

APRIL 2024



Steve Hammond
COUNCIL PRESIDENT



THE TRIBUTARY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL

Matt Phillippi
COUNCIL COMMISSONER



Sue Hart
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Virginia Headwaters Council (VAHC)
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Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

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434-872-3320

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540-292-2391

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SCOUTING SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of camperships are available for Camp Shenandoah this summer. Camperships are available for 50% of camp costs.

Applications are due to Anne Blair by **APRIL 15th**.

See Page 5 for more detail.

Cindy Zollman, Tributary Editor
cedarspringz@comcast.net
540-460-4832



Exciting News!

Join us at the **VAHC Outdoor School** at Camp Shenandoah for a weekend of outdoor education and adventure! Get ready for Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO), Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS), and Leave No Trace Level 1 Instructor training. Mark your calendars for **April 19-21** and get ready to immerse yourself in nature and learn valuable outdoor skills!

#VAHCOldoorSchool #CampShenandoah #OutdoorEducation #LeaveNoTrace #AdventureAwaits

Registration can be found here:

<https://scoutingevent.com/763-outdoorschool2024>





I was out enjoying a walk in the woods with the sunshine on my face, when I was reminded, I needed to submit my monthly address for the Tributary. I hope you have been enjoying some of the sunny days and enduring the many cool and rainy weekends we have had recently. Someone commented to me that I always begin my address with a weather comment. I admit that is true as the weather has a big impact on our Scouting adventure. That freezing cold campout that surprised us all. The rainy weekend that ended up actually being a lot of fun and memorable. A Scouting event, unlike sporting events, never get rained out. Adverse weather, hard conditions a heavy backpack all seem to galvanize our Scouts will to overcome challenges. Scouting develops that persistence to endure and prevail. That's why I talk about the weather.

We are in the season of Blue and Gold Banquets and crossover ceremonies. It has been a while since I attended a Blue and Gold, but I am guessing the excitement and noise level are still just about the same. Recognitions of the Blue and Gold cap off another year of Cub Fun. Cubs are so very vital to our program. They are the beginning of the trail that leads to Eagle. Webelos crossing over into Scouts BSA is one of the most hopeful moments in Scouting. It is a big step into a whole new adventure and limitless potential. It is a continuation of the journey they begin as a Cub. The journey to Eagle is not an overnight journey, but one that requires persistence from the Scout and quite frankly, the Scout's family. I can honestly say that almost all Scouts that attain Eagle had full support of their family. I can also say, that had it not been for the support and, yes, pushing from my mother, I would not have attained the Eagle rank. She deserves the rank as much as me. The more the family believes, volunteers, and supports Scouting the more likely that Scout will succeed and have a great Scouting experience.

Bottom line: we need more Cubs and more adult volunteers.

Recruit, recruit, recruit!

If you haven't signed up to go to Camp Shenandoah this summer, please do so. "Come home to Camp Shenandoah".

See you next month.

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



For 2024 we will be partnering with Whitley's Peanuts again and we are pleased to announce that Pecatonica River Popcorn will be our popcorn partner! Pecatonica River offers many exciting flavors and the product is excellent! PR Popcorn has an online format similar to what you'd be familiar from our prior popcorn company but they have the ability to add Whitley's products to their website. So the good news for unit chairs is that both company products will be able to be placed on ONE website. More details and timelines will be coming soon.

Why is PNP important? Average unit commissions in 2023 were from \$1940 to \$3055. Scouting goes public - we can share our story with each prospective customer. This is the second largest fundraising campaign in VAHC.

Each unit should begin conversations about who will be your unit chairperson for 2024. Kickoff of the campaign is planned for July.



Dear Scouting Families,

As we find ourselves in the midst of the vibrant spring season, it's the perfect time to dive headfirst into

outdoor adventures and create unforgettable memories with your Scout. With warmer weather and longer days upon us, there's no better opportunity to explore the wonders of nature and embrace the spirit of Scouting.

We wanted to take a moment to remind you about the incredible opportunities awaiting you at Camp Shenandoah. Whether you're a Cub Scout, Webelos Scout, or a seasoned Scout, our resident camps offer an experience filled with learning, camaraderie, and adventure.

