

DECEMBER 2024



# THE TRIBUTARY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL



Steve Hammond  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Matt Phillippi  
COUNCIL COMMISSONER

Sue Hart  
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Virginia Headwaters Council  
(VAHC)

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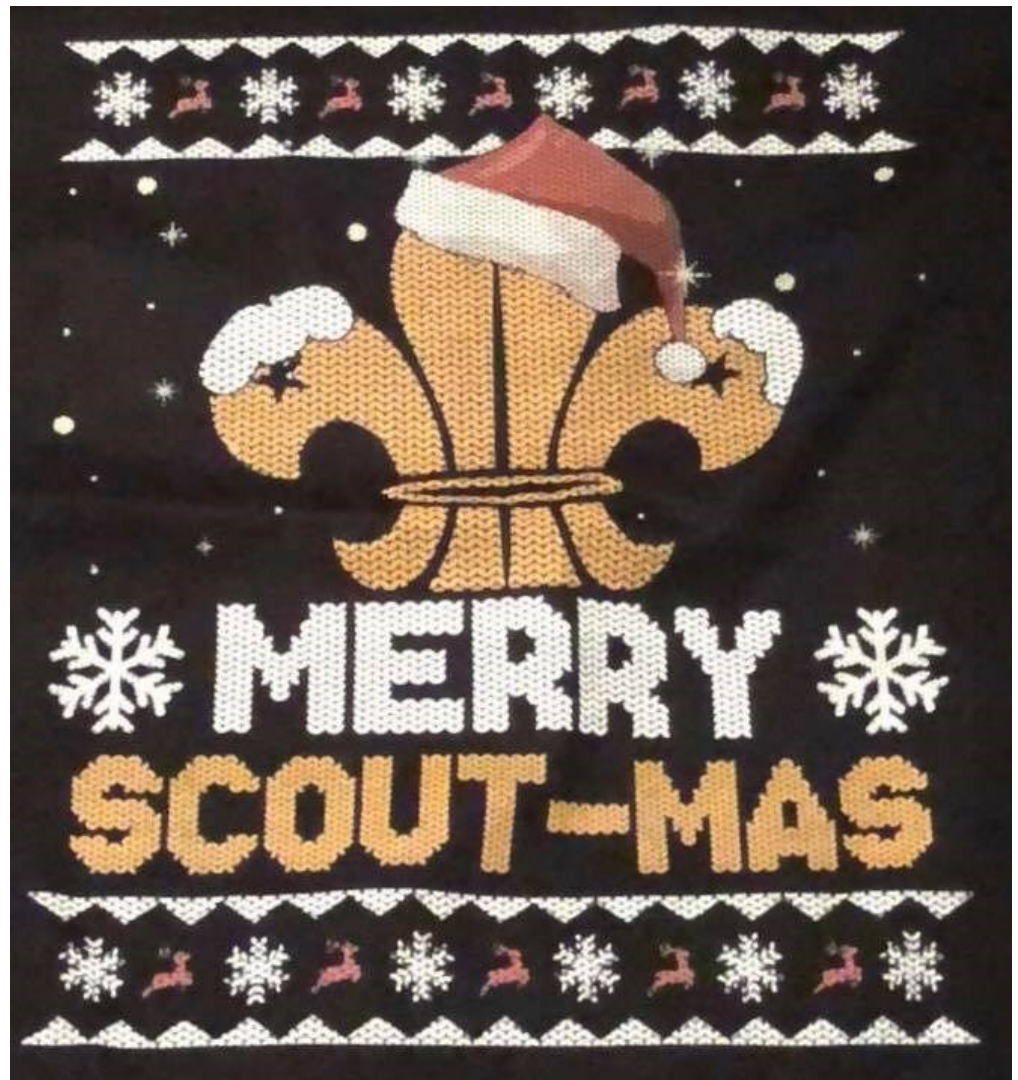
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The Tributary established May 2021



*Wishing you a joyous holiday season and hope you  
have a great start to your 2025 scouting year.*

*Happy Holidays,  
Steve, Matt, Sue, Robert and Terry*



## YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Happy Holidays to our Virginia Headwaters Scouting Family. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We all have plenty to be thankful for. Although the bluster of the Christmas season is hurried upon us, the humility and reverence of Thanksgiving is refreshing. I find Thanksgiving a good time for reflection on the past year and re-affirming your priorities and valued things in life. As many of you learned in Wood Badge, you have to make room for the “big rocks” in your life; family, faith, duty; etc. I like to think Scouting is one of my big rocks. I hope you feel the same.

November started with a day-long Virginia Headwaters Council Executive Board retreat. The Board focuses on the “business side” of Scouting so our Districts and units can focus on program and our Scouts can focus on having fun. Our Board retreat was an exceptional meeting with an impressive collection of brilliant minds and dedicated servants. It is simply amazing the depth of talent we have in our Council. In a time, when many Scout Councils are struggling, and lack effective leadership, I can assure you that is not a problem with your Council. The immediate focus of the Board is to continue to increase membership and strengthen the Council finances. Along those lines, units need to sign-up for the Annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) presentation. Please consider generous donations to FOS. Invest in the program we all believe in and love.

As Christmas approaches, don't forget that the Scouts in Monticello District are selling Christmas trees. And this year an exciting first, Troop 84 of Mountain Valley District is also selling trees in the Stuarts Draft

area. Tree sales support our individual Scouts and our Camp. So, please go out, buy a tree or two and support our Scouts.

I hope you all have very Merry Christmas! Don't get caught up in the hype, and make room for your “big rocks”.

