-11th. Registration will be completely online and check in will be Friday evening and Saturday morning. We still need help with the following stations: Fire Building, Shelter Building, Spear Throwing, First Aid, and Team Building. Any Troops wanting to help with a station can contact Nick King at nking6@liberty.edu or Jene Phillips at jenePhillips@hotmail.com.

Questions or Comments contact

Nick King - (540) 836 - 0992
nking6@liberty.edu

Kent Baisley - (910) 381-1876
bailseykp@gmail.com

**YOU'RE INVITED
TO
Baden Powell's
BIRTHDAY PARTY**
Thursday, February 22, 2024 • 6-8pm

**RANDOM ROW
BREWING CO.**

608 Preston Ave., Charlottesville, VA 22903
Scouting benefits \$2 for every pint sold!

YOU MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 21 YEARS OF AGE TO ATTEND THIS EVENT.

*Congratulations to our
Top Sellers!*



**1st Place Hudson I. of Troop 12
2nd Place Marshall B. of Pack 77
3rd Place Mason H. of Pack 222**

Each of these individuals has shown exemplary dedication, demonstrating the true spirit of scouting through their exceptional sales and unwavering enthusiasm. Their efforts have significantly contributed to the success of our fundraising initiatives, enabling us to continue supporting our scouting programs and activities.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to these outstanding scouts for their remarkable achievements. Your hard work, determination, and enthusiasm serve as an inspiration to us all.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to scouting.



It takes a lot of work to keep Camp Shenandoah running. Almost all of that work is done by volunteers under the direction of the Camp Ranger and the Council Properties Committee. The Camp Shenandoah Ranger Corps will be a group of dedicated volunteers working side by side with Ranger and the Properties Committee to keep Camp safe and in good repair.

The Ranger Corps hosts Work Days at Camp and coordinates maintenance and projects. We can also arrange for individual or unit projects and work parties upon request.

We are also always looking for the skilled handy person and the not so skilled but eager to help volunteers that want to take an active role in maintenance of Camp Shenandoah. If you or someone you know is interested in lending a hand, please contact Paul Hansohn, pmhansohn@gmail.com.

We are always in need of a variety of licensed and skilled tradespeople including the following:

- Plumber
- Gas Fitter
- Electrician
- HVAC
- Painter
- Carpenters
- Roofers
- Welders
- Landscaper

- Professional Tree Trimmer
- Small engine repair
- Automobile mechanic
- Light and heavy equipment mechanic
- Light and Heavy Equipment Operator
- Commercial kitchen equipment service and repair



Again, we would like to thank
Lowe's Corporation.

Several Lowe's stores contributed a significant amount of building materials and appliances that have enabled us to remodel the Camp Administrative building and replace the roof.

We recently were awarded a grant from a charitable trust in the amount of \$40,000 for a new roof for our Camp dining hall. Our Camp is our crown jewel, and we intend to continue a program of maintenance and improvement.



Work Days!

CAMP SHENANDOAH

VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL, BSA
222 Boy Scout Ln. Swoope, Virginia 24479

Saturday December 2nd 9:30am - TBD

Saturday January 6th 9:30am - TBD

Saturday February 3rd 9:30am - TBD

Saturday March 2nd 9:30am - TBD

Saturday April 6th 9:30am - TBD

Saturday May 4th 9:30am - TBD

**Questions? Email Paul @
pmhansohn@gmail.com**



Dear Scouts,

Thank you for this time I have been able to spend as your Shenandoah Lodge Chief. My term is coming to an end this Saturday, but I couldn't be more excited for the future of Shenandoah Lodge and for this Council!

This past year in the Lodge saw the continuation of many classic Lodge events. We also saw the development of an entirely new experience: The Shenandoah Fest! A new event that explores everything scouting, and our Camp Shenandoah, has to offer for scouts, cubs, and the community. During our induction weekends we welcomed fifty-five new members into the Order of the Arrow through Shenandoah Lodge. In addition, forty-four of our members completed our Lodge Leadership Development program. We traveled "under the sea" to Camp Powhatan for Conclave as well.

2024 is Shenandoah Lodge's 80 anniversary and I am confident that the upcoming Lodge Chief, Harlow Thompson, and his officers will lead Shenandoah Lodge well in events at Camp Shenandoah, Conclave at Camp Pipsico, and to the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) in Boulder, Colorado.

I look forward to seeing new faces completing their Ordeal and joining our Order, I hope to work hard in service with all of you out at Camp Shenandoah and I hope to see you all at the opening show at NOAC over in Boulder. Wherever the Lodge goes from here, I know we'll go beyond the horizon of possibilities.

In leadership and in service,

Ben Annan | Lodge Chief
Achewiecheu Takachsin
ORDER OF THE ARROW
Shenandoah Lodge #258

2024

https://shenandoahlodge.org

Lodge Events

<p>6 January Winter Banquet</p> <p>22-24 March Spring Fellowship</p> <p>26-28 April Conclave</p> <p>18 May ShenandoahFEST</p> <p>31 May-2 June June Induction</p>	<p>29 July-3 Aug NOAC, UC Boulder</p> <p>9-11 August August Induction</p> <p>24-25 August Vigil Weekend</p> <p>27-29 Sep Lodge Retreat</p> <p>2 November Day of Service</p>
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Unit Elections 1 Jan - 6 Apr

CLIFF VIEW
GOLF CLUB & INN
FALLING SPRING, VA

THE BEST KEPT SECRET IN THE ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS
WWW.VISITCLIFFVIEW.COM
410 FRIELS DR. COVINGTON, VA 24426 - (540)962-2200

April 20, 2024

Mountain Valley Golf Tournament

\$250.00 per team of four

Morning and Afternoon Sessions

Shotgun Start

Lunch Included Between Sessions

Prizes will be Awarded

after the Afternoon Session

**Contact Cindy Zollman to Register
or with Questions.**

540-460-4832 or cedarspringz@comcast.net



MOUNTAIN VALLEY District

District Chair: Dr. Lawrence Whitehurst

District Commissioner: Jim Echols

Dr. Lawrence Whitehurst: lrwhitehurstmd@gmail.com

Jim Echols: jeechols@verizon.net

District Director: Robert Clemmer: robert.clemmer@couting.org

It's a New Year for all of us, Scouts and Scouters.

