

February 2025 Newsletter

Important Dates & Events

February 2	Scout Sunday
Scout Week	Scout Week
February 9	River Cub Scout Roundtable, 1:00-2:15
February 13	River District Committee Meeting, 5:30
	River District Roundtable, 6:30
	Mountain District Committee Meeting, 6:00
	Mountain District Roundtable
February 15-17	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Weekend (FINAL)
February 17	Presidents Day
February 21-23	OA Indian Winter - Section E6 Event Hosted by Aracoma Lodge
February 22	Cub Scouts Shooting Sports Day
March 1	Skilled Trades Merit Badge Day
March 2	River Cub Scout Roundtable, 1:00-2:15, Camp Horne
March 8	Pinewood Derby, Carl Cannon Chevrolet, Jasper
March 13	Mountain District Banquet
March 14-16	Prairie Spring Camporee
March 15	AOL Cross Over Ceremony, Camp O'Rear
March 14-16	Mountain Spring Camporee

Upcoming Events



OA Indian Winter Registration Window Open for Just a Bit Longer!

If you are a member of the Aracoma Lodge and wish to participate in the rescheduled OA Section E6 "Indian Winter" (hosted by Aracoma Lodge), act now! The event will take place at Camp Horne February 21-23. This will be the last "Indian Winter" conducted.



Cub Scout Shooting Sports Day Saturday, February 22nd

The River District will be conducting their annual Cub Scouts Shooting Sports Day on Saturday, February 22nd at the Tuscaloosa Police Shooting Range. Use the button below to learn full details and for registration. Cubs from any district are invited to join in on the fun! Volunteers are still needed so if you have time to assist, please contact the Event Chair, Mr. Ian Barksdale at (859) 803-7673. This is a great event where Cubs can earn the needed requirements for range and target activities.



Skilled Trades MB Day

Saturday, March 1st

Scouts are encouraged to participate in this day of learning important information and skills that can lead to a great career. Besides earning a merit badge to assist as a Scout progresses toward Eagle, learning skilled trades are beneficial in everyday life and expand opportunities for our youth. Each badge is taught by qualified and experienced counselors and the program places a great emphasis on "hands on" learning. **Six badges to choose from:**
 American Labor - Auto Maintenance - Electricity - Surveying - Welding - Plumbing

Learn more, register today!

Skill Trades MB Day

Pinewood Derby

Saturday, March 8th

The Mountain District will be hosting a Pinewood Derby on Saturday, March 8th at Carl Cannon Chevrolet in Jasper. Cubs from all over the Black Warrior Council are invited to participate. The event will run from 10:00 until noon with check-in and weigh-in beginning at 9:00.

This is always a great event for the family of Cub Scouting. Cubs and parents enjoy working together to design their own special car to see how they do on raceday. Come and enjoy the fun!

Questions? Contact Darren Hix, Mountain District Executive, darren.hix@scouting.org

Pinewood Derby



Annual Business Meeting Held Tuesday, January 31, 2025

At the 2025 Annual Business Meeting, the Officers and Members of the Executive Board were confirmed. By unanimous vote, the following Scouting volunteers and community leaders were confirmed to serve as the governing body for the Black Warrior Council.

President	Richard Henry
Council Commissioner	Matthew Laird
Immediate Past President	Patrick Swann
VP of Finance	Warner Johnson
VP of Membership	Cecil Robinson
VP of Facilities	Lee Stegall
VP of Legal/Risk Management	Matt Tompkins
VP of Program	Mason Primm
VP of Scout Reach	Dr. Charles Nash
Foundation Liaison	Bobby Ingram
Chair of Council Audit Committee	Jimmy Duncan
Treasurer	Matt Shirley

Members of the Board

Ron Abernathy, Robert Almon, Allen Bishop, Terri Brewer, Wade Drinkard, Jimmy Duncan, Allen Henry, Richard Henry, Thomas Humber, Bobby Ingram, Josh Johnson, Warner Johnson, Allison Jones (NEW), Matthew Laird, Joel Lake, David Moman, Charles Nash, John Northcutt, Dave Pass (NEW), Jordan Plaster, Mason Primm, Cecil Robinson, Ray Robbins, Chris Sentell, Leah Ann Sexton, Matt Shirley, Lee

Stegall, Dennis Steverson, Mark Sullivan, Patrick Swann, Matt Tompkins, Sammy Watson, Eric Wilson, and Elizabeth Winter.

