

# THE SCOUTING TRAIL

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



September 2019

samhoustonbsa.org  
facebook.com/shac.bsa

**Family Scouting.** It's an exciting time to be in Scouting! We are excited to serve the entire family and reach an entire new generation with our amazing programs. By welcoming both girls and boys into the program, even more youth will have access to the character development and values-based leadership that Scouting promises. To find a unit, visit [BeAScout.org](http://BeAScout.org).

**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 based on the number of take order items sold on **Sep 28, Oct 12, and Oct 26**. 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 through **November 1**. [shac.org/popcorn](http://shac.org/popcorn)

**University of Scouting** offers a variety of Scouting classes presented by some of the most experienced volunteers in the council. Whether you are a new leader or experienced... or simply an interested parent... there is something for you. **November 2**. [shac.org/uos](http://shac.org/uos)

**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](http://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.

**Geofencing** is a method of geographically targeting a specific audience using Facebook. Units with public, organizational Facebook pages can set up a Join Scouting Night event with a geofence that targets a specific audience (e.g., parents) around a specific location (e.g., within 3 miles of a school). The cost is minimal, and the "boosted" event information is shown to the audience who enters into the geographical area in the real world while they are also on Facebook. It's easy. It's hyper-local, and it doesn't rely on someone else passing out fliers or other material. [shac.org/geocaching](http://shac.org/geocaching)

**Pictures**— help us promote Scouting. Share your Scouting memories with us by tagging us and sending them as a message to [www.facebook.com/shac.bsa](http://www.facebook.com/shac.bsa). Let parents know about our page. Like and Share our stories to help attract more people to our page. [facebook.com/shac.bsa](http://facebook.com/shac.bsa)



## September Unit Checklist

- Sell popcorn
- Leaders attend roundtable
- Sign up for University of Scouting
- Leaders update BeAScout.org pin
- Packs: Hold join Scouting nights
- Packs: Submit all new Scout applications
- Troops: Sign up for winter camp
- Troops: Sign up youth for NYLT
- Crews: Attend Venturing Forum
- Ships: Attend rendezvous

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

## September 2019

- 6-8 Sea Scouts Minto Rendezvous
- 13-15 Wood Badge 19-2A
- 14 First Aid/CPR/AED Training
- 20-22 Order of the Arrow (OA) Fall PowWow and Ordeal
- 21 First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor Training
- 28 Popcorn Blitz Day #1
- 28 Shooting Sports Merit Badge Fulfillment Day
- 27-29 Adventure Camp

## October 2019

- 4-6 Wood Badge 19-2B
- 11-13 Fun with Family
- 12 Popcorn blitz day #2
- 12 First Aid/CPR/AED Training
- 15 Venturing Forum
- 17 Council Coordinated
- 18-20 Adventure Camp
- 18-20 Leave No Trace Training
- 19 Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI)
- 25-27 Adventure Camp
- 26 Order of the Arrow Service Day
- 26 Popcorn blitz day #3

## November 2019

- 1 Popcorn orders due
- 1-3 OA Service Weekend / Ordeal
- 2 University of Scouting
- 8-10 Webelos Coyote Trail Extreme
- 9-10 Wilderness First Aid Training
- 16 Popcorn distribution
- 16 Order of the Arrow Service Day
- 15-17 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 19 Council Recognition Reception

## December 2019

- 5 Unit recharter turn-in #1
- 7 College of Commissioner Science
- 6-8 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 12 Unit recharter turn-in #2
- 14-15 OA Service Weekend
- 26-31 Winter camp
- 26-31 National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

## January 2020

- 11 Key Leaders Conference
- 18 Eagle Scout Project of the Year submission deadline
- 18 Shooting Merit Badge Fulfillment Day
- 18 OA Banquet and LLD Training
- 21 Venturing Forum
- 23 District Scout Fair Kickoff
- 25 Scouting for Food (door hangar drop-off)



[instagram.com/samhoustonbsa](http://instagram.com/samhoustonbsa)



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# Cub Scouts

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

**Fall Recruiting** is the time to focus on recruiting new families to the fun and adventure of Cub Scouting. The council will provide support materials to your pack to ensure your for fall recruiting success. Make your recruiting plans now to ensure that your pack has a great recruiting campaign. Ask someone to join Cub Scouting today! [shac.org/recruiting](http://shac.org/recruiting)



**Cub Scout Planning** - Take some time now to plan your den and pack meetings for the coming year. [shac.org/leader-resources](http://shac.org/leader-resources)  
A common element of strong units is they all have a good annual program planned a year in advance. Find similar advancements across ranks at [shac.org/program-planning](http://shac.org/program-planning).



**Fun with Family** 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! The event is held at Bovay Scout Ranch. **October 11-13.** [shac.org/fun-with-family](http://shac.org/fun-with-family)



**Adventure Camp** is a weekend camp out for Cub Scout families at Bovay Scout Ranch. [shac.org/adventure-camp](http://shac.org/adventure-camp)

**Webelos Coyote Trail Extreme** is a weekend campout that focuses on the Arrow of Light Award requirements and skills needed for Boy Scouts. **November 8-10.** [shac.org/wctx](http://shac.org/wctx)

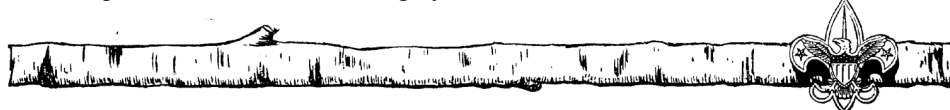


# Scouts BSA

**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. [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.** 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. **September 20-22.**



[oa.shac.org/fall-pow-wow](http://oa.shac.org/fall-pow-wow). **OA Unit Elections:** To become a member of the Order of the Arrow, a Scout is chosen by a vote of the youth in his unit. Elections must be conducted by the OA chapter election team. [oa.shac.org/elections](http://oa.shac.org/elections)



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

## Training

**Leader Training.** Every Scout deserves a trained leader. SHAC offers a variety of training courses for leaders in all Scouting programs. [shac.org/training-schedule](http://shac.org/training-schedule)



**Leave No Trace** is course to help units develop a culture of responsible outdoor choices. **October 18-20, 2019**  
[shac.org/training-schedule#Int](http://shac.org/training-schedule#Int)

**First Aid** courses including CPR/AED can be found at [shac.org/training-schedule#fa](http://shac.org/training-schedule#fa)

**Wood Badge** is a six-day advanced leadership course for Scout leaders involved in all program levels to learn techniques to become better leaders. **March 13-15 and 27-29, 2020**  
[shac.org/wood-badge](http://shac.org/wood-badge)



## Adventures for Older Scouts

**Venturing Forums** are a great resource and fun opportunity for crews. **October 15.**  
[shac.org/venturing](http://shac.org/venturing)



**Sea Scouts.** The Minto Rendezvous is a regional event where Sea Scouts test their knowledge and skills. **September 6-8.** The [shac.org/sea-scouts](http://shac.org/sea-scouts)



**Exploring** is program that provides experiences to help youth mature and prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. [exploring.shac.org](http://exploring.shac.org)

