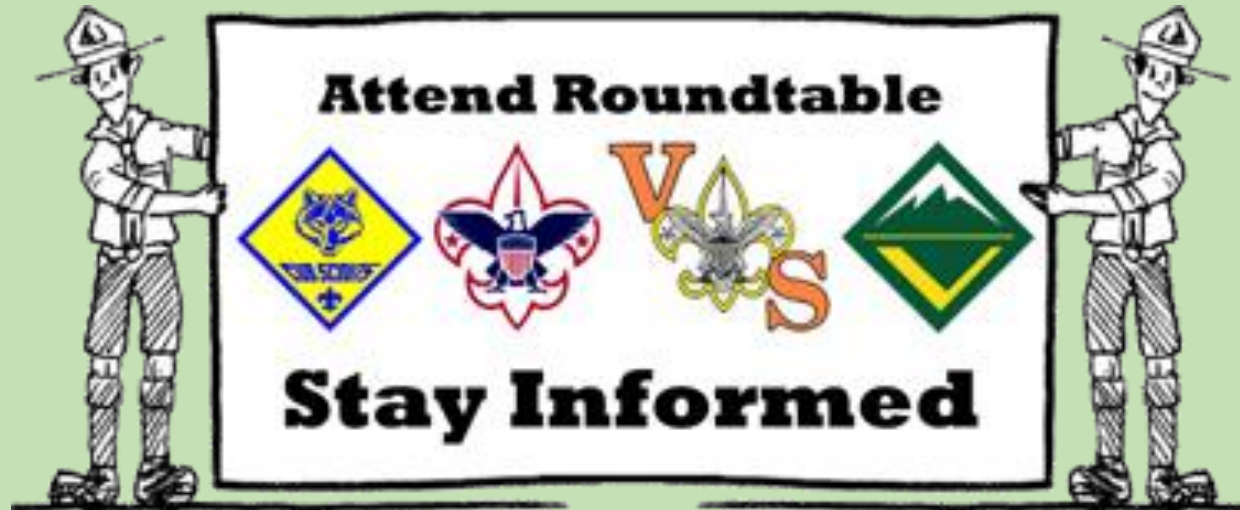


George Mason District Roundtable

February 9, 2023



Pledge



Council Update

- **Unit Charter Renewal** – All GMD units have rechartered. Still time to submit your JTE. Please check:
 - Scoutbook
 - <https://my.scouting.org>
 - Roster (any missing; names misspelled; update any contact information needed)
 - Key-3 Delegates and COR Delegate
 - Unit PIN information
 - Email lists
 - Note: Online registration should work within 24 hours. If not, check PIN.
- **Non-Unit Charter Renewal (MBC)**
 - Scoutbook – Check MBC list
- **Fund Raising** - Right-Response First Aid Kits!
- **Leader Training** - Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Unit Committee Chairs, and New Member Coordinators must be trained in order to successfully recharter. Select your 2024 leadership early and ensure they have the needed training. IOLS and BALOO opportunities are available now!

Aquatics Committee

2023 Training Schedule

- **Pre-Camp Swim Tests** – TBD
- **Paddle Craft Safety (Signup available 71 days before class starts)**
 - May 20 - Still Water Safety - Class Size 12
 - May 21 - Moving Water Safety - Class Size 12
 - Sept 23 - Still Water Safety - Class Size 12
 - Sept 24 - Moving Water Safety - Class Size 12
- **Scuba** - TBD
- **Aquatics MB Completion (only for those that are missing a few requirements from camp)** – TBD (likely early Sept)

Big Rock – Camp Howard M. Wall, USVI

Troop 1978B Scoutmaster Glenn Cann



Scuba Diving High Adventure Trip

Camp Wall, St. Croix

Troop 1978B



Agenda

- ◆ Camp Howard Wall
- ◆ Planning & Preparations
- ◆ Crew
- ◆ Trip Details
- ◆ Financials
- ◆ Lessons Learned