For our Cub Scouts and Webelos, our resident camps offer a diverse array of activities tailored to their age and interests. From archery and hiking to crafts and games, there's something for every young adventurer to enjoy. Our experienced staff is dedicated to ensuring a safe and enriching experience for all campers.

For our older Scouts, Camp Shenandoah promises an unforgettable adventure filled with high adventure activities, leadership opportunities, and personal growth. Whether it's learning how to paddle board, learning to shoot an arrow, or honing wilderness survival skills, our Scout camp offers an unparalleled opportunity for growth and adventure.

Don't miss out on the chance to be a part of something truly special this summer. Register today for Camp Shenandoah Cub Resident Camp, Webelos Resident Camp, and Scout Camp, and

embark on a journey you'll never forget.

Spaces are filling up fast, so secure your spot today and join us for an incredible summer of fun, friendship, and adventure at Camp Shenandoah!

Yours in Scouting,

Sue Hart

VAHC Scout Executive

susan.hart@scouting.org

(cell) 434-872-3320 (Office) 540-943-6675



MEMBERSHIP MOMENT

THE 2024 NUMBERS

73 Youth applications have been completed online in the Past 90 days
 34 Adult applications were also processed online
 20 AOLs have successfully transferred to a Troop online
 18 Units have received a new inquiry through their beascout.org pin

VAHC was #2 in all of Scouts BSA Councils for highest retention % in February

DID YOU KNOW?

All 10-year-old 5th Graders can join a Troop right now. They don't have to wait to be 6th graders anymore!

5-year-old Pre-K kids can join the Pack and attend outings (like Cub Family Camp in May). And on June 1, all Pre-K can join and attend summer Camp!

INTRODUCE A FRIEND TO SCOUTING TODAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MEMBERSHIP@VIRGINIAHEADWATERS.ORG



As we move on into the warmer months Scouting really starts to pick up.

Monticello's spring camporee is just two weeks away and our annual outdoor school follows right on its heels. Next thing you know there will be an invasion of Cub Scouts at Camp Shenandoah and we can all join in a rousing rendition of Yub Nub.

While we are all excited for everything that has been going on it is important for us to start looking ahead. Membership is a year-round focus, but we all know that the fall is when we have a big push. Your unit should start making their plans now for the fall recruiting season. Set your dates, get your volunteers started on making the plans, let us know when your JSN night is so we can get you materials. It's not too early to start making these plans.

The summer season at Camp Shenandoah is really panning out to be a great one. We have a wonderful staff coming together and the weeks are filling up. Robert, our district director who is also our camp director, really has a passion for camp and he is doing a great job putting the pieces in place. He and I go back to our first year on staff at Camp Shenandoah in 2002 and I am excited to see him back out there to make camp happen for this year!

There are a lot of exciting things on the horizon for Scouting and our council. I look forward to seeing it all unfold as we move through the year. New events for both program and fundraising are on the calendar and we're working hard to make the events we have had in years past even better. There is so much good happening this year so attend roundtables and pay attention to updates from district, council, and

national sources.

Thank you for being a part of Scouting and please reach out to your commissioner team if you need anything. We are here to be your single best resource.

Your Friend in Scouting,

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



APRIL 17, 2024

This year, the Virginia Headwaters Council is participating in the Great Community Give held by The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. This event is a 14-hour day of giving where we have the opportunity to win extra funds, find sponsors to match donations or give us challenges, etc.

Between now and then we will be working to set all of this up and find sponsors for the day. If you are interested in helping out in any way or just want to learn more, please reach out to Matt Phillippi at matt.phillippi@virginiaheadwaters.org.

To check out our profile for the event, visit <https://www.greatcommunitygive.org/organizations/virginia-headwaters-council>.

Work Days!

CAMP SHENANDOAH

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

Saturday April 6th 9:30am - TBD

Saturday May 4th 9:30am - TBD

Questions? Email Paul @
pmhansohn@gmail.com

SCOUTING SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of camperships are available for Camp Shenandoah this summer. Camperships are available for 50% of camp costs.

Applications are due to Anne Blair by **APRIL**

15th at annewhangblair@gmail.com.

Units of the scouts awarded the camperships will see the discounted amount reflected in their online Black Pug account used for paying camp fees around May 24th.