Steve Hammond - Council President  
[steve.hammond@hammondtownsend.com](mailto:steve.hammond@hammondtownsend.com)  
 (cell) 434-962-5813



## Calling All Volunteers!

**Join us at Camp Shenandoah on Saturday, December 7th from 9 AM to 4 PM as we tackle the job of clearing out the Trading Post!**



**This is your chance to lend a hand and make a big impact at camp. Here's what you need to know:  
 Dress warmly – it's going to be chilly!  
 Bring a packed lunch to keep your energy up.**

**Your time and effort make all the difference, and we can't wait to see you there!**

**Let us know if you're coming by email Robert Clemmer at [Robert.clemmer@scouting.org](mailto:Robert.clemmer@scouting.org)**



## YOUR SCOUT EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

Dear Scouting Families,

As we close out an incredible year, we want to take a moment to reflect on a few of our accomplishments together in 2024. Your dedication and support have made this year one of growth, adventure, and success for the Virginia Headwaters Council!

This year started with our biggest Klondike Derby to date, a thrilling winter adventure that challenged Scouts to demonstrate teamwork, leadership, and outdoor skills in a fun and competitive environment. Held at Camp Shenandoah, this event saw patrols braving the cold to compete in activities like fire-building, orienteering, and sled-pulling. A huge thank you to Kent Baisley and Nick King, whose dedication and ideas helped the Klondike Derby be a success. Their leadership ensured not only high attendance but also an engaging and meaningful experience for all involved. Sign up now for 2025.

Another exciting highlight was Monticello District's first-ever Woods with Merit Camporee. Led by the inspiring Breanna Richardson, this event provided Scouts with an opportunity to earn merit badges in a dynamic and hands-on environment. This inaugural event showcased the true spirit of Scouting and set a strong foundation for future Camporees in the district.

Summer camp at Camp Shenandoah was a phenomenal accomplishment this year, with new and engaging programs that thrilled Scouts from across the region. Whether earning badges in innovative new areas, participating in camp-wide activities, eating our delicious food in the dining hall, or enjoying free time at the waterfront, the energy at camp was electric. Our exceptional summer camp staff deserves a huge thank-you for their tireless efforts in creating an unforgettable experience for every Scout. Their creativity and commitment have laid the groundwork for even more excitement in 2025 as we continue to expand and innovate.

In the fall, Tracey's Cub Camporee proved that a little rain can't dampen the Scouting spirit. Despite the wet weather, Cub Scouts had a fantastic time participating in activities designed to inspire creativity and fun. The laughter and smiles throughout the weekend were proof of the resilience and enthusiasm that make events like this so special.

Equally remarkable was the Apple Harvest Camporee, which brought the Wild West to life at Camp Shenandoah. Guided by the outstanding leadership of Melissa and Reid Watts, Scouts and leaders stepped into a world of adventure with themed activities, games, and challenges that left everyone grinning from ear to ear. This event was a true celebration of Scouting camaraderie and creativity.

This year also saw the introduction of new opportunities, such as Mountain Valley's Fall Merit Badge University. Scouts traveled from all over the East Coast to participate, demonstrating the far-reaching appeal of our programs. This initiative not only provided a platform for Scouts to earn valuable merit badges but also showcased the strength of our council's ability to bring people together in pursuit of Scouting's ideals.

Thanks to your incredible support, we are wrapping up 2024 with more programs and serving more youth than ever before. The growth and success of Scouting in the Virginia Headwaters Council is a direct result of your unwavering commitment to our mission. Together, we've inspired young people to make ethical and moral choices, develop life skills, and build lasting friendships that will guide them well into the future.

From all of us at the Virginia Headwaters Council, thank you for being part of our Scouting family and for everything you do to make a difference in the lives of our youth. Here's to an even greater 2025 filled with more opportunities, adventures, and achievements!

Sue Hart

VAHC Scout Executive  
susan.hart@scouting.org  
(cell) 434-872-3320 (Office) 540-943-6675



## YOUR COUNCIL COMMISSIONER MESSAGE

As we bring 2024 to a close, I am thinking back on what has been a fantastic year. We have done a tremendous job of growing Scouting in our communities, exposing them to the values we look to teach our young people.

With one month left in 2024 it is easy to start looking towards the next year. It's going to be an exciting one for our council as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Camp Shenandoah out in Swoope. We have a whole host of great things in the works to make this a big event, including inviting campers and staffers from years past to come out and visit this summer. We also have a lot of items in our online trading post so you can celebrate the anniversary in style!

We've been making a lot of progress on the commissioner front as of late and I am planning a conference for all of our commissioners on February 1st. We will use this to set goals and align ourselves with a vision of success for our council so that we can serve our units in an effective way. There is still time to become a part of the commissioner corps if you are interested in serving our units in this way, and we would be happy to have you!

I don't have much to say this month as December is often a slow one for Scouting. I will just say that I am wishing all of our Scouting families a safe and happy holiday season. I can't wait to see what comes in 2025 because I know it will be another great year of Scouting in the Virginia Headwaters Council, and I am looking forward to all of the excitement to come in Swoope!

Matt Phillippi - Council Commissioner  
matt.phillippi@virginiaheadwaters.org  
540-324-5018



I was asked in March of 2021 if I would be willing to work on a Council newsletter. The first issue was published May 2021 and December 2024 will be my last one. The Tributary will continue but I understand under a new format.

As most of you know I have stepped away from my Council duties and only working with the Mountain Valley District and as Troop 5 Committee Chair. It has been great to be back working directly with the scouts again. That's where I started when Brandon was in Cubs. Wow, its been a long 28(?) years.

I want to say THANK YOU to all of those who have worked with me and supported me in all my years working for the scouting program. I could not have done it without you.

Have a wonder holiday and a very Happy New Year, personally and in scouting.

Yours in Scouting,



## POPNUTS SEASON IS COMING TO A CLOSE!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Popnuts fundraiser! Any stock picked up but unsold can be returned to Council at the end of the selling season. **The deadline for payment to the Council is December 6th.**

Any questions please contact Anne Blair at [hwanganne@hotmail.com](mailto:hwanganne@hotmail.com) or Shane Eppard at [shane763@hotmail.com](mailto:shane763@hotmail.com).



## YOUR COUNCIL CHAPLAIN

My time at Camp Shenandoah was filled with many occurrences that highlighted the value and importance of Scouting. This was once again kicked off by the opening meeting of Scoutmasters where I asked for those willing to come and speak to my citizenship merit badge classes; especially those that were Eagle Scouts. One such volunteer agreed and came to speak with the class about his owning an auto repair shop.