Camp Howard Wall

St. Croix, USVI

- ◆ Owned and operated by NCAC
- ◆ 17 acres of open land with beach frontage located on the southern coast of St. Croix, USVI
- ◆ Capacity: 46 (bunkhouse – 16; canvas tents – 30)
- ◆ Amenities:
 - shower house with individual stalls (male/female)
 - full industrial kitchen
 - recreation: kayaking, fishing, swimming, basketball, horseshoe pit, cornhole, ladder toss
 - campfire
- ◆ Services:
 - Food services by Chef Francis (Drac) Peyton
 - Vendor Recommendations by DE Laura Kuras

The Jewel of the Caribbean









Chef Francis "Drac" Peyton



DE Laura Kura

Planning & Preparations

- ◆ Annual Planning Meeting July 2022
- ◆ Crew identified August 2022
- ◆ Program Planning (diving and fishing) October 2022
- ◆ PADI Open Water Certification for scouts Sept-Dec 2022



Planning to Scuba Diving in 6 months

Crew

Crew: 8 (4 scouts, 4 scouters)

- ◆ 14 – 16 years old
- ◆ All scouts PADI Open Water Diver certification
- ◆ 3 of 4 scouters had PADI OW Diver certification



St. Croix Ultimate Bluewater Adventure (SCUBA)

- ◆ 11 dives in 3 days
- ◆ Provided all diving gear and dive boat
- ◆ Dive Master and Captain
- ◆ Reef, Wreck, Pier, and Night dives



Trip Details

Day 1: Travel Day (Dulles to San Juan to St. Croix)	6am – 6pm
Day 2: 4 dives – Frederiksted (western shore)	8am – 6pm
Day 3: 4 dives – Christiansted (northern shore)	8am – 5pm
Day 4: Kayaking & 3 dives – Frederiksted (night dive)	9am – 9pm
Day 5: Fishing, Beach, and Games (charter boat)	8am – 5pm
Day 6: Service project, beach and travel day	8am – 11pm

4 full days in St. Croix + two days travel



Weather 78 degrees, sunny; Water temperature 80 degrees

Financials

Cost Projection per Crew Member

Event	Cost	Note:
Camp	\$ 165.00	\$1650 total. Includes use of AC, kitchen, showerhouse, pavilion, fire pit, kayaks, and yard games. \$35pp/day for cabin. \$15pp/day for tent. Without AC, \$25pp/day for cabin.
Diving	\$ 700.00	Covers six (6) 2-tank dives with St. Croix Scuba; includes dive gear
Airfare	\$ 800.00	
Food	\$ 200.00	\$40/day times 5 days
Rental Car	\$ 127.39	Minivan (7 passengers) \$635/5-days; Intermediate 489.15; \$150 gas
Incidentals	\$ 35.00	
Total	\$ 2,027.39	

Total Costs per Person:

- with Scuba Diving: \$2,027*
- without Scuba Diving: \$1,327*

Lessons Learned

- ◆ Camp Wall Provides Outstanding Facilities and Services
 - Laura Kuras and Drac Peyton are the Best
- ◆ Outstanding Dive Sites
 - Beautiful reefs with tons of fish and sharks
 - Night dives bring out new sea life (octopus, sea horses, turtles, rays)
- ◆ Food Services Are A Must
 - Drac provided all food services for all meals
 - Food was outstanding
 - Even prepared fresh caught fish for dinners
 - No time in schedule for scouts/scouters to prepare/cook meals
- ◆ St. Croix Scuba Caters to Young Divers
 - Dive Master on each dive
 - Dive Crew stays together
 - Dive Sites 30 – 60 feet

George Mason Program



John Drisco, Vice Chair Program
Matt Burns, Deputy Vice Chair Program
George Mason District



Current 2023 George Mason Calendar

- February 25, 2023 – University of Scouting
- March 4, 2023 – Merit Badge Day at Fairfax Presbyterian Church
- March 25, 2023 – Pinewood Derby at Fairfax Presbyterian Church
- April 13, 2023 - District COH (before April RT)
- May 5-7, 2023 – Spring Camporee Theme: Canoeing at Antietam
- May 13-20, 2023 – Jamboree on the Trail
- May 13, 2023 – District Hike-O-Ree
- May 25, 2023 – Elks Youth Recognition Dinner for 2021 GM Eagles
- May 29, 2023 – Flags In



