

# The Scouting Trail



December 2018

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 **December 1** and distribution is **December 17**.

[www.shac.org/popcorn](http://www.shac.org/popcorn)



**Recharter.** All units must complete internet recharter by **December 6 or 13** 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, Advisor, Skipper) has completed BSA training for his or her position. [www.shac.org/recharter](http://www.shac.org/recharter)



**College of Commissioner Science** features informative sessions enhancing commissioner skills on **December 1**. You do not have to be a registered commissioner to attend. [www.shac.org/ccs](http://www.shac.org/ccs)



**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 26** is hangar drop off and **February 2** 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.



**Scouts BSA.** Scouts BSA is a year-round program for boys and girls in fifth grade through high school that provides fun, adventure, learning, challenge, and responsibility to help them become the best version of themselves. [scouting.org/familyscouting](http://scouting.org/familyscouting). To start a new unit, contact [chris.hogue@scouting.org](mailto:chris.hogue@scouting.org) or visit [shac.org/new-units](http://shac.org/new-units).



**December Unit Checklist:**

- Submit recharter at roundtable
- Plan Scout Sunday / Sabbath
- Sign up for Scouting for Food
- Sign up for Friends of Scouting presentation
- Submit all internet advancements by Dec 31
- Submit all service hours by Dec 31
- Attend roundtable
- Packs: plan blue and gold banquet
- Packs/troops: continue Webelos to Scout transition
- Troops: Attend winter camp
- Troops: Youth attend NYLT
- Crews: Youth attend Kodiak Challenge
- Ships: Sign up for Sea Scouts Academy

**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)



- December 2018**
- 1 College of Commissioner Science
  - 6 Unit recharter turn-in #1
  - 8 Top Leader Training Day
  - 13 Unit recharter turn-in #2
  - 26-31 Winter camp
  - 26-31 National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)
  - 31 Last day of online popcorn sales

- January 2019**
- 12 Key Leaders Conference
  - 19 OA Banquet and LLD Training
  - 23 Venturing Forum
  - 24 District Scout Fair Kickoff
  - 26 Scouting for Food (door hangar drop-off)

- February 2019**
- 2 Scouting for Food (food pick up)
  - 3 Scout Sunday
  - 9 Scout Sabbath
  - 10 Council First Aid Meet
  - 22 Baden Powell Dinner
  - 22-24 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
  - 22-24 Venturing Challenge

- March 2019**
- 2-4 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
  - 2-4 Order of the Arrow Ordeal
  - 4 Order of the Arrow LEC
  - 8 Scout Fair coupon book, 5% bonus deadline
  - 8-10 Wood Badge 19-1A
  - 24 University of Scouting
  - 29 Scout Fair coupon book, 3% bonus deadline
  - 29-31 Wood Badge 19-1B
  - 31 Scout Fair unit participation deadline

- April 2019**
- 1 Scout Fair coupon book, 1% bonus deadline
  - 6 Scout Fair
  - 16 Venturing Forum
  - 17 Council Coordinated Meeting
  - 26-28 Arrowman Bash 26-28 OA Ordeal
  - 26-28 Powder Horn (weekend 2)



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[fb.com/shac.bsa](https://fb.com/shac.bsa)



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

# Cub Scouts

**Camping** opportunities are available at Bovay Scout Ranch. During Adventure Camp, a camp program and meals are provided. [shac.org/adventure-camp](http://shac.org/adventure-camp). Family camping weekends allow pack leaders to provide their own program and meals. [shac.org/family-camping](http://shac.org/family-camping).



# Boy Scouts

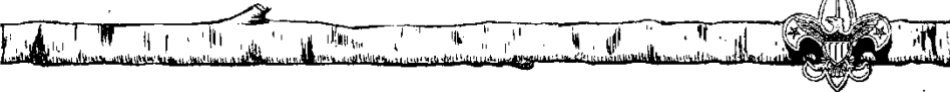
**Winter Camp** is held between Christmas and New Years and is a wonderful opportunity for Troops to camp and for Scouts to earn merit badges. Merit badge classes are taught by Scouters with actual real-life experiences in the field. **December 26-31.** [shac.org/winter-camp](http://shac.org/winter-camp)



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



**Order of the Arrow. Dues:** It's time to pay annual dues. [oa.shac.org/dues](http://oa.shac.org/dues). **Banquet and LLD:** All Order of the Arrow members are invited to attend Lodge Leadership Development, a youth and adult leadership training event, to learn how to become a better leader. The day ends with the annual banquet. **January 19.** [www.oa.shac.org/banquet](http://www.oa.shac.org/banquet)



**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**.



**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. [shac.org/scout-fair-leader-page](http://shac.org/scout-fair-leader-page)



**Baden Powell Dinner** is an evening of fellowship for adult Scouters who have participated in Wood Badge or NYLT courses held in honor of Baden-Powell's birthday. **February 23.** [shac.org/baden-powell-dinner](http://shac.org/baden-powell-dinner)



## Scout Sunday / Scout Sabbath

Scout units are urged to participate in the religious service of their chartering organization. A Scout is reverent. **February.** [shac.org/scout-Sunday-sabbath](http://shac.org/scout-Sunday-sabbath)



**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.** [shac.org/uos](http://shac.org/uos)



## Training

**Top Leader Training** is an opportunity for Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and



Advisors to get training needed for recharter. **December 8.** [shac.org/top-leader-training](http://shac.org/top-leader-training)  
Additional training opportunities: [shac.org/training-schedule](http://shac.org/training-schedule)

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



**March 8-10 and March 29-31**  
[www.shac.org/wood-badge](http://www.shac.org/wood-badge)

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



**April 12-14 and 26-28, 2019**  
[shac.org/powder-horn](http://shac.org/powder-horn)

## Adventures for Older Scouts

**Venturing: Kodiak Challenge** is a weeklong training designed to be an adventure. **Dec 26-31.** [www.shac.org/venturing](http://www.shac.org/venturing).



**Venturing Forums** are held three times a year, is a great resource and fun opportunity for crews and ships. **Jan 23.** The **Venturing Challenge** is a weekend campout filled with games, movies, competitions, campfire and much more. **Feb. 22-24.** [shac.org/venturing](http://shac.org/venturing).

**Sea Scouts: Sea Scouts Academy** is a learning experience focusing on advancement a leadership. **Jan 19-21.** [shac.org/sea-scouts](http://shac.org/sea-scouts)

