

# The Scouting Trail



November 2017

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

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**Popcorn** Selling popcorn is a wonderful opportunity for units to earn funds to support their entire year of Scouting by selling gourmet popcorn. Popcorn orders are due **November 18** and distribution is **December 9**. [www.shac.org/popcorn](http://www.shac.org/popcorn)



**Recharter.** All units must complete internet recharter by **December 7 or 14** roundtable. Every December, units are required to renew their affiliation with Scouting. • Plan ahead to get recharter done early, as this time of the year is typically very busy. It takes time to gather information and collect fees and signatures. • Ensure all registered leaders have taken Youth Protection Training (YPT) • Ensure the top unit leader (i.e., Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Venturing Advisor) has completed BSA training for his or her position. [www.shac.org/recharter](http://www.shac.org/recharter)

**Hurricane Harvey** If your Scouting unit has been affected by the recent storms and has lost items crucial to serving the youth in your community, the Scouting family is here for you. Nationwide, fellow Scouts are looking for ways to help. [shac.org/harvey](http://shac.org/harvey). Units who helped with rescues, recovery fundraisers, clean-up, and other volunteering efforts after Hurricane Harvey are eligible for a Hurricane Harvey Relief Unit Ribbon. [shac.org/harvey-ribbon](http://shac.org/harvey-ribbon)



**College of Commissioner Science** features informative sessions enhancing commissioner skills on **December 2**. You do not have to be a registered commissioner to attend. [www.shac.org/ccs](http://www.shac.org/ccs)



**Key Leaders Conference** is an annual half day meeting for district leadership. **January 13**. [www.shac.org/district-operations](http://www.shac.org/district-operations)



**Scouting for Food** is a council-wide service project. There is no better way to show our Scouting spirit to the community than by participating in the annual Scouting for Food drive! Sign up today. **January 27** is hangar drop off and **February 3** is food pick up. [www.shac.org/scouting-for-food](http://www.shac.org/scouting-for-food)



**Service Hours.** All Scouting groups are encouraged to participate in service projects. Unit Leaders: Please log all service hour by **December 31**. [www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence). Look for the "Service Project" area of the screen.



**November Checklist:**

- Sell popcorn
- Work on recharter: collect fees, get signatures, make sure all leaders take YPT and top leaders are trained
- Log services hours online for JTE
- Attend roundtable
- Packs/Troops: Implement Webelos to Scout transition plan
- Troops: Order of the Arrow members attend OA Fall PowWow.
- Troops: Sign up for winter camp and summer camp

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](http://www.shac.org/toolkit)



November 2017	
3-5	Day Camp School
3-5	OA Fall Pow Wow
10-12	Webelos Coyote Extreme
17-19	Cub Scout Adventure Camp
20	Popcorn orders due
20	OA elections end
20	OA award nominations due
28	Council Recognition Reception
December 2017	
1-3	Cub Scout Adventure Camp
7 & 14	Recharter due from units
2	College of Commissioner Science
9	Top Leader Training Day
9	Popcorn distribution
26-31	NYLT
26-31	Winter Camp
January 2018	
	Schedule Friends of Scouting Presentation
13	Key Leaders Conference
20	OA Banquet and LLD Training
25	District Scout Fair Kickoff
27	Scouting for Food (door hangar drop off)
February 2018	
3	Scouting for Food (food pick up)
11	Scout Sunday
8	BSA's 107 <sup>th</sup> birthday
16-18	Climbing Training
10	Scout Sabbath
23	Baden Powell Dinner
23-25	Venturing Challenge
March 2018	
3-5	Trade-o-ree
4	Order of the Arrow LEC
8	Scout Fair coupon book, 5% bonus deadline
16-18	Wood Badge 18-1 A
24	University of Scouting
29	Scout Fair coupon book, 3% bonus deadline
31	Scout Fair unit participation deadline