STEM

- Chess Tournaments
 - SBSA – 11 February 2023
- DC STEM Trek- Showcases 24 government agencies, private organizations and monuments related to the tenets upon which STEM is based.
 - 10.57 miles
 - 4.75 miles
 - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/DC-STEM-Trek-2.pdf>



2023 George Mason Pinewood Derby

- Race Day is March 25, 2023
- All Packs wanting to participate in the 2023 Pinewood Derby MUST hold their Pack Pinewood Derbies by March 9, 2023.
- One unit winner from each age bracket (Lions, Tigers, Wolves, etc.) regardless of gender.
- Pack winners must register (and pay) on Council website. \$15.00 per entry. No money collected at door on day of race. Must register by 3/16/23.
- Registration is open.
- Race will be held at Fairfax Presbyterian in Fairfax.
- For questions, contact Pat Berney.

2023 District Merit Badge Event



- March 4th, 2023, at Fairfax Presbyterian Church in Fairfax.
- All units participating at this event needs to provide volunteers for the Friday Preparation, Saturday opening, and Adult Assistant to MBC in their classrooms to cover YPT. This list is needed by February 14th, 2023
- Need Unit Merit Badge Day Coordinator names and contact details to John Drisco at gmaisonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com
- Note: The “pre-work” is not the same as a “prerequisite.” The “pre-work” consists of tasks/activities that the Scout is advised to do in advance of the Merit Badge Day event. A Scout can still participate in the Merit Badge Day class if he hasn’t completed the pre-work but failure to complete the pre-work may mean the Scout will leave Merit Badge Day with a partial merit badge. A prerequisite is something that must be done in order to qualify to take the class.
- Feedback to John Drisco at gmaisonmeritbadgeday@gmail.com

Merit Badges Still open for this year:

- American Heritage (AM)
- Citizenship of the Nation (PM)
- Disabilities Awareness (AM)
 - Engineering (PM)
 - Geology (PM)
 - Law (PM)
- Personal Management (PM)

District Court of Honor

- To recognize adults who served/are serving at the unit level.
- Two awards:
 - [Unit Commissioner's Unit Scouter Award](#) – 1 per unit
 - [Unit Appreciation Award](#) – Maximum 8 per unit.
- Please provide a sentence or two describing the individual's service.
- Submit Unit Commissioner's Unit Scouter Award to Unit Commissioner.
- Unit Appreciate Award to gm.adultrecognition@gmail.com
- **Must have all submissions by no later than March 22, 2023.**
- Will confer awards at District COH/April Roundtable.