It's a time for reflection on all we accomplished in 2023 and our goals and aspirations for 2024. Our Council is healthier and our District is coming together. Change is inevitable, especially in Scouting. The one constant we can hang onto is Scouting's values. These do not change, even as our understanding of them evolves and matures. At the start of another year, let us all remember why we got into Scouting in the first place, and think about those values that make Scouting unique in service to Youth. The Scout Oath and Law are shining beacons that define the behavior of all good scouts and cast a light in our world, a light that overcomes the darkness and gloom that sometimes looks overpowering in a world where many people do not live by these values that define what a scout is, and ultimately, what a good man or woman should be.

Looking at each of our major areas of emphasis in our District, we have a lot we have accomplished but more that needs to be done. The most critical area remains membership. In spite of the valiant efforts of many, we ended the year a few scouts behind where we ended 2022. We lost units through consolidation or loss of sponsoring organizations. Our challenge for 2024 is to make up these losses both in units and in individual scouts, and go onto increasing our membership in all our scouting units throughout the District. We need to find new sponsoring organizations who are willing to sponsor new units, Cub packs, Scout troops, Venture crews, Explorer Posts, and maybe even a Sea Scout Ship.

Training is also an area where many have gotten position specific training this year, but many Scouters still have not completed the required training for the specific position in which they are registered. Every Scout deserves a trained leader and every volunteer deserves the opportunity to be trained. Both on line and in person training events are coming up this next year.

Finance was our weak spot at the beginning of 2023 but we ended the year on a high note. Our Council Auction

was a huge success, bringing in over \$15,000. Board and Senior Leader pledges were better than expected. Additionally, internal restructuring put us solidly in the black by end of year. An unexpected donation has provided critical, much needed funds for major improvements at Camp Shenandoah. The challenge in Finance remains Friends of Scouting. We are asking every single unit to have a 10 minute FOS Presentation this coming year. With the FOS emphasis now solidly committed to Camp Shenandoah, we can touch the families in a positive way that will ensure maximum participation and could easily double our FOS participation in 2023.

Program in our District is still looking for a chairperson but that may soon be solved. District and Council level events include Pinewood Derby, Cub Fun Day at Camp, hopefully a Merit Badge University or Rodeo, a Council (and maybe a District) Camporee, an Aviation Day, a Star Party at Camp, Scout Sunday, and Scouting for Food, just to name a few. Many Unit events are also in the works and our OA Lodge is also preparing an impressive list of activities both for service and for fun in the coming months. Ultimately Program will culminate for most units with a week at Camp, hopefully Camp Shenandoah. The reviews from last year were great, including the new contract Food Service. The staff and the Camp Program itself were second to none.

REMINDERS: Rechartering for Council, District, and units is well underway. If you need help, just ask.

District Committee the 3rd Thursday of the Month,
January 18 at 7 PM

Lawrence (*Doc*) Whitehurst, District Chairman
© 540-717-1382
lrwhitehurstmd@gmail.com



National Youth Leadership Training
July 15-20, 2024

Interested in Attending? If you're a Scout that will be 13 years old and the rank of First Class by the time of the course, we'd be thrilled to be part of your leadership development journey.

Interested in Staffing? If you've attended NYLT, or are an adult, interested in staffing the upcoming course, contact the Course Director, Beth Coogan-Golden (emcg2024nylt@gmail.com).



VAHC Outdoor School
April 19-21, 2024

Join us at Camp Shenandoah for a weekend of training! Registration will be available soon, and we will offer the following courses:

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation. BALOO is an introduction to the Cub Scout outdoor program for leaders interested in adding a camping component to their Pack activities.

Intro to Outdoor Leadership Skills. IOLS provides leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors and feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills through the First Class rank.

Leave No Trace Level 1 Trainer. This course trains Scouts (ages 14 and older) and Scouters to serve as Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructors. Level 1 Instructors are the backbone of Scouting's outdoor ethics program.

Wilderness First Aid. WFA is intended for anyone planning a high adventure trek, and focuses on prevention, assessment, and treatment for an ill or injured person where definitive care by a physician and/or rapid transport is not readily available.

**“Never stop
 learning, because
 life never stops
 teaching.”**

Unknown





MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Get Hooked on Scouting!

The Membership Team is excited to announce that for the first time in at least five years, we have seen an increase in annual Youth Membership at the end of the year. Thank you to everyone for making this possible!

With the new Cub fishing Adventures coming in June, we are planning for even bigger success in the years to come. Email: lewiskingston@hotmail.com or membership@virginiaheadwaters.org to find out about the upcoming Angler Training and help share the Scout Spirit.

Over 460 new youth joined Virginia Headwaters Council in 2023!

Cub Scout Participation
increased 2.9% overall
1.9% in Monticello & 3.6% in
Mountain Valley

Troop Participation grew
over 2% in Monticello

Crew Participation increased
47% overall and more than
doubled in Mountain Valley