When he spoke to the class he talked about how it was his dream to own a shop like that one day and how his experiences in Scouting prepared him for this. The Scouts all asked lots of questions about his business and his experiences while the adults all had to remain in the back, as I insisted. One of the adults paced around during this session and seemed rather irritated.

After that class, he approached me. He told me that the speaker was inappropriate and had nothing to do with the merit badge. I replied that this Scouter was discussing his American Dream. That his owning the shop was as important of a duty and obligation as a citizen as other jobs. As the angry adult admitted, "of course" he drove his car to camp to get there. Everyone has a part to play, and this man's dream was to own his auto shop. The importance of your role in society is not based on the perceived prestige others may hold for it.

"One who is free from malice toward others, who is free from pride, who is free from desire, and who is content with what one has, such a person is dear to Me." (Bhagavad Gita 12:13-14)

"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them." (Genesis 1:27)

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12)

"It is not righteousness that you turn your faces towards the East or the West, but righteousness is in one who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the Angels, the Book, and the Prophets; and gives his wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans, the needy, the traveler, those who ask [for help], and for freeing slaves." (Quran 2:177)

"May all beings be happy; may all beings be without disease. May all beings experience the sensation of auspiciousness. May nobody suffer in any way." (Dhammapada 223)

"Is it not a pleasure, having learned something, to try it out at due intervals? Is it not a joy to have friends come from afar? Is it not gentlemanly not to take offense when others fail to appreciate your abilities?" (Analects 1:2)

*Charlie Carpenter*  
Council Chaplain  
540-280-0350





SHENANDOAH LODGE  
ORDER OF THE ARROW



Scouts and Scouters,

January 7th, 2025 will be our 80th anniversary Winter Banquet. The event will have multiple important announcements and will be a great time to celebrate the Lodge. The venue is currently TBD, though the event will be somewhere in the Monticello District.

We finally confirmed our date for next year's Shenandoah Fest, May 17th, 2025. We can't wait to show you what we have in store for then!

Wishing all a very Happy Holiday.

Yours in WWW,

**Harlow Thompson** | Lodge Chief |  
Wingalouchsik Gischihan |  
[chief@shenandoahlodge.org](mailto:chief@shenandoahlodge.org)  
ORDER OF THE ARROW | SHENANDOAH LODGE #258

### CORE LODGE EVENTS - 2025

Winter Banquet	January 7
Spring Fellowship	March 21-23
Section E9 Conclave	April 25-27
Shenandoah Fest	May 17
June Inductions	May 30 - June 1
August Inductions	August 8-10
Vigil Event	August 23-24
Lodge Retreat	September 26-28
One Day of Service	November 1

### LODGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 2025

January 19	July - No LEC
February 16	August 17
Spring Fellowship	Lodge Retreat
April 20	October 19
May 18	November 16
June - No LEC	December 14



Shenandoah Lodge 258  
c/o Virginia Headwaters Council  
617 Greenville Avenue  
Staunton, Virginia 24401



Register for events and more on the  
Shenandoah Lodge Website

[www.shenandoahlodge.org](http://www.shenandoahlodge.org)



## 2024 Friends of Scouting Campaign a Big Success!

Friends of Scouting (FOS) is the council-level annual giving campaign that raises the funds necessary to provide services to the youth of the Virginia Headwaters Council. One of the most impactful services that our council provides is Camp Shenandoah which took center stage for our 2024 FOS campaign. Donors were invited to “Own Your Day” by pledging \$274 or more which is the amount that it costs our council each day to own and operate Camp Shenandoah.

The 2024 FOS campaign was a huge success thanks to the support of our units, volunteers, and parents. The following individuals made a pledge of at least \$274 and selected a day of Camp Shenandoah to “own”. During the 2025 calendar year, a notation will appear on both the council and Camp Shenandoah websites highlighting that the relevant day of Camp Shenandoah was made possible by these individuals:

### January 1

Robert Young

### March 7

Preston Evans

### May 24

James King

### June 21

Cass Bailey

### January 8

Carey Usher

### March 11

John Connor

### May 25

Gillian Dennis

### June 22

Robert Clemmer  
Jenette Reyes

### January 18

Amberleigh Powell

### March 14

Chris Lewis

### May 30

Jason Jennings

### June 23

Amanda Wills

### January 20

Mabel Beirne  
Christina Monfalcone

### March 28

Emily King

### June 3

Anton Dagner

### June 24

Aaron Bloomfield

### January 29

Jamie Craig

### April 7

Michael Swinson

### June 8

The Watts Family

### June 26

James Davis

### February 11

Zuzana Loar

### April 25

Raymond Axdorff

### June 12

Judy Goodbar

### June 29

Josh Price

### February 15

Roy Thomas Stiehl

### April 27

Matthew Esch

### June 15

Jamie Craig

### June 29

Aaron Arnold

### February 16

Kemper Dadisman

### April 30

Cynthia Watson

### June 17

Micah Bowman

### July 4

Chris Jensen

### February 20

Matt Phillippi

### May 4

Renee Brown

### June 20

Sharen-Ann Tolley

### July 5

Kathy Maneval

### March 1

Jamie Craig

### May 10

Jason Rankin

### June 21

Chris Axford

### July 11

Jamie Craig  
Sebastian Hondman

### May 19

Quentin Peach

**July 14**  
Thomas Conan

**August 19**  
Melvin Morris

**September 27**  
Daniel Tucker

**October 23**  
Allen Weeks

**July 15**  
James Davis

**August 25**  
Don Bergstresser

**September 29**  
Carrie Boyd  
Joanne Norford

**October 26**  
John Arpin

**July 17**  
Jamie Craig  
Cardyn Kenee

**August 27**  
Jeff Teagarden

**October 1**  
Clark Bates  
Mike Bonham

**October 30**  
Sofia Smarrow

**July 25**  
Matt Phillippi

**August 28**  
Tabetha Krieglstein

**October 2**  
Matt Phillippi

**October 31**  
Matt Phillippi

**July 29**  
Phil Alhusen  
Patrick Watts

**September 3**  
Jennifer Hood

**October 5**  
James Mannion

**November 2**  
Kenneth Copeland

**July 30**  
Giovanni Cannata  
Radford Davis

**September 10**  
Jessica Price

**October 8**  
Dave & Ginny  
Thompson

**November 10**  
Chuck Palmer

**August 1**  
Glynis Kolling

**September 13**  
Amanda Griggs  
Cory May

**October 10**  
Cory Lindsey  
Will Oetgen

**November 19**  
Jay Gillenwater

**August 2**  
Alec Rasmussen

**September 16**  
Renica McLaughlin

**October 11**  
Pete Fenlon

**November 20**  
Matthias Mapstone

**August 4**  
Lauren Doran

**September 16**  
Adam Sowers

**October 17**  
Jason Adams  
Olivia Johnston

**December 23**  
Marc Monfalcone

**August 8**  
Lisa Shepard  
Nicole Wilkins

**September 21**  
Paul McGill  
Erika Ward

**October 19**  
Aaron Manis

**December 25**  
Matt Phillippi

Every effort was made to accurately record donor names and dates, but errors sometimes happen. Please contact Terry Michael at [Terry.Michael@scouting.org](mailto:Terry.Michael@scouting.org) with any corrections to the above list.

The 2025 FOS campaign kicked off on December 1. Your help will be needed once again to make an impact at Camp Shenandoah during 2025, the 75th anniversary of our camp. Please be sure that your unit signs up for an FOS visitation date so that you can "Own Your Day" and help ensure Camp Shenandoah is there for future generations. Thank you for your support of Scouting.





# RECHARTER AKA UNIT RENEWAL

## WHEN

**NOW** in Mountain  
Valley District

**OPENING SOON** in  
Monticello District

## WHERE

**My.Scouting.org**

## HOW

[scouting.org/resources/unit-and-membership-renewal/](https://scouting.org/resources/unit-and-membership-renewal/)  
· **Job Aids – Individual / Unit** · **Steps for Unit Renewal Oct. 2024** · **Steps for Unit Renewal Video Oct.2024**

## BY WHO?

Unit Key 3 (CM/SM,  
CC and/or COR)

## AVAILABLE HELP FROM

Unit Commissioner

Roundtable Q&A

Scouting.org info

Membership Chair

## WHAT TO REMEMBER

YPT should be valid  
for 12 mo+ (through  
end of new term)

Confirm & correct  
leader positions

Pay \$100 at Council  
to avoid fees

Complete & turn in  
Charter Agreement &  
JTE 2024 Scorecard



# MOUNTAIN VALLEY District

District Chair: Dr. Carey Usher

District Commissioner: Jim Echols

Dr. Carey Usher: [cusher3@comcast.net](mailto:cusher3@comcast.net)

Jim Echols: [jeechols@verizon.net](mailto:jeechols@verizon.net)

District Director - Robert Clemmer: [robert.clemmer@scouting.org](mailto:robert.clemmer@scouting.org)

## Mountain Valley District Newsletter

*December Edition*

### Merit Badge University: A Resounding Success!

Our recent Merit Badge University was a fantastic achievement, with almost 200 Scouts from five councils participating. Scouts came from as far as New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania to join us for this exciting event. The day was filled with learning, exploration, and skill-building, and we couldn't be prouder of the dedication shown by all attendees and volunteers. Thank you to all the volunteers and counselors who made this event possible. Your commitment to Scouting is what makes events like this so impactful!

### Christmas Tree Sales and Parades in Full Swing!

Troops 84 and 314 are hard at work spreading holiday cheer through the Council's annual Christmas tree sales, this year you can find trees at the Stuarts Draft VFW as well as in our Monticello District. If you're in the area and need a tree, stop by and support their efforts, funds raised support Camp Shenandoah. We know that many of our district units are marching in Christmas parades, thank you for making sure you are visible to the community!

### Looking Ahead: Klondike Derby

Mark your calendars for February 7 - 9! We are already packing cold-weather gear for our Klondike Derby, a thrilling winter adventure that promises teamwork, skills, and fun. You are able to register now at the Council webpage.

### Honoring 75 Years of Camp Shenandoah

As we gear up for the 2025 Friends of Scouting Campaign, we're excited to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Camp Shenandoah. Your support helps ensure this cherished camp continues to provide unforgettable experiences for generations to come. Keep an eye out for more information on how you can contribute!

### District Pinewood Derby Planning Underway

It's time to start your engines! We're excited to hear from units as they prepare for their Pinewood Derby races. Information from your packs will help us plan an incredible District Pinewood Derby this spring. Stay tuned for updates!

### Happy Holidays from the Mountain Valley District

As we wrap up another amazing year of Scouting, we wish all our Scouts and Scouters a joyous holiday season. May your days be filled with cheer, and may the new year bring even more adventures and opportunities to grow in Scouting.

Happy Holidays, and see you on the trail!

*Yours in Scouting,*

*Carey Usher*

Mountain Valley District Chair

## ATTENTION ALL

## MOUNTAIN VALLEY SCOUTS!

An anonymous donor is providing a full week's campership at Camp Shenandoah to the Scouts BSA member who recruits the most new members to Scouting between now and May 31, 2025.

The requirement is the same as that of the Recruiter Strip: recruit someone new into Scouting!

When you recruit a new member into Scouting, have your Scoutmaster reach out to the: Council Commissioner/Treasurer Matt Phillippi at [matt.phillippi@virginiaheadwaters.org](mailto:matt.phillippi@virginiaheadwaters.org) with the information and he will keep track of the numbers and announce the winner in June.

## Troop 79 to Support Families Impacted by Hurricane Helene

### A Season of Gratitude: Thank You, Troop 79!

This year, we have so much to be thankful for, and today we want to shine a light on the incredible Scouts and leaders of Troop 79 from Crozet, VA.