**2023 Spring
Camporee
George Mason
District**

May 5 to May 7, 2023

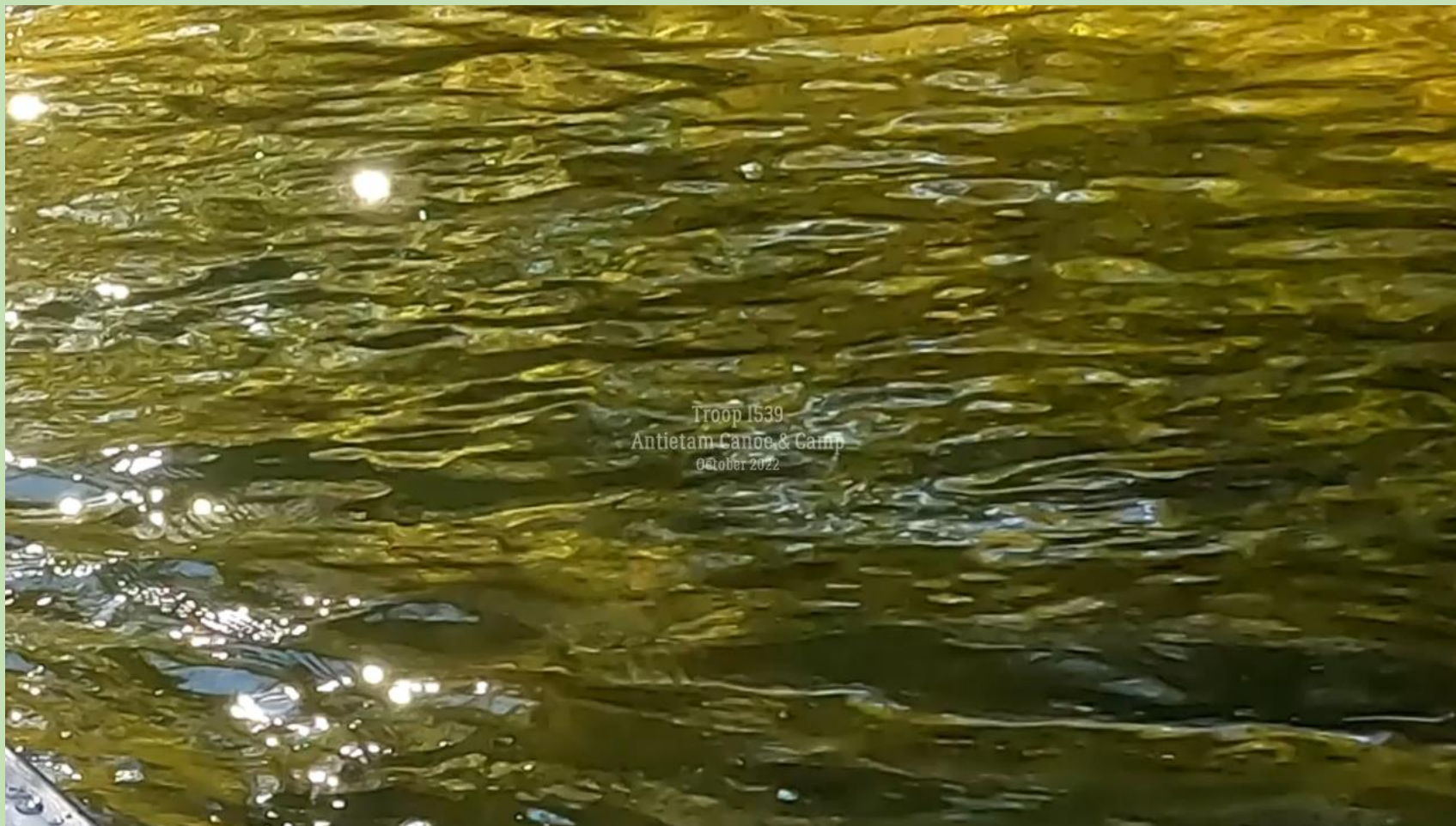




SPRING
CAMPOREE
2023: ANTIETAM
CREEK
CANOEING



Antietam Creek





SPRING CAMPOREE 2023: ANTIETAM PARK HIKING THROUGH HISTORY

Spring 2023 Camporee: Scoutcraft

Trustworthy



Helpful





SPRING 2023 CAMPOREE: CAMPFIRE

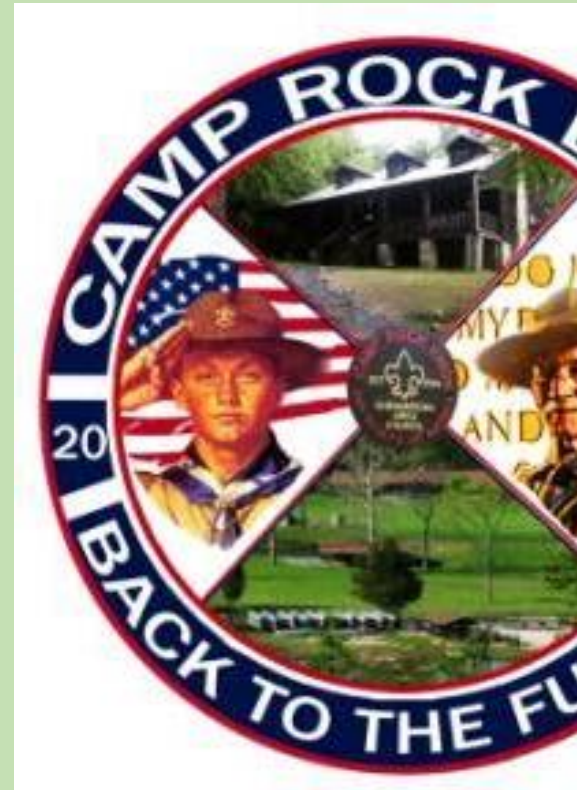


SPRING 2023 CAMPOREE:
FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP



JOIN US!