Fillable PDF and bilingual forms can be found at <https://www.virginiaheadwaters.org/join-scouting/financial-assistance/> or by contacting Anne at the email above.

Anne Blair - 626-627-9456



Program Updates



Bring your Pack to Camp Shenandoah for a weekend of fun! There will be crafts, fishing, rockets, nature and so much more!

Registration is now open!

<https://scoutingevent.com/763-cubspring24>

Cub Resident Camp will be held June 16-18. Open to all scouts Lions to AOLs. Register here: <https://scoutingevent.com/763-CubResidentCamp>



Webelos Resident Camp will be reimagined with the new Adventures. <https://scoutingevent.com/763-WebelosCamp2024>

Every Scout deserves a trained leader! Outdoor School will be offered April 19-21 at Camp Shenandoah. Registration is now open! <https://scoutingevent.com/763-outdoorschool2024>

SAVE THE DATE

19-21 APR 2024

COURSE OFFERINGS:

- BALOO
- IOLS
- LNT TRAINER. LEVEL 1

LOCATION:
CAMP SHENANDOAH
SWOOPE, VA



MOUNTAIN VALLEY District

District Chair: Dr. Carey Usher

District Commissioner: Jim Echols

Dr. Carey Usher: cusher3@comcast.net

Jim Echols: jeechols@verizon.net

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

Happy Spring!

While many of you have sights on advancement and summer plans, keep in mind that we are hard at work increasing Scouts BSA exposure and visibility in our district. Our recruitment flyers are headed out to local elementary and middle schools, and as you can see we are connecting with community events to expose Scouting to more families in our district. Every unit should have a membership coordinator appointed, and that coordinator should attend our April 13 membership rally at BRCC. We will be reaching out to units for volunteers for community and school events, including spring flings, farmers markets, fishing days, and more.

If you have not already, it's time to register your unit for a Friends of Scouting presentation. We are reaching out to those of you who have not yet scheduled to get you onto the FOS calendar, and we are delighted with those who have already participated. Keep your eye out for our new mini-newsletter "Mountain Valley Minute", which launched in March, and be sure to join and follow Facebook pages for VAHC and Mountain Valley. Don't forget to send your unit highlights along! Keep an eye out for more information on the Cub Scout program changes going into effect June 1.

For our Unit Highlight this month, Troop 162 in Brandywine WV hosted the Shotgun Merit Badge for several units out at Camp Shenandoah. Thank you T162!

And finally, be sure to get those advancement reports submitted.

Save the Dates:

April 3, Mountain Valley District Roundtable

(Bring your SPL!) at BRCC, 7:00 pm

April 6, Dayton Redbud Festival at College St in downtown Dayton, 12:00-2:00 pm

April 13, Mountain Valley Membership Rally at BRCC, 9:00 am – noon

April 14, Swim Test at Staunton YMCA, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

April 16-18, Adventure at the Museum at Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton, 4:30 – 8:00 pm

(Have your Cubs attend, in Class A or B!)

April 17, Mountain Valley District Committee Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

April 27, Frontier Culture Museum 5K, 7:45 – 9:00 am

April 27, Riverfest at Constitution Park Waynesboro, 8:30 – 4:00

April 27, Harrisonburg City Schools Spring Fling at Simms Continuing Education Center, 11:00 – 1:00

Yours in Scouting,

Dr. Carey Usher, District Chair

540-448-4302

cusher3@comcast.net



Mountain Valley District Chair Carey Usher, with her



MOUNTAIN VALLEY District

District Chair: Dr. Carey Usher

District Commissioner: Jim Echols

Join Cub Scouts today at beascout.org

#ADVENTUREON!

Membership Rally 2024

Mountain Valley District-VAHLC

Date: April 13, 2024 9am-12pm

Location: Blue Ridge Community College

Weyers Cave, VA

we will be meeting in room #186-188. The room is in the Houff Student Center. Enter through the South Entrance of campus (by the Criminal Justice Academy)

We ask that each unit send a Unit Membership person from your Troop Committee Members, But Anyone is welcome to Attend.

#ADVENTUREON!





