

The Scouting Trail



September 2017

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

samhoustonbsa.org
facebook.com/shac.bsa

News You Can Use

University of Scouting offers over 100 different classes presented by some of the most experienced volunteers. Whether you are a new leader or experienced... a commissioner or den leader... a Scoutmaster or Cubmaster... committee member or simply an interested parent... there is something for you. University of Scouting University of Scouting also offers training for Boy Scouts who wish to serve as den chiefs, troop guides, or chaplain aides. **September 23.** www.shac.org/uos



Popcorn Blitz Days are designated days where units are encouraged to sell as a group by canvassing area neighborhoods. Scouts can qualify for special drawings. **Sep 30, Oct 14, Oct 28.** Selling popcorn is a wonderful opportunity for units to earn funds to support their entire year of Scouting by selling gourmet popcorn. Traditional take-order sales run from **August 15 to October 30.** www.shac.org/popcorn



BeAScout.org has a Google pin for every unit. Unit leaders: update your unit information to make it EASY for new Scouting families to find your unit at myscouting.org by looking under Unit Tools, selecting BeAScout, and then clicking on Unit Pin Management. Also, visit your district website and look under the unit tab. There is a link on the page to send corrections to the webmaster.



Council Coordinated is a meeting for district leaders to receive updates from the council at the Cockrell Scout Center on **October 19.** www.shac.org/council-coordinated. District committee resources are available at www.shac.org/district-operations



SHAC Recognition Reception is an opportunity to recognize the recipients of the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a council can bestow on a volunteer Scouter on **November 28.** www.shac.org/council-recognition-reception



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



- Sell popcorn
- Attend University of Scouting
- Leaders attend roundtable
- Packs: Hold join Scouting nights
- Packs: Submit all new Scout applications
- Packs: Sign up new Scouts for Rocket Day & Fun with Son
- Troops: Sign up for OA elections
- Troops: Sign up youth for NYLT
- Crews: Attend Venturing Forum

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



[instagram.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.instagram.com/samhoustonbsa)



pinterest.com/samhoustonbsa



[flickr.com/samhoustonbsa](https://www.flickr.com/photos/samhoustonbsa)



[fbcom/shac.bsa](https://www.facebook.com/shac.bsa)



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

September 2017

- 1 Order of the Arrow elections begin
- 8-10 Wood Badge 17-2A
- 8-10 Sea Scouts Rendezvous
- 14-16 Wood Badge 17-3A
- 23 University of Scouting
- 27 Women for Scouting Luncheon
- 27 Golf Classic
- 29-30 Order of the Arrow Ordeal
- 30 Popcorn Blitz Day #1
- 30 Day of Service
- 30 Shooting Merit Badge Fulfillment Day

October 2017

- 6-8 Wood Badge 17-2B
- 12-14 Wood Badge 17 3B
- 14 Popcorn blitz day #2
- 13-15 Leave No Trace Trainer Course
- 13-15 Catholic Retreat
- 14 Backpacking 101 training
- 17 Venturing Forum
- 18 Celebrating Cultures Luncheon
- 19 Council Coordinated
- 21 Jamboree on the Internet
- 20-22 Fun with Son
- 20-22 Topping Out training
- 28 Popcorn Blitz Day #3
- 30 Popcorn orders due

November 2016

- 3-5 Day Camp School
- 3-5 OA Fall Pow Wow
- 10-12 Webelos Coyote Extreme
- 17-19 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 18 Popcorn distribution
- 20 OA elections end
- 20 OA award nominations due
- 28 Council Recognition Reception

December 2016

- 1-3 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 7 & 14 Recharterers due from units
- 2 College of Commissioner Science
- 9 Top Leader Training Day
- 26-31 NYLT
- 26-31 Winter Camp

www.shac.org/toolkit

Cub Scouts

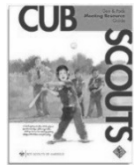
Rocket Days. Boys who join Cub Scouts will receive a rocket that they can design, build, and launch at a fall event. www.shac.org/rockets

Fall Recruiting resources are available from your district membership chair and the council. Ask someone to join Cub Scouting today! www.shac.org/pack-recruitment-resources

Cub Scout Planning - Take some time now to plan your den and pack meetings for the coming year. A common element of strong units is they all have a good annual program planned a year in advance. www.shac.org/leader-resources

Fun with Son gives newly registered Cub Scouts and their families an opportunity to experience an overnight campout and exciting activities such as BB guns, crafts, archery and more! Fun with Son is held at both Bovay Scout Ranch and at Camp Strake on **October 20-22**. Volunteers from each district are needed to help make this event a success. www.shac.org/fun-with-son

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



Training

Leader Training. Every Scout deserves a trained leader. SHAC offers a wide variety of training courses for all levels of leaders in all Scouting programs. www.shac.org/training-schedule



Climbing Training Participants learn about climbing equipment such as cams, stoppers, hexes, and anchors. Participants also learn how to effectively supervise climbing and rappelling activities. October 20-22. www.shac.org/climbing



Wood Badge is a six-day advanced leadership course for Scout leaders involved in all program levels to learn techniques to become better leaders. www.shac.org/wood-badge



• March 16-18 and April 6-8, 2018

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



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 held in June and December and fill up early. 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. **Unit Elections:** To become a member of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout is chosen by a vote of the youth in his unit. Elections must be conducted by the OA district election team between **September 1 and November 20**. oa.shac.org/elections



Adventures for Older Scouts

Venturing, Venturing Forums are held three times a year, is a great resource and fun opportunity for crews and ships. **October 17** www.shac.org/venturing. The new Venturing Officer Association leadership was elected at the Venturing Banquet. Read their bios at venturing.shac.org/officers



Sea Scouts. The Minto **Rendezvous** is a regional event where Sea Scouts test their knowledge and skills. **September 8-10**. www.shac.org/sea-scouts



www.shac.org/toolkit