Honorary/Associate Board Members (non-voting)

Claude Edwards, Bernard Harwood, Eddie Jackson, Barry Mason, Gerson May, Leroy McAbee, Bob Way, Robert Witt, Bob Woods, and Hardy McCollum.



Shape Tomorrow's Leaders Through Your Support of Local Scouting

Monday, February 3rd, kicked off Scouting Days of Giving—a 12-day celebration of Scouting's 115-year legacy and the bright future we're building together in West Central Alabama

From February 3 to 14, you'll have the chance to support the programs that create unforgettable adventures, shape young leaders, and strengthen our neighborhoods through local Scout councils—starting with Scout packs, troops, and crews right here in West Alabama.

Here's How You Can Join the Celebration:

- **Donate to the Black Warrior Council:** Empower Scouts in West Alabama by providing life-changing opportunities to grow and thrive.
- **Share your Scouting story:** Post your memories and experiences on social media using #ScoutingDaysOfGiving to inspire others to give back.
- **Encourage your network to join:** Rally friends, family, and community members to support Scouting during Days of Giving.

The celebration has began! Don't miss your chance to be part of this exciting new tradition! Together, we'll honor Scouting's rich history and secure its future for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Scouting in the West Alabama area. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Support Scouting in the West Ala Area



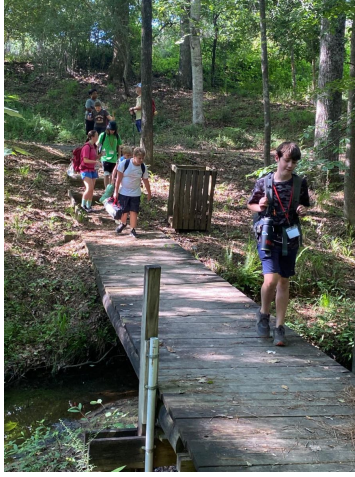
David Montgomery
Running Back, Detroit Lions

Pro Football Player David Montgomery Remembers the Impact of Scouting

From his early days in Scouting to a career as a professional football player today, Eagle Scout David Montgomery's inspiring story demonstrates how a childhood spent pursuing his passion for Scouting translated into lifelong skills that helped him succeed on and off the field. As a Scouting America ambassador, David inspires the younger generation to get involved in Scouting and dream big.

Watch this [YouTube video](#) of David's inspirational story to help amplify the impact of Scouting.

Mandatory Hazardous Weather Training Essential as Spring Approaches



In 2017, Hazardous Weather Training was made mandatory as part of Scouting America's ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all our members and youth.

The training is designed to equip leaders with the necessary knowledge and skills to handle adverse weather conditions, thereby enhancing our preparedness and response capabilities during scouting activities. Please reference the [S.A.F.E checklist](#) for all activities. To learn more about safety training, please visit the [Health and Safety website](#).

Camp Horne Dining Hall to be Air Conditioned!

Thanks to a generous gift from the Pass Family and contributions from several others, we are thrilled to share an exciting update for Summer Camp 2025! **To make your camp experience even more enjoyable, we are adding air conditioning to our dining hall.**

Whether you're seeking a break from the summer heat or just looking forward to a more comfortable mealtime environment, our new cooling system will help ensure everyone stays refreshed and ready for adventure.

Here's what you can look forward to:

- Comfortable Mealtimes: Enjoy your meals in a cool, relaxing setting, no matter how high the temperatures climb outside.
- Enhanced Camp Experience: A cooler space to gather, connect, and recharge during your busy camp schedule.

We can't wait to welcome you to this upgraded facility next summer. Be sure to share this exciting news with your fellow Scouts and leaders as you prepare for an unforgettable camp experience. If you have any questions or would like to know more about what's in store for Summer Camp 2025, feel free to reach out to us. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to improve and innovate!



Wood Badge Staff Applications Sought

Wood Badge Course Number 14-006-26-1 will be offered in the Black Warrior Council in 2026 over two weekends (February 20-22 and March 7-8). Wood Badge is the premier training for adult leaders in all program levels. Mr. Charlie Plasters will serve as the Course Director/Scoutmaster.

At this time, applications for staff positions are being accepted. If you have an interest in being considered, complete the application and submit to the Scout Service Center **NO LATER than March 23, 2025!**

WB Staff Application

2026 National Jamboree

July 22-31, 2026 Summit Bechtel Reserve

Leaders are encouraged to make your unit's Scouts, parents, and other leaders aware of the National Jamboree website (button to the right). They will be able to learn more about a National Jamboree and the benefits of participating.