Group Use on the Appalachian Trail

1) Familiarize yourself with [ATC's tips and guidelines for organized group camping](#):

- A camping group = 6 to 10 campers, including the leaders. 10 is the maximum size for a camping group on the Appalachian Trail (A.T.). A day hiking group is up to 25 people.
 - If your group size exceeds this number, divide into groups of 10 or fewer, camp in separate locations, and register each of the groups separately.
- Your group should check and follow all local land management guidelines. You may need a permit from a state forest, park or other agency depending on where you will be camping.
- Your camping group may not stay in A.T. shelters, these are for solo hikers and are not designed for group use.
 - There are campsites at some A.T. shelter areas which groups of 10 or less may use - bring tents, hammocks, or tarps and camp in designated campsites.
- Take care to keep group members together; most search and rescue missions along the Trail happen when someone gets separated from their group.
- Guiding and other commercial activities are not an appropriate use of the Appalachian Trail.

2) Register your group:

- Be sure to [register your group with AT Camp](#). Please note that this is not a reservation system and that all AT campsites are on a first-come, first-served basis unless otherwise noted.
- Your registration information will help us build an effective network of group campsites along the Trail and provide your group with a means to avoid overcrowding and prevent damage at overnight sites during your hike.
- By registering, you can view the capacity of an overnight site by clicking on its icon. The calendar shows the number of other people already registered for the site in the calendar date box.

3) Follow [Leave No Trace Principles](#):

- Traveling and camping in small groups reduces the physical impact to the A.T., environment, paths and facilities.
- Small groups also help preserve the sense of solitude and remoteness for other hikers who encounter your group.
- Please don't disturb the environment (i.e. move rocks from stone walls, cut branches from trees, and dispose of waste properly)





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	Professional Tree Trimmer
Gas Fitter	Small Engine Repair
Electrician	Automobile Mechanic
HVAC	Light/Heavy Equipment Mechanic
Painter	Light/Heavy Equipment Operator
Carpenters	Roofers
Welders	Landscaper
Landscaper	Commercial kitchen equipment service and repair



The good news is that we have secured an Aquatics Director for the 2024 summer session. With that all senior positions are filled. There are a few junior staff positions

open as well as addressing the needs for dishwashing in the dining hall.

Registrations at approximately at halfway to goal (329 youth/105 adults/34 units) which is similar to where we were this time last year. The ratio of out of council vs. in council is in favor of out of council (15:19 units). Generally, we are around 50:50 ratio so this is not particularly unusual. We are currently trying to determine which in council units have not signed up in order to try to convince them to attend camp with us. Out of council sign ups at this point are generally desperation events due to them not getting slots elsewhere thus we could still pick up some from this cadre as well. As they say, "So Far, So Good".

That said, pending summer's end a discussion of 3 vs. 4-week summer session is warranted if for only due diligence.

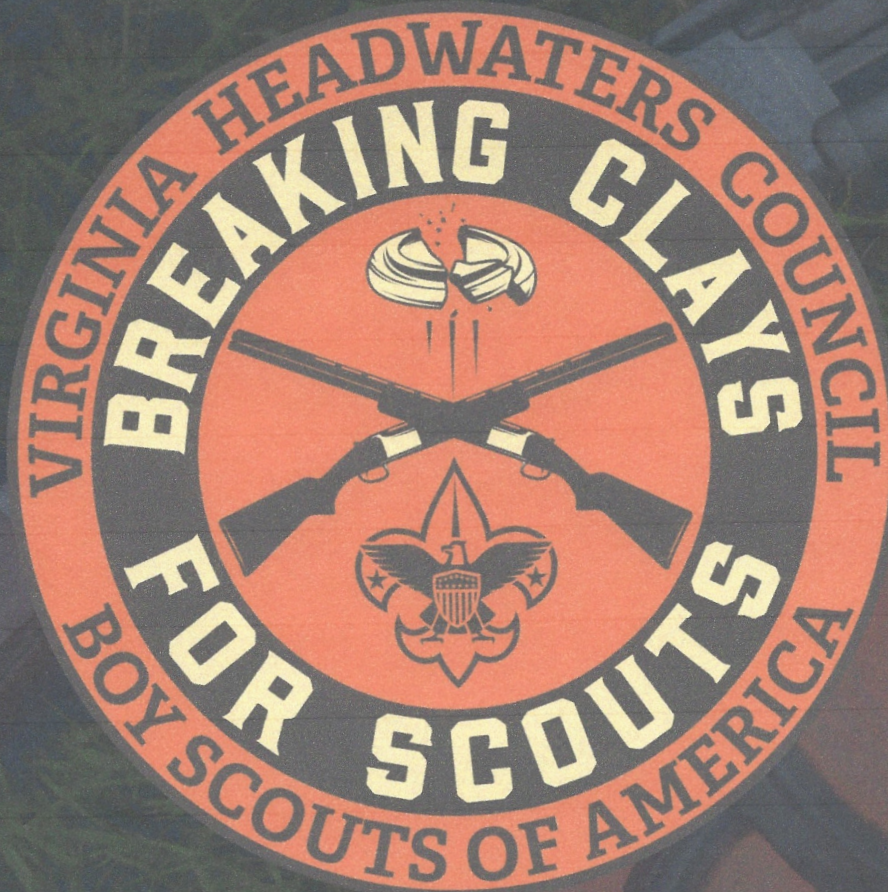
Come Home to Camp Shenandoah where the units are the focus of our service!