In an inspiring act of service, Troop 79 filled their entire camp trailer with warmth—collecting blankets, socks, sleeping bags, and jackets to support families and individuals still impacted by Hurricane Helene. With colder weather settling in, these items are a true gift of compassion and care.

The items were delivered the week of November 18th, in care of @sequoyahcouncil Scout Executive Greg Leitch, just before the snow hit, ensuring warmth and relief arrived in time. @BoyScoutsofAmerica @scoutlifemag

Thank you, Troop 79, for living the Scouting values and making a difference when it's needed most. You remind us all of the power of service and the warmth of community.



# VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL TRAINING



*Growing Lifelong Leaders*

## Advanced Leadership Training: NYLT and Wood Badge

### Empowering the Leaders of Tomorrow

Leadership is a cornerstone of the Scouting experience, shaping young people into responsible, ethical, and capable individuals. Scouting America offers two premier advanced leadership training programs—National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) for youth and Wood Badge for adult leaders. These programs are designed to cultivate strong leadership skills, ensuring that Scouts and their leaders are well-prepared to lead and inspire others.

**National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT).** NYLT is a week-long immersive course tailored for youth Scouts, typically between the ages of 13 and 18. This advanced training program focuses on:

- **Leadership Skills:** Teaching essential skills such as communication, planning, problem-solving, and team-building.
- **Practical Experience:** Offering hands-on, experiential learning opportunities where Scouts can practice and refine their leadership abilities.
- **Youth-Centric Approach:** Utilizing scenarios and activities that are relevant to the experiences and responsibilities of youth leaders within their troops.

Through NYLT, Scouts gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be an effective leader, learning to apply these skills within their patrols, troops, and everyday lives. The program is designed to challenge and inspire, fostering a sense of confidence and capability in every participant.

**Wood Badge.** Wood Badge is the pinnacle of leadership training for adult leaders in Scouting America. This advanced course focuses on:

- **Comprehensive Leadership Skills:** Covering topics such as project management, conflict resolution, and mentoring.
- **Personal and Team Development:** Enhancing individual leadership abilities while fostering effective teamwork.
- **Practical Application:** Combining classroom sessions with outdoor activities to provide a well-rounded, experiential learning experience.

Wood Badge equips adult leaders with the tools and insights needed to support and mentor youth effectively, ensuring that the principles and methods of Scouting are upheld and promoted at all levels. Graduates of Wood Badge return to their units with renewed enthusiasm, ready to lead by example and inspire the next generation of Scouts.

### Introducing the 2025 Wood Badge and 2026 NYLT Course Directors



**The 2025 Wood Badge Course Director** is Sarah Lindegren. Sarah took Wood Badge in the summer of 2018 at Philmont and has served on staff for three courses in two councils. She's been participating in scouting with her husband and three sons for 14 Pinewood Derbies. She has served in a variety of roles, from Den Leader to Council Outdoor Ethics Coordinator. Sarah recently completed a Philmont Trek, and currently serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 111 in Charlottesville. For all your Wood Badge questions, send Sarah an email at [woodbadge@virginiaheadwaters.org](mailto:woodbadge@virginiaheadwaters.org)



**The 2026 NYLT Course Director** is Ed Murphy. Ed is an Eagle Scout and has been an adult volunteer in Scouting for over 20 years. He and his wife Susan have two sons, both of whom are Eagle Scouts. He took Wood Badge in the fall of 2009 and has served on staff for five courses. In summer 2024 he attended the Philmont Leadership Challenge. He has served as a Den Leader, Pack and Troop Committee Member, Assistant Scoutmaster, and is currently serving as the Monticello District Chair.

For all your NYLT course questions, send Ed an email at [nylt@virginiaheadwaters.org](mailto:nylt@virginiaheadwaters.org)

## Exciting Development: Annual NYLT Starting in 2026

We are thrilled to announce a significant development in our commitment to leadership excellence: **starting in 2026**, VAHC will be hosting an **annual NYLT course**! This exciting initiative aims to provide more opportunities for Scouts to participate in this transformative training program.

### Why This Matters:

- **Increased Accessibility:** More Scouts will have the chance to experience NYLT, gaining invaluable leadership skills and confidence.
- **Enhanced Leadership Continuity:** Annual courses ensure a steady pipeline of trained youth leaders who can contribute to the strength and vitality of their troops.
- **Community Building:** Bringing together Scouts from various troops fosters a sense of camaraderie and mutual support, enhancing the overall Scouting experience.

As we prepare for the launch of our annual NYLT, we encourage all eligible Scouts and their leaders to consider participating. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a dynamic and empowering leadership journey, one that will shape the future of Scouting in our community.

### Get Involved

Whether you are a youth Scout ready to embark on your leadership journey with NYLT or an adult leader seeking to enhance your skills through Wood Badge, now is the time to get involved. These advanced training programs are more than just courses; they are life-changing experiences that equip you with the skills to lead and inspire others.

Together, let's build a stronger, more capable Scouting community, one leader at a time.

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# Scouting America



Located at Stuarts Draft VFW Post 9339  
Stuarts Draft Highway (Rt 340)



# Christmas Trees

## FOR SALE

STARTING  
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

CASH • CHECKS • CREDIT CARDS

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT LOCAL SCOUTING





Join us next summer for our 75th Anniversary



Check out our rates & new program!



**MORE MERIT BADGES**

**MORE TRAINING**

**MORE FUN!**

**Rates for 2025**

Scouts BSA Week 1 June 22 – June 28  
Youth \$475 – Adults \$245

Scouts BSA Week 2 June 29 – July 5  
Regular – after April 7, 2025 Youth \$435 – Adults \$225

Scouts BSA Week 3 July 6 – July 12  
Scouts BSA Week 4 July 13 – July 19  
Early Bird – effective until April 7, 2025  
Youth \$455 – Adults \$225  
Regular – after April 7, 2025  
Youth \$475 – Adults \$235

Units registered with VAHC #763 for Weeks 3 & 4 Early Bird – effective until April 7, 2025  
Youth \$435 – Adults \$215  
Regular – after April 7, 2025  
Youth \$455 – Adults \$225

**NEW MERIT BADGES FOR 2025**

**BETTER MIX OF HIGH QUALITY PROGRAM, EASILY DELIVERED BY STAFF**



**Want to spend your summer at Camp?  
JOIN OUR STAFF!**

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to serve on our staff. This life changing opportunity is a great way to spend a summer learning and growing in the outdoors.