Locally, a National Jamboree committee will be developing plans for a contingent from our Council. Jamboree fees and a payment schedule will be announced soon. **Leader applications** for our local Council contingent will be distributed by the end of January.

Staff Registration is now open. Staff members will register individually and council approval is required. The staff registration link can be found on the Jamboree website (button to the right to access).



National
Jamboree

District News

River District (Tuscaloosa, Bibb, and Pickens Counties)

District Director: Roland Lewis [email](#)

- Our District Meeting will be held at the Leroy McAbee Scout Service Center on Thursday, November 14th beginning at 5:30. Our Scouts BSA Roundtable will follow at 6:30.
- There is an exciting district event coming soon. Be sure to plan to participate in the Cub-O-Ree to be held November 1-3rd.

Mountain District (Walker, Marion, Winston, Lamar, and Marion Counties)

District Executive: Darren Hix [email](#)

- Our District Meeting will be held in the Drummond Building on Thursday, November 14th beginning at 6:00. Our leaders' Roundtable will follow.
- A fall Mountain District Camporee will be held December 6-8 at Camp O'Rear!

****Greetings Mountain District Leaders, Scouts, and Families!****

Spring is just around the corner, and we are bursting with excitement for the incredible events coming your way! Mark your calendars and get ready for a month filled with fun, fellowship, and adventure!

****☐ Upcoming Events:****

****☐ Council Pinewood Derby for Cub Scouts****

****Date:**** March 8, 2025

****Time:**** 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (weigh-in begins at 9:00)

****Location:**** Carl Cannon Chevrolet

Get ready to cheer on our talented Cub Scouts as they race their creatively designed cars! This is always a thrilling event that showcases the hard work and ingenuity of our young builders. Don't miss the chance to support our Scouts!

****☐ Mountain District Spring Camporee & Crossover****

****Dates:**** March 14-16, 2025

****Location:**** Camp Orear

Join us for an unforgettable weekend of outdoor fun and camaraderie! This Camporee promises exciting activities, skills challenges, and the celebration of our Scouts transitioning to the next level.

****☐ Crossover Ceremony****

****Date:**** March 15, 2025

****Time:**** 6:00 p.m.

Witness our Cub Scouts take their next step in Scouting during the special crossover ceremony. It's a moment to cherish as we celebrate their achievements and welcome them into new adventures!

** □ Mountain District Leaders Award Banquet**

Date: March 13, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Fayette Scout Hut

Join us for a special evening dedicated to honoring the dedication and hard work of our District Leaders. This banquet will not only highlight achievements but will also bring us together as a community to celebrate our impact on Scouting.

** ✨ Introducing Summer Cuboree! **

Dates: June 6-7, 2025

Location: Camp Orear

We are excited to announce a new format for our Cub Day Camp with the introduction of the **Summer Cuboree**! This refreshing experience will be filled with engaging activities that promote teamwork, outdoor skills, and FUN for all our young Scouts. Stay tuned for more details!

Let's make this spring unforgettable for our Scouts! We encourage all families to participate and support their teams. Together, we'll create lasting memories and forge strong friendships.

Prairie District (Marengo, Hale, Greene, and Sumter Counties)

District Program Specialist: Greg Whitis [email](#)



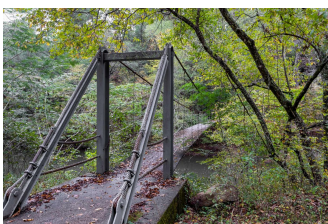
Need a Nice Facility for a Unit Gathering or Event? Need a Nice Facility for a Group Outside of Scouting?

The Black Warrior Council has several facilities that may be just what you need! Visit the Council [website](#) for guidelines, cost, and reservation information for each of our facilities.



Camp Horne

13633 Keenes Mill Road
Cottondale, AL 35453



Camp O'Rear

2180 Curry Highway
Jasper, AL 35501



White Bluff Scout Reservation

Located on Hwy 43, just north of
Demopolis



Board Room at the

Leroy McAbee Scout Service Center
2700 Jack Warner Parkway NE
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404



Eagle Plaza at the Leroy McAbee Scout Service Center

2700 Jack Warner Parkway NE
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404

Leroy McAbee Scout Service Center



2700 Jack Warner Parkway, N.E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
Office: (205) 554-1680 Fax: (205) 554-7830
Website: <https://www.bwc-bsa.org>

Services:

- Scout Shop
- Properties Management
- Membership & Unit Support
- Professional Office for Council Staff

Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 - 5:00
Friday, 8:30-4:00



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