Watch [Cub Chat Live](#) every Friday at 2 p.m. CT on [Facebook Live](#) for tips, tricks and ideas to help your den or pack.



Watch [Troop Talk Live](#) every second Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. CT on [Facebook Live](#) for ideas to help your troop.



Friday, May 24, 2024
Shenandale Gun Club

11:30 AM to 3:00 PM

with catered lunch and adult refreshments (after the shoot)





BREAKING CLAYS FOR SCOUTS

VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL • BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Friday, May 24, 2024 • Shenandale Gun Club

11:30 AM to 3:00 PM with catered lunch and adult refreshments (after the shoot)

Join us for a fun, fellowship and breaking clays for Scouting! There will be an instructional shoot for first-time and novice shooters who want to learn from an experienced shooter. Lessons will be provided as part of the shoot. We can also provide a loaner gun. Make sure you check the box below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle Scout Sponsor Sponsor Signage 5 Shooters, Shells, Game Tickets, and Golf Cart	\$1,250	<input type="checkbox"/> Tenderfoot Scout Sponsor 1 Shooter, Shells, Game Ticket	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Scout Sponsor Sponsor Signage 4 Shooters, Shells, Game Tickets, and Golf Cart	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Sponsor Your logo at lunch before shoot	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Star Scout Sponsor Sponsor Signage 2 Shooters, shells, Game Tickets	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/> Reception Sponsor Your logo at reception after shoot	\$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> Station Sponsor Your logo on a shooting station	\$200

Please email shooter's names to Sue Hart at susan.hart@scouting.org if you don't know at the time of registration.

Register by May 1st, 2024

Clip and return this registration form and mail with check or credit card information to:
Virginia Headwaters Council, 617 Greenville Ave, Staunton, VA 24401

Breaking Clays for Scouts Registration Form

Name: _____ Team Members: _____
 Company: _____ 1 _____
 Address: _____ 2 _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____ 3 _____
 Email Address: _____ 4 _____
 _____ 5 _____



Yes, I will participate in Breaking Clays for Scouts fun shoot at the following level:

- Eagle Scout Sponsor - \$1,250
- Life Scout Sponsor - \$1,000
- Star Scout Sponsor - \$500
- Tenderfoot Scout Sponsor - \$250
- Lunch Sponsor - \$500
- Reception Sponsor - \$250
- Station Sponsor - \$200

Charge my MC/Visa Card or AMEX #: _____
 Name on card: _____
 Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____
 My check is enclosed for \$ _____
 Bill me at the address above.
 I am unable to participate. Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

What type of shells? 12 Gauge 20 Gauge

- Yes, sign me up for an instructional shoot!** List name(s): _____
- Yes, I need a loaner shot gun to participate.**

2024 ADULT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Self



Position Trained



Council
WOOD BADGE



Camp Shenandoah

Next course will be
Sep/Oct 2025

Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA. It is a fun, energetic, and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth are getting everything they are promised from the program.



National
LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE



Summit Bechtel Reserve

July 7 – 13



Philmont Scout Ranch

August 18-24

Adults learn to internalize and practice their leadership skills in this action-packed training. Embark on a transformative journey to become a true servant leader, equipped with the skills to navigate challenging situations and foster camaraderie in a team setting.