Know anyone who you would be a positive addition to our staff? Share our interest form!

Senior Staff, Junor Staff, and CIT positions are available. The sooner you apply, the sooner we can explore this opportunity.



## CAMP SHENANDOAH



### Annual Winter Swim Hold The Date – Jan 5th, 2025.

This year we will return to the FUMA pool in Fork Union on Saturday January 5th for the 16th year of our Annual Winter (not ish) Swim Program. In addition to the usual offerings of Swimming and Lifesaving Merit Badges, 2nd and 1st Class Aquatics Rank Advancement, and Cub/Webelos activities, we hope to offer an opportunity for Scouts who are strong swimmers to complete the Mile Swim Award.

We will also conduct Swimming and Water Rescue training for older Scouts (15+) and adults to learn all aspect of the Scouting America swimming safety program to help prepare them for conducting Unit Swims and Swim Checks. You must have passed the Swimmer Swim Check within past year and completed Safe Swim Defense and Hazardous Weather training to take this program. Information and details for the 2025 Winter Swim will be on the council website in November.

For further information please contact Jay Fox at [jayfox8x@gmail.com](mailto:jayfox8x@gmail.com) or Eric Cutright [ericcutright@comcast.net](mailto:ericcutright@comcast.net)

Monticello District Units participated in the Annual Scouting for Food Drive in Early November. Packs 36, 77, 206, and 222 along with Troops 37/3711 & 1028/1029 organized neighborhood teams in and around Charlottesville to include:

Dunlora, Willoughby, Oakhill, Berkeley, Oakhill Farm, SpringHill Village, Avon Park, Forest Lakes, Redfields, Avinity, Berkeley, Canterbury Hills, Fox Croft, Lake Reynovia, Mill Creek, Mill Creek South, Johnson Village, River Run, Sunset Overlook, Sherwood Manor, Mosby Mountain and Whittington. All combined these units delivered over 6,150 lbs. of food on Saturday, November 9th to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Even more deliveries were made the following week from additional neighborhood teams!

The fight against hunger continued into other areas as even more food donations were reported by:

Pack 79 in Crozet – 772 lbs., Troop 93/193 in Barboursville – 137 lbs., and Pack 12 & Troop 12 – 1700 lbs. for Love Outreach in Orange.

Unit leaders are reminded to log volunteer hours in Internet Advancement for this and all the amazing service activities happening this holiday season.

**STRIVING FOR EAGLE  
PREPARING FOR LIFE**





# MONTICELLO District

District Chair: Ed Murphy

District Commissioner: Mike Bonham

Ed Murphy: [emm8xuva@gmail.com](mailto:emm8xuva@gmail.com)

Mike Bonham: [mike@eqros.com](mailto:mike@eqros.com)

Scout Executive - Sue Hart: [susan.hart@scouting.org](mailto:susan.hart@scouting.org)

## ROUNDTABLE

Monticello District Roundtable will be in person on December 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the American Legion, 3025 Louisa Road, in Keswick. For all leaders, both Cub Scout Leaders and Scouts BSA Leaders, we will have a Recharter Minute. Bring your recharter questions and our Commissioners will answer them. If you need more in-depth help, our Commissioners can work with you during the meeting. Renee Brown will bring this year's Peace Light and will talk about how you can use it with your units. Scout Executive Sue Hart will discuss the importance of Unit fundraising, and the opportunities that your unit has to raise support for your activities and make Scouting more affordable for your families. For the Cub Scout breakout session, Paul Bieri and others will lead a discussion on how to plan a Blue and Gold Dinner. Please send your Blue and Gold Dinner volunteers to learn how to make this event even better. Finally, the Scouts BSA breakout session will feature a discussion of women in the Scouts BSA program by Glynis Kolling.

Our January roundtable will be held one week later than usual because of the New Year Holiday. It will be **Thursday, January 9, 2025** at 7:00 pm

## CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

Christmas Tree lots are open! Please purchase your Christmas Tree at one of our 8 lots:  
Louisa, Virginia - Advance Auto, 505 E. Main Street  
Fluvanna, Virginia - Turkey Sag Trail across from Jefferson Pharmacy, Palmyra  
North of Charlottesville - Towncenter Shopping Center near Kohl's, 340 Towncenter Lane  
South of Charlottesville (NEW!) - 5th Street Station, near Krispy Kreme  
East of Charlottesville - Pantops Shopping Center, near Med Express  
Crozet Virginia - Crozet Market Great Valu Shopping Center, 5728 Three Notch'd Road  
Stuart's Draft (NEW!) - VFW Post 9339, at 3251 Stuarts Draft Highway

Proceeds from the sales support our local units and help support Camp Shenandoah.

The **Monticello District** maintains an **email list** of all registered adult leaders using a Google Group.

If you are not receiving emails from the [monticello-bsa@googlegroups.com](mailto:monticello-bsa@googlegroups.com) <mailto:[monticello-bsa@googlegroups.com](mailto:monticello-bsa@googlegroups.com)> email list, please contact Ed Murphy at [emm8xuva@gmail.com](mailto:emm8xuva@gmail.com) <mailto:[emm8xuva@gmail.com](mailto:emm8xuva@gmail.com)> to be added to the list. The District Committee uses the email list to keep leaders informed.

