

The Scouting Trail

A resource for parents, Scout leaders, district committee members and commissioners.



April 2018

samhoustonbsa.org
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Scout Fair Coupon Books are a wonderful way for units to raise money. Coupon books are easy to sell since they only cost \$10 and provide significant savings. Units can earn up to \$4.50 for every book sold. www.shac.org/coupon-books



Scout Fair is an opportunity for units to have a booth to show off their skills and meet thousands of fellow Scouts and Scouters. Scouts will enjoy visiting hundreds of booths, sampling the amazing outdoor cooking, visiting the midway with over 50 experts representing merit badges, enjoying live entertainment on the Center Stage, watching demonstrations and interacting with our community partners. Don't let your unit miss out on the fun and excitement! **April 14.** www.shac.org/scout-fair. Registration for a booths at www.shac.org/booth.



Spring Recruiting. Packs are encouraged to hold spring recruiting events. Invite newly recruited Scouts and kindergarteners to attend day camp and pack summer events. Sometimes we think we can only recruit in the fall, but spring is a great time to get new Scouts and their families involved early. www.shac.org/membership



Silver Beaver Nominations. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest recognition a Council can bestow on an adult volunteer leader. Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a fellow Scouter for this award. Nomination forms are due **May 1.** www.shac.org/silver-beaver



Scouts First Helpline makes it easy for volunteers and families to address dangerous situations, ask questions about a situation or report a possible incident. BSA is committed to providing ongoing support to victims and their families, including counseling. Support is available 24-hours a day, seven days a week. ScoutsFirst Helpline: (844)-Scouts1 or (844) 726-8871 or scouts1st@scouting.org. Learn more at www.shac.org/erm#scoutsfirst



Scouting with Special Needs. With fall recruitment, the Disabilities Awareness Committee recommends having conferences with new and returning families with Scouts with disabilities. This is a great time to privately learn a little bit more about each Scout and how Scouting can best help them. www.shac.org/dac and www.shac.org/dac-ideas



April Checklist:

- Attend Scout Fair
- Hold spring recruiting event
- Nominate a Scouter for the Silver Beaver award
- Attend roundtable
- Packs: plan summer time events
- Packs: sign up for day camp and resident amp
- Troops: OA members attend Arrowman Bash
- Crews: Attend Venturing Forum



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The Scouting Trail is a monthly newsletter produced by volunteers that conveniently summarizes upcoming council events. This newsletter is a great resource to share with leaders and parents. Copies distributed at roundtable and the Scout Shops are made possible through the generosity of Friends of Scouting donors. www.shac.org/toolkit



April 2018

- 6-8 Powder Horn (weekend 1)
- 6-8 Wood Badge 17-1B
- 6-8 Arrowman Bash
- 7 Philmont 101
- 14 Scout Fair
- 17 Venturing Forum
- 19 Council Coordinated
- 20-22 Order of the Arrow Ordeal
- 20-22 Powder Horn (weekend 2)
- 26 Sporting Clays Tournament

May 2018

- 1 Silver Beaver nominations due
- 5 Dodgeball Challenge
- 6 New Eagle Scout Reception
- 3 or 10 Program Preview at roundtable
- 18 Trainer's EDGE

June 2018

- 1 Silver Beaver nominations due
- 3-8 National Youth Leadership Training
- 10-15 National Youth Leadership Training
- Varies Cub Scout day camps

July 2017

- Cub Scout Resident Camp
- Boy Scout Summer Camp
- 13-15 Order of the Arrow Lone Star Fellowship
- 22-9 World Scout Jamboree
- 30-4 National Order of the Arrow Coference (NOAC)

August 2018

- Fall recruiting night trainings
- 1 Popcorn online sales begin
- 1 Popcorn show-n-sell orders due
- 11 Trainer's EDGE
- 12 OA LEC and elections trng
- 12 OA Troop Rep. Summit
- 16 Council Coordinated
- 18 Venturing Banquet
- 18 Popcorn show-n-sell distribution / sales begin

Cub Scouts

Day Camp is a council camp run by districts for Cub Scouts entering 1st – 5th grade and focuses on earning rank advancements, learning new skills, playing sports and games, crafts, BB guns, archery and making new friends. Placemats re available for packs to use at blue and gold banquets. The placemats can be customized with the district's day camp location, date and website. Registration is open. www.shac.org/daycamp



Resident Camp is a three-night summer camping program for Cubs entering 1st – 5th grade at Bovay Scout Ranch. Cub Scouts will enjoy BB guns, archery, sling shots, crafts, sports, games, campfire, and lots more. www.shac.org/resident-camp



Boy Scouts

Eagle Scout Reception recognizes the previous year's Eagle Scouts. The council continues its tradition of providing this reception free of charge for new Eagle Scouts and their guests. The evening is underwritten with generous sponsorships by many Eagle Scout alumni, charter members and patrons. **May 6.** www.shac.org/nedr



Order of the Arrow. Arrowman Bash is a weekend event that allows Order of the Arrow members to recommit themselves to the principles of our order, brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. Saturday will focus on service to camp followed by an evening filled with food, fun, and fellowship (e.g., games, activities, competitions, pow wow). **April 6-8.** www.oa.shac.org



NYLT or National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action packed six-day council-level program designed to provide Boy Scouts and Venturers who are 13 years and older with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home units and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Courses are being held **June 3-8** and **10-15.** www.shac.org/nylt



World Scout Jamboree is an educational event that brings together the world's young people to promote peace and mutual understanding and to develop leadership and life skills. Unlike any other youth event, the World Scout Jamboree invites you to surround yourself in diverse global cultures by joining your new Scouting friends at a single destination for 12 unforgettable days in West Virginia. **July 22-August 9, 2018.** www.shac.org/wsj



Facebook. Help spread the word about Scouting on Facebook:

- Like Us at fb.com/shac.bsa
- Engage. Click, like, comment, and share our posts.
- Mention the council in your posts. Type "@Sam Houston Area Council" and then select the council from the list that appears.
- Share your Scouting memories with us by sending photos and videos. You can post them on our wall or send them to us as a message.
- Invite your Scouting friends to 'Like' our page.
- Under the 'Liked' button on our page, select 'Post in News Feed' option.



Training

Updated YPT Course is

Recently the BSA has released an updated **NEW** youth protection training which draws on research from experts in the field of child abuse and child maltreatment, as well as survivors, to identify the contributing factors and threats across the spectrum of child abuse including bullying, neglect, exposure to violence, physical and emotional abuse, as well as child sexual abuse. This updated training is now available on my.Scouting.

Wood Badge is a six-day advanced leadership course for Scout Leaders involved in all program levels to learn techniques to become better leaders.

September 14-16 and October 5-7, 2018

www.shac.org/wood-badge



Training. Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Every leader deserves to be trained. The council offers a variety of training courses for all levels of leaders in all Scouting program. Scouters can attend training in any district.



www.shac.org/training-schedule

Adventures for Older Scouts

Venturing Forums are held three times a year, is a great resource and fun opportunity for crews and ships. **April 17.** shac.org/venturing.



Sea Scouts: Sea Scouts. Fleet meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month. shac.org/sea-scouts