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[youtube.com/samhoustonbsa](https://youtube.com/samhoustonbsa)

# Cub Scouts

**Rocket Days.** Boys who join Cub Scouts will receive a rocket that they can design, build, and launch at a fall event. [www.shac.org/rockets](http://www.shac.org/rockets)

**Webelos Coyote Xtreme** is a weekend campout that focuses on the Arrow of Light Award requirements and skills needed for Boy Scouts. **November 10-12.** [www.shac.org/wctx](http://www.shac.org/wctx)

# Boy Scouts

**Winter Camp** is held between Christmas and New Years and is a wonderful opportunity for Troops to camp and for Scouts to earn merit badges. Merit badge classes are taught by Scouters with actual real-life experiences in the field. [www.shac.org/winter-camp](http://www.shac.org/winter-camp)

**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. [www.shac.org/nylt](http://www.shac.org/nylt)

**Order of the Arrow. Fall PowWow** is an event for Order of the Arrow members. It is a combination of activities such as exciting games, sports, ceremony and dance classes, regalia building activities, competitions, pow wows, shows and more for three days of non-stop fun, food, fellowship and celebration. **November 3-5.** [www.oa.shac.org/fall-pow-wow](http://www.oa.shac.org/fall-pow-wow). **Unit Elections:** To become a member of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout is chosen by a vote of the youth in his unit. Elections must be conducted by the OA district election team by **November 20.** [oa.shac.org/elections](http://oa.shac.org/elections)

**Friends of Scouting** is the annual fundraising campaign in which district volunteers make a short presentation explaining how the Scouting program is funded and why financial support is needed to maintain and expand the quality programs and camping facilities during a special meeting (e.g., Blue and Gold, Court of Honor). Please schedule your FOS presentation with your district Friends of Scouting chair or district executive by **January Roundtable.** Sign up at [www.shac.org/fos-presentation](http://www.shac.org/fos-presentation).


**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 get 30% commission on each coupon book sold and get 40% if the unit has a booth at Scout Fair. [www.shac.org/scout-fair-leader-page](http://www.shac.org/scout-fair-leader-page)

**Scout Sunday / Scout Sabbath**  
Scout units are urged to participate in the religious service of their chartering organization. A Scout is reverent. **February 5 and 11.** [www.scouting.org/scoutsources/Media/Relationships/ascoutisreverent.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/Media/Relationships/ascoutisreverent.aspx)

**University of Scouting** offers over 100 different classes presented by some of the most experienced volunteers. Whether you are a new leader or experienced, or simply an interested parent, there is something for you. **March 24.** [www.shac.org/uos](http://www.shac.org/uos)




## Training


**Top Leader Training** is an opportunity for 

Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Venturing Advisors to get leader specific training needed for recharter. **December 9.**


[shac.org/top-leader-training](http://shac.org/top-leader-training)  
Additional training opportunities: [www.shac.org/training-schedule](http://www.shac.org/training-schedule)


**Powder Horn** is an action-packed, hands-on, six day course to help Scouts and Scouters learn how to implement high adventure activities into their troop, crew or ship. 

**April 7-9 and 28-30, 2018**  
[www.shac.org/powder-horn](http://www.shac.org/powder-horn).

**First Aid** courses are being offered at a discount to Scouters.   
[shac.org/training-schedule#first-aid](http://shac.org/training-schedule#first-aid)

## Adventures for Older Scouts

**Venturing: Venturing Forums** are held three times a year, is a great resource and fun opportunity for crews and ships. **January 24.** The **Venturing Challenge** is a weekend campout filled with games, movies, competitions, campfire and much more. **February 23-25.** [shac.org/venturing](http://shac.org/venturing). 

**Sea Scouts: Seabadge** is an intense leadership and management training. **November 3-5.** 

**Sea Scouts Academy** is a learning experience focusing on advancement a leadership. **January 12-14.** [shac.org/sea-scouts](http://shac.org/sea-scouts)