The District also maintains an active **Facebook** page **Monticello District, VAHC**





**CREW 162 has an OPEN SPOT for SEA BASE 2025**

**YOUTH preferred**

**07/30/25 to 08/05/25**

**Must be SCUBA certified prior to departure.**

**Contact Jeff Nelson ([jeffnelson0715@gmail.com](mailto:jeffnelson0715@gmail.com)) or Jeff Teagarden ([jeff\\_teagarden@yahoo.com](mailto:jeff_teagarden@yahoo.com)).**



**Boy Scout Troop 17**

**invites young men ages 10-18, and their parents/guardians, to our  
upcoming open house Tuesday December 3rd, 7:00-8:30**

**Stone Chapel at Church of the Incarnation  
1465 Incarnation Dr, Charlottesville, VA 22901**

Are you interested in facilitating outdoor skills, STEM skills, adventure, launching 6-foot rockets, citizenship, and preparing your boys to become independent and mature young men?

Troop 17 is one of the oldest troops in Charlottesville and chartered by the Church of the Incarnation. To learn more about Troop 17:

Join us at our open house December 3rd

Visit our website: <http://www.troop17bsa.org/>

Contact John Gilday at: [corriganwolfe@gmail.com](mailto:corriganwolfe@gmail.com) for further information.



**Prepared. For Life.®**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Mountain Valley District  
Orienteering Spring Camporee  
Frontier Culture Museum  
May 9-11, 2025**



**Map & Compass**

- Builds self-confidence
- Improves map reading
- Teaches a lifetime sport
- Provides mental challenge
- Provides physical challenge

**Ability to Complete Advancement Requirements**

2nd Class – 3a

1st Class – 4a

Orienteering Merit Badge – 2, 3, 4, 5

**Registration will open after January 1, 2025**

**Estimated Cost: \$25.00 per person**



### Get Ready for the 2026 Scouting Adventure of a Lifetime!

Attention Scouts! If you've ever thought, "Gee, I'd love to be covered in mud, sunburned, and lost in the wilderness with thousands of other Scouts from across the country!" — then you, my friend, are in for a treat. Because we're talking about THE 2026 Scouting America National Jamboree!

Now, you might be asking, "What's the big deal?" Well, imagine everything you love about Scouting: camping, hiking, eating questionable things you cooked yourself. Now multiply that by a thousand. Then throw in merit badges, zip lines, rock climbing, meeting scouts around the nation, and a couple thousand new best friends. That's the Jamboree.

### Join the Virginia Headwaters Council Contingent

Here's where it gets even better: You'll be part of the elite Virginia Headwaters Council contingent. Yes, elite. It means you'll not only survive the Jamboree but also bring home tales of glory. You'll meet Scouts from all over the country who, like you, can recite the Scout Oath while running from a pack of squirrels (true story).

Plus, there's nothing like representing your home council, knowing that when the dust clears and the adventure is over, you'll come back to Virginia with a sense of pride and maybe a few weird souvenirs. (Note: Virginia Headwaters Council does not endorse the smuggling of raccoons or possums as pets.)

### How Do You Get In?

First, you have to let us know you're interested. I know, shocking. But this is where it gets tricky, so pay attention:

1. First, convince your parents that this will be the most educational experience of your life. (Pro tip: Use phrases like "leadership skills" and "self-reliance.")
2. Second, fill out this **interest form**, and **Space is limited**, so don't wait! If you miss this chance, you'll be stuck hearing all your friends brag about it for years. And we know you don't want to be that Scout who says, "Yeah, I could've gone to the Jamboree, but I had to stay home and mow the lawn."

### Don't Miss Out!

This is more than just a camping trip. It's a journey into the heart of Scouting awesomeness. It's where you'll push your limits, make lifelong friends, and come back home with the kind of stories that start with "This one time, at Jamboree..."

So, pack your bags (bring extra socks), grab your sense of adventure, and get ready for the experience of a lifetime with the Virginia Headwaters Council contingent. You won't regret it. Unless you forget bug spray.

See you in 2026, if you're brave enough!



alk1@cornell.edu



[www.catholicscouting.org](http://www.catholicscouting.org)

[www.nccs-bsa.org](http://www.nccs-bsa.org)

Any Roman Catholic Scout is encouraged to participate in the Religious Awards Emblems Program

## CATHOLIC SCOUTING RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS

### LIGHT OF CHRIST

for 6-7 year old (Tiger or Wolf) Catholic Scouts

- Scouts will develop a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Parent led activity book for younger Cub Scouts.

### PARVULI DEI (CHILDREN OF GOD)

for 8-10 year old (Bear or Webelos) Catholic Scouts

- Scouts will discover the presence of God in daily life as a member of your family and parish.
- Parent led activity book for older Cub Scouts.

### AD ALTARI DEI (TO THE ALTAR OF GOD)

for Middle School age Catholic Scouts

- Scouts will grow in their spiritual experience of their relationship to God and the church.
- 6-8 month program designed for 13-14 year old Scouts (must have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade and been an active Scout for at least 6 months).
- Program is facilitated by a Counselor.

### POPE PIUS XII

for High School age Catholic Scouts

- Scouts will explore vocations (single, married, religious, ordained) and ministries in the Church as calls from God.
- Includes youth led discussions in a preferred group size of 4-12 people.
- 9-12 session program is designed for 15-16 year old Scouts (open to all Scouts BSA before age 18)
- a retreat experience and ministries service project are required.
- Program is facilitated by a Counselor.

### SIGN-UP FOR INFORMATION ON FALL COURSES



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F7M9HN5>



## Youth Protection Corner: Adult Leadership and Scout Buddies for Joint Troop/Pack Events

by Eric Cutright, Scoutmaster and Youth Protection Champion, Troop 1029  
 Email: [ericcutright@comcast.net](mailto:ericcutright@comcast.net) Web: [www.troop1028.org](http://www.troop1028.org)



Your Scouts BSA Troop is planning a recruiting hike with Webelos and AOLs from four different Packs, with one Scout attending from each unit. So how many registered adult leaders do you need to satisfy Youth Protection Training (YPT) requirements? YPT “best practice” would say two registered adult leaders from every unit (including a female leader for any female units) which would seem to indicate you need TEN registered adult leaders for a hike with FIVE Scouts. But wait, can your guests be covered by the Troop leadership or do they absolutely need their own 2-deep leadership from each Pack? Hold on, it gets even more complicated - in addition to providing appropriate adult leadership, how do you meet the buddy/gender requirements for mixed groups of Scouts from different units of various ages? It’s enough to make you give up!