2024 YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONTINUUM

The youth leadership training continuum represents the scope and sequence of leadership training courses available to youth members of the Boy Scouts of America.

Unit
↓

ILST

Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops

ILSC

Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews

National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. The NYLT course centers around the concepts of what a leader must BE, what a leader must KNOW, and what a leader must DO. The key elements are then taught with a clear focus on HOW TO. The skills come alive during the week as the patrol goes on a Quest for the Meaning of Leadership.

Council
NYLT
↓



Camp Shenandoah

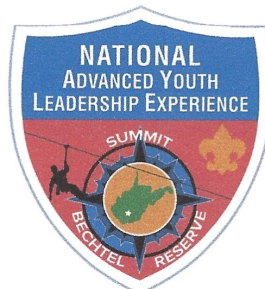
July 14 – 20

Register at:

<https://scoutingevent.com/763-79385>

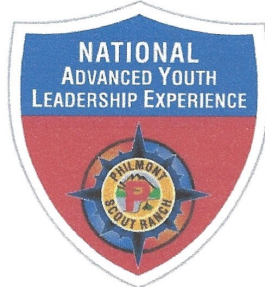
National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience is an exciting program that enhances leadership skills and expands upon the team-building and ethical decision-making skills learned in National Youth Leadership Training. NAYLE emphasizes leadership, teamwork, and selfless service, using the core elements of NYLT to help youth strengthen these skills. The material presented is basically the same at all venues but is specific to the unique environment of each site.

National
NAYLE
↓



Summit Bechtel Reserve

July 7 – 13



Philmont Scout Ranch

- Session 1: June 16 – 22
- Session 2: June 23 – June 29
- Session 3: June 30 – July 6
- Session 4: July 7 – 13
- Session 5: July 14 – 20
- Session 6: July 21 – 27



Scouts & Scouters,

In March, Shenandoah Lodge held its Spring Fellowship. Despite some rain Saturday morning, we managed to have a good time and to get some work done around the camp. In the afternoon, we finished painting our new wooden Lodge flap to replace the old one by the campfire ring. The new one is styled like our standard issue flap with the black bear and sunset. We even had two special guests: The Section E9 Vice Chief, Joshua Cox, and the Section E9 Secretary, Jacob O'Fiel!

Last Friday, March 29th, was our Lodge's 80th anniversary. Having been around so long, we have quite the history. For both our 60th and 70th anniversaries we produced a document compiling what we have accomplished since our founding in 1944. Both of these documents can be found on our website: <https://www.shenandoahlodge.org/history/> Now for our 80th anniversary we are compiling a new document. To make this document the best it can be, we want to include stories, photos, and more from our members. If you have any stories, photos, or patch/logo photos you want to share please send them to us at chief@shenandoahlodge.org. Anything, no matter how big or small, is greatly appreciated, even if it doesn't make the final draft of the document.

Later this month will be one of our biggest events of the year: Conclave. Conclave is a huge gathering of Order of the Arrow members from all across the state. There will be games such as tug-of-war and ultimate frisbee, patch trading, a patch auction, a service project, training, shows, and much more. At the time I am writing this submission, we need just 20 more people to register to meet our registration goal. So if you are in Shenandoah Lodge please register for Conclave!

2024 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

<https://shenandoahlodge.org>

Lastly, if you or someone you know was recently elected to the Order of the Arrow, please go to <https://www.shenandoahlodge.org/ordeal/> to learn more about what to do next. All elected Scouts and Scouters will need to attend either June Inductions or August Inductions and go through their Ordeal to become a full member of the OA.

Yours in WWW,

Harlow Thompson | Lodge Chief
Wingalouchsik Gischihan
ORDER OF THE ARROW
SHENANDOAH LODGE #258
chief@shenandoahlodge.org



SNOOPY AND FRIENDS



2026 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

**Summit Bechtel Reserve, BSA
Glen Jean, West Virginia**

Save the date! The next BSA National Scout Jamboree will take place from July 22 to 31, 2026 at the Summit.

The 2026 Jamboree will offer something for everyone, from rock climbing and zip-lining to arena stage shows and leadership training. Besides, the 2026 National Jamboree will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. Scouts will have the opportunity to commemorate this significant American milestone while also participating in the high-adventure and other unique Jamboree activities that make a National Jamboree so memorable. Please keep an eye out for more information in the coming months.