NCAC GEORGE MASON DISTRICT
SPRING 2023 CAMPOREE: MAY 5-7



FALL 2023: ROCK ENON, OCT 20-22, 2023

- Shooting Sports
- Merit Badges
- Scoutcraft
- Friendly Competition
- Friendship & Fellowship
- Campfire

George Mason Hike-O-Ree



- 3rd Annual GM Hike-O-Ree – Open to all (Cubs, Scouts BSA and Venturing Scouts), families and friends.
- Two options to participate:
 1. Hike with the District on Saturday, May 20
 2. Hike at ANY time between May 12 and May 21.
- Participants in both options will receive patches.
- Any age, any place and any appropriate grouping – just keep track of how far you hiked.
- Challenge – District Scouts, Scouters and families hike 2,023 miles.
- Total the miles for each unit and notify Matt Burns at Burnsmj509@gmail.com. We'll see how big a total we reach.

District Hike on May 20 – Option 1

- Hike around Lake Mercer – gentle 4.3 miles.
- Limited to first 99 registrants
- Starting from South Run Recreation Center NLT 9:00 a.m. and finishing by 11:30 a.m.
- YPT in effect – Every unit must have two registered, YPT current adults on hike.
- Participating units must supply a third adult to help staff event.
- Units must use the buddy system and account for all participants at start and end of hike – stay together!
- Scouts working on Second Class can hike an additional piece of the trail to complete a five-mile hike.
- Cost is \$5.00 per person.
- Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-67922>

Unit or Personal Hiking During 2 Weeks – Option 2

- For individuals or units that have a conflict and can't attend the District Hike on Saturday, May 20
- Hike at ANY time during the May 12 to May 21 time period.
- Hiking can be done with a unit, with family or with friends.
- Hiking can be done anywhere – national/state park, local park, neighborhood, etc.
- There is no upper or lower limit on distance.
- Remember to report results to burnsmj509@gmail.com.
- Register to receive a patch. Cost is \$5.00 per patch.
- Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-68269>

Jamboree on the Trail

- May 13, 2023
- An international event
- The only requirement is to get out and hike.
- Inaugural hike was in 1998.
- Scouts of all ages can hike.
- Register by March 31 to be certain of getting patches by May 13.
- Register at:
<https://jamboreeonthetrail.org/registration/>





2023 Elks Youth Recognition Dinner

- For youth that earned Eagle in 2022 (i.e. their Eagle Board of Review was held in the 2022 calendar year) and their Scoutmasters.
- Thursday, May 25, 2023
- Elks Lodge 2188, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA.
- Will need unit leader help in contacting Scouts and obtaining an RSVP.
- Scoutmaster are invited at no cost to them.

May 29, 2022 (Memorial Day Monday)
Start at 10:00am – Pizza is available!

Flags In

- **Social distancing – bring a mask.**
- **National Memorial Park,
7482 Lee Highway, Falls Church**
- **All Scouts, including Girl Scouts,
are welcome.**
- **Class A Uniforms**

For more info, contact
Russell Pittman at
ruspittman@gmail.com

Merit Badges

- Every merit badge counselor needs to be on the District Charter. The time for action is NOW!
- The online Merit Badge Counselor [registration](#) works for all Scouters who do not already hold another District position.
- New Merit Badge Counselors must complete online merit badge counselor training, in addition to YPT. Be sure the counselor uses his/her legal name – no nicknames.
- Merit Badge Counselors, or the unit Dean/Leader, also need to scan and send Margee the Merit Badge application form listing the badges the counselor is applying to teach and providing a justification of his/her qualifications.
- Youth Protection Training is the essential first step. Don't hit "send" on the application without it!
- Contact Margee if you have questions at GM.MB.Dean@hotmail.com.