Navigating the maze of YPT rules can feel very overwhelming and make joint event planning quite challenging. So, how do you figure out the minimum “go / no-go” requirements for joint events to make sure you’re covered - or if you need to cancel the event? Just use the handy-dandy table below as guidance for your events (and be sure to read/adhere to all the notes underneath), and then check out the next table for some common examples! These reflect the latest guidance, including AOL/Troop Camporee participation and Troop sibling camping rules.

Minimum “go / no-go” Youth Protection adult leadership and Scout buddy requirements for joint Troop / Pack events						
Case #	Troop Event Invitation Type	Event Type	Troop Leaders Required*	Pack Leaders Required*	Non-leader Parent/ Adult Requirements	Scout Buddy/Gender Requirements
1	Troop sends blanket invitation to individual Webelos / AOL Scouts from area Packs (i.e. Scouts who may soon be interested in joining that Troop)	Day	2	zero	None	See Note 5
2	Troop sends invitation to <b>complete</b> Packs or <b>complete</b> specific Dens (less common)	Day	2	2	None	See Note 5
3	Troop sends either blanket invitation to individual AOL Scouts or complete AOL Dens from area Packs (no other ranks permitted)	Overnight	2, including 1 with IOLS + HWT training	2, including 1 with BALOO + HWT training	<b>Packs:</b> see Notes 1,2 <b>Troops:</b> see Notes 1,3	See Notes 5,6
4	Troop sends invitation to AOL Scouts to join them for Scouts BSA Camporee (no other ranks permitted)	Day / Overnight	2, including 1 with IOLS + HWT training	2, including 1 with BALOO + HWT training <b>OR</b> Council-coordinated (see Note 4)	<b>Packs:</b> see Notes 1,2,4 <b>Troops:</b> see Notes 1,3	See Notes 5,6

\* Leaders counted for 2-deep coverage must be official COR and SA-approved adult leaders, with background check and valid YPT, AND a registered female adult leader over age 21 is ALWAYS required if female Scouts are attending, AND a multiple-registered adult leader cannot serve as the leader for multiple units at the same event (i.e. must pick one and only one)

- Note 1:** All adult campers must have valid and current Youth Protection Training status.
- Note 2:** For AOL camping with Troops, non-leader AOL parents CAN camp overnight but cannot count as a leader. All camping AOL/Pack leaders must be registered to that Pack.
- Note 3:** For Troop camping (at all times), non-leader parents and either adults or Scout siblings not registered to that Troop (e.g. adult MBCs and little sisters) CANNOT camp overnight.
- Note 4:** For AOL camping with Troops at Scouts BSA Camporees (e.g. Apple Harvest, Woods with Ment), either the AOL Den can provide 2-deep leadership, OR parent/guardian can attend with AOL and Council can coordinate and approve GtSS appropriate 2-deep leadership (e.g. from host Troop or otherwise). Also note that camporee organizers should plan to have age/skill-appropriate and GtSS-appropriate activities so that AOLs can participate in most events with their host Troop.
- Note 5:** For applying pair or triplet “buddy system” during day events, Pack Scout(s) can buddy with Pack/Troop Scout(s) of same gender and within 3 years of age, or Pack Scouts can buddy with attending parent/guardian. All attending Scouts must have a GtSS-appropriate buddy in order to attend.
- Note 6:** For applying pair or triplet “buddy system” during tenting for overnight events, AOL Scout(s) can tent with AOL/Troop Scout(s) of same gender and within 2 years of age, or AOL Scouts can tent with attending parent/guardian.

**Acronyms:** AOL = Arrow of Light, BALOO = Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation, COR = Charter Organization Representative, GtSS = Guide to Safe Scouting (always check the latest on-line at [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss)), HWT = Hazardous Weather Training, IOLS = Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, SA = Scouting America (formerly BSA)

Examples - Minimum "go / no-go" Youth Protection adult leadership and Scout buddy requirements for joint Troop / Pack events					
Example Event	Case #	Example Event	Case #	Example Event	Case #
Troop Open House with Web / AOL guests	1	Troop Hike with Web / AOL guests	1	Troop Campout with AOL guests	3
Troop Service Project with Web / AOL guests	1	Troop / Pack Joint Hike	2	Apple Harvest Camporee with AOL guests	4

NOTE: See all applicable notes from main table here regarding adult leadership requirements including female leaders, and camping-specific rules

If more than one unit is participating in an activity, a good rule of thumb is to think to yourself, "if one of my adult leaders has to leave, does every participating unit still have appropriate coverage for the event?" Another little-known requirement is that if your Troop is planning an overnight event with a Pack from a different Charter Organization, you must also get your plans approved by Council before your event.

Keep in mind, both Youth Protection and the Guide to Safe Scouting (GtSS) are like the weather: always changing! These tables are compliant with both as of October 2024, but make sure you check the latest online version at [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss), not that trusty 2022 printed guide that's sitting on your bookshelf. Also, check the YPT FAQ pages for extra clarity.

Got a tricky YPT question? Or planning that overnight with a different Pack and need approval? Just reach out to Kyle Enfield, VAHC Chair of Safe Scouting and Youth Protection, at [kbenfield@me.com](mailto:kbenfield@me.com) - he's got you covered!

## Cub Scout Fishing Adventures Supplement



**Presented by the Scouting America  
National Fishing Leadership Team**

## Attention All Cub Scout Leaders:

The Scouting America National Fishing Committee has created a Cub Scout Fishing Adventures Supplemental Training.

This supplement does have some updates to the adventures. Please use this to teach all levels of the Cub Scout Fishing Adventures.

[https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Cub-Scout-Fishing-Adventures\\_090924.pdf](https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Cub-Scout-Fishing-Adventures_090924.pdf)

If you have any questions please contact me:

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