

April 2025 Newsletter

Important Dates & Events

April 4-6	OA Section E6 Conclave, Bert Adams Scout Reservation (Covington, GA)
April 5	Steel Horse Ride
April 10	JROTC Day at Camp Horne
April 10	River District Banquet
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 17	Council Annual Dinner, 6:30, Trinity UMC in Tuscaloosa
April 18	Good Friday
April 20	Easter
April 27	River Cub Scout Roundtable, Camp Horne, 1:00-2:15
May 2-4	OA Spring Fellowship
May 2	Beaver Day
May 3	OA Annual Banquet, Camp Horne
May 8	River District Cmte Mtg, 5:30
	River District Scouts Roundtable, 6:30
	Mountain District Cmte Mtg., 6:00
	Mountain District Roundtable, 6:30
May 9	Tenderfoot Golf Classic
May 9-10	11th Annual Alabama Trade-O-Ree
May 18	River Cub Scout Roundtable, Camp Horne, 1:00-2:15
May 24-31	Camp Horne Summer Camp Staff Training

Upcoming Events

OA Section E6 Conclave

The Order of the Arrow Section E6 Conclave will be held at Bert Adams Scout Reservation in Covington, GA. This annual event is open to all registered and active Aracoma Lodge members. For complete details, visit the section [website](#).



Steel Horse Ride

Saturday, April 5th

Come join the fun and support local Scouting! On Saturday, April 5th, riders from all across West Alabama will come together for an enjoyable morning ride, great fellowship, good food, and a chance to win some door prizes.

This event is sponsored by Prince, Glover, Hayes and also supported by Viking Bags.

Additional sponsors are still welcome and if you wish to do so, please click [here](#) for sponsorship information.





Council Annual Recognition Dinner

Thursday, April 17th

The Council Annual Dinner will be held on Thursday, April 17th beginning at 6:30 pm. This year's event will be held in the fellowship hall at Trinity United Methodist Church (729 Paul W. Bryant Drive, Tuscaloosa).

One of the highlights will be the presentation of two Silver Beaver Awards. This year's recipients are:

Mrs. Ginger Green
Mr. Jack Kennedy

Annual Recognition
Dinner Registration

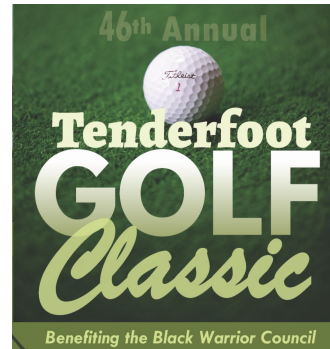
Several Scouting volunteers will be recognized for their work over the past year. We will also have the 2024 Class of Eagle Scouts. Use the button to visit the Council Annual Recognition Dinner webpage.

Tenderfoot Golf Classic

Friday, May 9th

The annual **Tenderfoot Golf Classic** will be held Friday, May 9th at the Ol' Colony Golf Course in Tuscaloosa in support of local Scouting. Four (4) person teams will compete in a scramble format with 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. tee times. Lunch is sponsored by McAbee Construction.

Registration is now open and anyone interested in participating may obtain more information by clicking [here](#). Also, questions may be addressed to [Zac Lollar](#), Development Director.



11th Annual Trade-O-Ree

May 9-10, 2025

Find the rare Scouting you have been looking for in the Heart of Dixie! If you have a passion for trading, or just want to learn more about it, make plans to attend the 11th Annual Trade-O-Ree!



Friday & Saturday, May 9th & 10th
Five Points Baptist Church
(3718 36th Street Northport 35473)

Hours:

Friday from 2:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact [Jon Hall](#) [205-799-5939]



Summer Resident Camps Coming Soon!

Leaders are encouraged to visit our Summer Resident Camp webpages for [Cub Scout Resident Camp](#) and [Scouts BSA Resident Camp](#) to assist in planning for camp. These sites will be updated frequently with "need to know" information, including:

- schedules
- cost & registration procedures
- campership applications (due: April 30)
- leader guides
- advancement opportunities
- best practices to assure a successful camp

experience



[Dr. Wayne "Sleepy" Harris](#) will be our camp director and [Mr. Charlie Plasters](#) will be the program director. Feel free to reach out to either for questions or additional information. Excellent staff members are now being confirmed. We are looking forward to a great summer at Camp Horne and are excited about working with your Scouts and leaders!

Great New Facility Improvements

- Air conditioned dining hall thanks to the generosity of the Pass family and other contributors.
- Parking lot added below the OA Lodge/Hulsart Center to allow for closer, increased parking.



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).



Eagle Scout Packets Update

Since the beginning of the Scouting movement, the President of the United States has also served as Honorary Chair of the Scouting movement. The President's signature is featured on Eagle Scout certificate and wallet cards. Historically, it has taken months to get official approval to use the President's signature. We are actively working with the new administration to get this approval. As a result, there is a delay in delivering Eagle Scout certificates and wallet cards. Certificates and cards will be shipped when approval is received. [This letter](#) is being sent to new Eagle Scouts to update them on the process.