EAGLE SCOUT PARENTS (Facebook)

In scouting, you don't live what you hope for, you live what you find, however, the hope, remedy and joy of scouting never ends.



Subscribe to receive updates by going to <https://jamboree.scouting.org/>.

For now, mark your calendars for another mountain-top experience.

#bsa #boyscoutsofamerica #natjamboree26

Take it from your Council Commissioner, the National Scout Jamboree is a great experience for Scouts and Scouters alike!



CHANGES FROM BSA NATIONAL

NATIONAL \$85 /YR COUNCIL \$ /YR	Participants in kindergarten through age 20
NATIONAL \$50 /YR COUNCIL \$ /YR	For all Exploring youth and adults
NATIONAL \$65 /YR COUNCIL \$ /YR	All registered adult volunteers in unit and non-unit positions. (Volunteers with multiple registrations will continue to pay for only one position)
NATIONAL \$25 /YR COUNCIL \$ /YR	This fee is for Merit Badge Counselors who are not already registered volunteers
UNIT CHARTER FEE	
\$100 /YR For all new and rechartering units	
SCOUT LIFE MAGAZINE FEE	
\$15 /YR	

Monday, March 4th

The adult application flow is being revised to require the completion of the criminal background check (results received) before the new adult volunteer can assume a leadership role.

Monday, April 1st

Annual Membership fees are changing. The New Member fee is being discontinued! Stay tuned for an update on Council Fees.

Saturday, June 1st

New Cub Scout Program takes effect. Visit <https://linktr.ee/cubscoutprogramupdates> for more information.

2024-2025 Cub Scout Badges of Rank Requirements

The Bobcat Adventure is designed to be the first required Adventure. Each badge of rank is earned by completing six required and two elective Adventures. The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA.

LION Kindergarten	TIGER 1 st Grade	WOLF 2 nd Grade	BEAR 3 rd Grade	WEBELOS 4 th Grade	ARROW OF LIGHT 5 th Grade
BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership	BOBCAT Character/Leadership
MOUNTAIN LION Outdoors	TIGERS IN THE WILD Outdoors	PAWS ON THE PATH Outdoors	BEAR HABITAT Outdoors	WEBELOS WALKABOUT Outdoors	OUTDOOR ADVENTURER Outdoors
FUN ON THE RUN Personal Fitness	TIGER BITES Personal Fitness	RUNNING WITH THE PACK Personal Fitness	BEAR STRONG Personal Fitness	STRONGER, FASTER, HIGHER Personal Fitness	PERSONAL FITNESS Personal Fitness
KING OF THE JUNGLE Citizenship	TEAM TIGER Citizenship	COUNCIL FIRE Citizenship	PAWS FOR ACTION Citizenship	MY COMMUNITY Citizenship	CITIZENSHIP Citizenship
LION ROAR Personal Safety	TIGER ROAR Personal Safety	SAFETY IN NUMBERS Personal Safety	STANDING TALL Personal Safety	MY SAFETY Safety/First Aid	FIRST AID Safety/First Aid
LION'S PRIDE Family/Reverence	TIGER CIRCLES Family/Reverence	FOOTSTEPS Family/Reverence	FELLOWSHIP Family/Reverence	MY FAMILY Family/Reverence	DUTY TO GOD Family/Reverence
2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures	2 Elective Adventures

PROTECT YOUR SCOUT TRAILER!

A few months ago, I read of another Scout Troop's trailer being stolen. I've read of several other incidents of troops having their trailers stolen over the last couple of years as well. I have also read about theft of contractor's trailers and other thefts of private trailers.

I have two trailers and have taken various steps to protect them. There are many simple steps that can be taken and some more advanced steps that can help prevent theft as well.

While there is no way to prevent all trailer thefts, the more you do to protect your trailer the less likely your trailer will be stolen.

The simpler steps are locking it up when not in use. Additionally, the issue is also the type of trailer you have and your available choices for storing it.

Regardless of the trailer you have, securing it indoors is typically the best option but again, not absolutely. Behind a solid fence where a casual passerby won't notice it is good. Securing it in a chain link fence is a modest deterrent as well.