Training (<https://www.ncacbsa.org/george-mason/training/>)

•Cub Leader Position Specific (C40)

- [02/18/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [03/25/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [04/29/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [05/06/23 – Herndon, VA](#)
- [05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)

•Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO;C32)

- [03/03/23 – 03/04/23 – Stafford, VA](#)
- [03/25/23 – 03/26/23 – Boyce, VA](#)
- [04/15/23 – 04/16/23 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [04/15/23 – 04/16/23 – Spotsylvania Courthouse, VA](#)
- [05/12/23 – 05/13/23 – Huntingtown, MD](#)

•Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills

- [03/25/23 – 03/26/23 – Boyce, VA](#)
- [05/12/23 – 05/13/23 – Huntingtown, MD](#)

•Back Country Outdoor Leadership Skills (BCOLS)

- [03/04/23 – Huntingtown, MD](#)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT; S78)

- [06/18/23 – 06/23/23 – Session 23-2 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [06/25/23 – 06/30/23 – Session 23-3 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-4 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)
- [07/23/23 – 07/28/23 – Session 23-5 – Camp Snyder, Haymarket, VA](#)

Mental Health First Aid <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscodereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47>

University of Scouting - 02/25/23 – Alexandria, VA is now open: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-UoS2023> (13 GMD Scouters registered as of 02/27/23)

Wood Badge (A90) - <https://www.ncacbsa.org/wood-badge/>

- 03/31/23 – 04/02/23 & 04/22/23 – 04/23/23
- 05/05/23 – 05/07/23 & 06/03/23 – 06/04/23
- 09/08/23 - 09/10/23 & 10/07/23 – 10/08/23

•Cub Scout Den Leader Specific (C42)

- [02/18/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [03/25/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [04/29/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [05/06/23 – Herndon, VA](#)
- [05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)

•Scoutmaster Position Specific Training (S24)

- [02/04/23 – Burke, VA](#)
- [02/18/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [03/25/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [04/29/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)
- [05/20/23 – Alexandria, VA](#)



Mental Health First Aid – Jeff Walker

- Took Fairfax-Falls Church Community Service Board MHFA
- Course was helpful and informative in many ways:
 - Recognize a youth suffering from MH challenges or in crisis
 - Provided practical actions to take in an attempt to help
 - Made clear that we are not there to “fix the problem” but to guide the youth to appropriate resources – could be parents, peers, counselors, MH practitioners, or even police (in certain cases).
- Encourage the course for all Scout Leaders and Parents
- Questions?

SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadlines Approaching!!!

- BSA Scholarship page - <https://www.scouting.org/awards/scholarships/>
- American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year – Deadline is February 15, 2023 – Apply to local Legion Post. Open to Scouts in units sponsored by an American Legion Post or who have a parent or grandparent that is a member of the Legion. Applications at: <https://www.legion.org/scouting/nominate>



Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams Award

- Recognizes a noteworthy Eagle Scout Service Project.
- Deadline is ~~January 21, 2023~~ (Extended to February 17, 2023)
- Anyone can make a nomination. [ADAMS-NATIONAL-EAGLE-SCOUT-SERVICE-PROJECT-OF-THE-YEAR-NOMINATION-FORM.pdf \(nesa.org\)](https://www.nesa.org/ADAMS-NATIONAL-EAGLE-SCOUT-SERVICE-PROJECT-OF-THE-YEAR-NOMINATION-FORM.pdf)
- Scout must sign application to document their “consent.”
- Also needs an electronic copy of the project workbook.
- Some nominations include video.
- Winners can receive:
 - \$500 at the Council level.
 - \$500 at the Regional (Northeast) level.
 - \$2,500 for National winner.