Update of Eagle Extension and Special Needs Forms

Scouting America has updated the following six forms to align with the new branding and the **2025 Guide to Advancement**:

- **11.2.0.0 Request for Extension of Time (form)** No. 512-077
- **11.2.1.0 Appeal of Extension Request Denial (form)** No. 512-077a
- **11.3.0.0 Belated Rank Application** No. 512-076
- **11.4.0.0 Registration Beyond the Age of Eligibility**, No. 512-935
- **Individual Scout Advancement Plan**, No. 512-936
- **Application for Alternative Eagle Scout Rank Merit Badges** No. 512-730

The most significant content update clarifies that only Life Scouts are eligible to apply for an extension of time to earn the Eagle Scout rank.

New forms can be found here: <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/>



New Multisport Merit Badge Resources

Calling all adventurers! Partnering with @USATriathlon, Scouting America has officially launched the Multisport Merit Badge!

As of today, #Scouts across the country can TRI swimming, biking AND cycling – in conjunction with the other(s) – as they work on earning the Multisport Merit Badge. Scouts have the option to participate in a race that combines all three or just two of the activities.

Curious about the Multisport Merit Badge and what it means for Scouting America? Dig into the details by following this [link](#).

Ready to be one of the first to earn this new badge? Order the official Multisport Merit Badge Pamphlet online (@ScoutShop) or pick up a copy in-person, at our Scout Shop.

Motorized Equipment Use Prohibited

Reminder, there is currently no program for the use of e-bikes, other motorized equipment, wheels, or board sports in Scouting and their use is prohibited.



For more information on prohibited activities, please visit the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#).

Motorized vehicles used as program or activities—including all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), off-road vehicles, motorized personal watercraft (PWC), snowmobiles, E-Bikes and motorized speed events (exceptions: council-approved ATV and PWC programs that comply with [National Camp Accreditation Program \[NCAP\] standards](#); go-karting conducted at a commercial facility that provides equipment and supervision of cart operation; youth completing the Motorboating merit badge)

A safety moment to share can also be found here: <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/safety-moments/unauthorized-restricted-activities/>.

Florida Sea Base Programs Announced for 2025 and 2026

Scouting America's high adventure base in Florida offers great programs for Scouts! The [Sea Base](#) is an exceptional experience and there are many different types of opportunities. Visit the Sea Base [webpage](#) for upcoming programs in 2025 and 2026.



How to Prepare for 2026 Registration

- Download and complete the [High Adventure Registration Checklist](#).
- View [Sea Base Adventure Offerings](#) and [General 2026 Availability & Pricing Guide](#).
- Adventures vary in size (number of participants) and activities, review those details at the links above.
- Review the Sea Base [Eligibility Page](#).

The person signing up for your unit should know roughly how many

District News

River District (Tuscaloosa, Bibb, and Pickens Counties)

District Director: Roland Lewis [email](#)

- There will be no District Committee meeting or Scout Roundtable in April due to the District Banquet.
- May 18th: Cub Roundtable, 1:00-2:15, Camp Horne
- Save the date! River District Banquet on April 10th, 6:00

Troop 316 Conservation Project

Last year Troop 316 began working with the Tuscaloosa Natural Resources Planning Committee and the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources(ADCNR) on a conservation project. The Natural Resources Committee provided the funding, and the troop built 10 wood duck nesting boxes, complete with poles, nesting material, and predator guards at scout meetings.

This weekend the troop finished assembling the boxes and being assisted by an ADCNR Wildlife Biologists Drew Tincher and Clifton Burns, installed them in several wetland locations on the Okmulgee Wildlife Management Area.

In addition to earning conservation service hours, the troop learned about career opportunities in conservation and wildlife management. They also completed the requirement for Fish and Wildlife Management Merit Badge.



Scouting for Clean Waterways

The Outdoor Ethics and Conservation Subcommittee has a push for clean waterways. Trash found in a storm drain can find its way into our oceans.

Follow the [link](#) to see how your Unit can help.

James Neary
Council Outdoor Ethics Advisor
River District



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

District Executive: Darren Hix [email](#)

- April 10th: Mountain District Cmte Mtg., 6:00, Drummond Building, Jasper
- April 10th: Mountain District Roundtable, 6:30, Drummond Building, Jasper

Introducing Summer Cuboree!

Dates: **June 6-7, 2025** Location: **Camp O'Rear**

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!

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

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



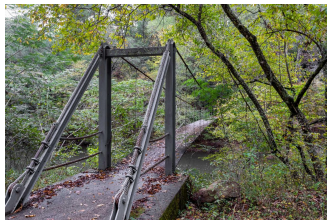
A direct and compelling headline

We are excited about the Prairie District Spring Camporee March 14-16 at the Millwood Hunting Club in Greensboro. Make plans now to attend. Reach out to [Greg Whitis](#) with any questions and to register!



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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