In addition to a better location, the visibility of the trailer and security methods will determine how well a thief be able to get away with your trailer.

Scout trailers are a high value target because many troops keep numerous, easy to sell items such as Dutch ovens, camping gear and other items too. With the theft of the trailer, many troops are further victimized and disadvantaged because they lost a large portion of their troop's supplies.

One easy option is to empty out the trailer after each use and keep only a limited number of items inside. Troops can also leave the empty trailer with no locks on the door so thieves can see it is empty and move on hopefully without taking the trailer.

STORAGE:

Again, storing it indoors is typically the best option but not an option for many troops. Storing it out of sight is the next best choice. Behind a building in a locked area can be helpful.

Storing an enclosed trailer fully backed up against a solid object such as a tree, fence, wall or other outside structure is better than just putting in next to a building or in a parking spot in a parking lot that doesn't get much traffic or out of view from passing traffic.

LOCKS & OTHER SECURITY ACCESSORIES:

There are many accessories for the protection of trailers and many locks to consider as well. I suggest you get a set of 3 or 4 keyed-like locks that have a high resistance to cutting by bolt cutters. Alloy steels and Boron alloys are typically the best option against bolt cutters but cut off wheels are a difficult tool to defend against.

The length, thickness, and type of shackle on a lock can be a factor in keeping your trailer safe. Look for the various ratings and details available when choosing a new lock.



For enclosed and flat/open trailers the main options are similar. Several popular ideas are:

- Tongue locks
- Hitch lock
- Chock Lock
- Boot style lock
- Lug nut locks.
- Lock up your chains so they cannot be used to pull your trailer out of its storage location.

Another area of security concern is your spare tire. Remember to lock it up too.

Additional options to prevent the theft and improve the likelihood of recovery include:

- Adding unique markings to your trailer.
 - ◊ Marking it as a Scout Troop trailer makes it more noticeable which is both good and bad as it may attract unwanted attention/targeting but a marked trailer may make it easier to identify and recover.
 - * A marked trailer certainly lets everyone know there is an active troop on the road as well.
 - ◊ Unique Markings can include unique paint colors and designs on the enclosed trailers and even on flat/open trailers.
 - ◊ You can mark the wheels, frame and hitch too.
- Stickers can be helpful as well.
- Magnetic signs can be a good alternative for marking the trailer while in use and removing them when not in use can reduce the likelihood it will be noticed or stolen.
- Alarm systems and GPS trackers are an option to prevent theft and assist with recovery,

Other protective ideas include removing the hitch or taking a wheel (or both wheels) off when it won't be used. Converting the safety chains to be removeable so they can't be used to steal the trailer is another. If you're going to cut the chains to make sure you use quick links to be able to still use the required safety chains. Make sure the quick attach links (or other items used) are class III or better to match your trailer.

One set of statistics I've seen indicates thefts in the past few years indicate there were 1502 thefts in 2020, 1106 in 2019 and 1181 in 2018. Reports indicate that 50% of the time when trailers are stolen it happens when the trailer was being used for traveling.

Get creative with your security efforts. If leaving the trailer at your sponsoring organization or meeting location isn't a secure option, then maybe another adult has room on their property. Can a local business secure it behind a fenced-in area? You can contact your local police/sheriff office to see if they would allow your troop to secure it on their property.

There are many other resources you can Google or videos you can view on YouTube. I've looked at many of them and they have added to my knowledge.



There are 2 scout trailers in this photo. Both had Reese brand hitch locks that block the hitch.

The doors had locks on them, but they were parked in a sizable parking lot that had no other security measures.



You can see the Reese Hitch lock better in this photo. You can also see the chains aren't secured which means a truck can backup to the trailer and hook up the chains and pull the trailer out of the parking lot and take the trailer somewhere else where they can break the lock and hook up the trailer and steal it.



This trailer has unique markings on the tailgate which also helps with backing up with the trailer even at night. The spare tire is secured with a cable and lock. The safety chains are locked over the handle so the retractable hitch jack can't be lowered, and the chains can't be used to pull the trailer. Additionally, there is a thick cable through the frame that goes around a large tree to further deter a thief. The trailer has several stickers and other unique items that are intended to provide better function and security

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