GM High Adventure



February 2023

- **NCAC High Adventure Committee (HAC) updates and announcements:**
<https://www.ncacbsa.org/high-adventure/>
- **High Adventure Bases**
 - **Northern Tier** (<https://www.ntier.org/register/>)
 - Winter 2023 and Summer 2023 – some Crew slots still open.
 - 2024 reservations open. Most Crew Slots are filled.
 - **Philmont** (<https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/register/2023availability/>)
 - 2023 a few Crew slots are available. Check for vacancies among units.
 - 2024 Lottery is over. Almost all Crew slots are full. May find open vacancies among Unit Treks.
 - **Seabase** (<https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/register/>)
 - Some 2023 availability <https://www.bsaseabase.org/scouts/register/> “
 - 2024 Reservations open. Most Crew slots are gone.
 - **Summit** (<https://www.summitbsa.org/registration/>)
 - Some Crew slots left in 2023. 2023 ATV treks full. 2024 registration is open now.
- **Training**
 - **Northern Tier Classroom Training** (email: BSA2XS@gmail.com)
03/04/23; 03/25/23; 04/15/23 – Holy Cross Lutheran, Herndon, VA
 - **Philmont**
 - 03/12/23 & 03/18/23 – Philmont Advisor Hikes (email: wcdubi@gmail.com)
 - 03/25/23 – Skills Training (Zoom)
 - 04/01/23 – Skills Training (In-Person, TBD)

Shooting Sports

- Requests for Shooting Events – Lead Time!
 - 50+ scouts - 6mos
 - Less than 50 scouts - 3mos
- Shooting on private land:
 - Requirements
 - Permissions/protocols
- Shooting Sports [web page](#)
- Shooting Sports Instructor Classes:
 - [Rifle/Shotgun](#)
 - [Archery](#) (Virtual classes available)



Fishing

Scout Life magazine surveys have indicated that 71% of Cub Scouts are interested in learning to Fish. Additional survey reports that Fishing was the number one activity for attracting Cub Scouts. BSA Scouting Fishing Web Site:

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/fishing/>

Events Nearby:

- **03/18/23** – [Kids Trout Fishing Derby](#), behind the Herndon Police Station, Herndon, VA – [Map](#) (Pre-registration required; \$9/angler)
- **03/25/23** - [Family Fishing Rodeo](#), Wildwood Park, 700 block of Follin Lane, SE, Vienna, VA – [Map](#) (Pre-registration required; \$5/angler)
- **03/25/23** – Kids Trout Fishing Day, Snakeden Branch stream off Soapstone Drive, Reston, VA
- **05/06/23** - IWLA Annual Picnic and Fishing Derby for Children/Adults with Disabilities, Centreville, VA (10am – 2pm; pmearaiwla@gmail.com for more info)
- **06/02/23 – 06/04/23** – [Free Fishing Days](#), All of Virginia
- **Various March – June** - [DWR Kids Fishing Days Web Site](#) (updating for 2023 soon)
- **Camp Snyder Fishing Pond (behind cabins)** – Packs can schedule

Other Activities

- Sundays (8am) – [Dyke Marsh Bird Walks](#), Alexandria, VA
- 03/11/23 – [Second Saturday Sungazing](#) (11am), Chantilly, VA
- 03/11/23 – 03/12/23- [Model Train Show and MB](#) (10am), Woodbridge, VA
- 04/22/23 – [National Park Week Kickoff](#) (free admission), Great Falls, VA
- 04/29/23 – [Stargazing at the Udvar-Hazy Center](#), Chantilly, VA
- 04/30/23 – [Scout Days at National Park](#) (Nats vs Pirates), Washington, DC
- Apr – Nov – [Park Habitat Restoration Work Days](#), Vienna, VA
- May – Embassy Tours – Washington, DC
- 05/19/23 – 05/20/23 – [McLean Days](#), McLean, VA
- 05/27/23 – 05/30/23 – [Viva Vienna](#), Vienna, VA
- 05/29/23 - [Falls Church Memorial Day Parade](#) (1pm), Falls Church, VA
- June/July/Aug (Tues, 10am) – [Kids on the Green](#), Vienna, VA

Order of the Arrow

- Service Hour Reporting:
 - <http://wipit470.org/service-hour-reporting.html>
 - Online form for reporting all O/A service hours performed at the Troop/Crew/Ship level (all service hours worked for the Lodge or at Ordeals are recorded by event staff). This will help with tracking hours for Golden Tooth and other related awards.
 - You can submit a report per event using a [spreadsheet format](#). It should be sent to operations@wipit470.org

Other Topics

- General Announcements
- District Executive Minute
- District Chair Minute
- District Commissioner Minute

- *Minutes and slides available on the [GMD web site](#) (District Resources, Roundtable). Password is “GMDRT”*
- *Next meeting – March 9, 2023, at 7:30pm (Thoreau MS)*