



Black Warrior Council, BSA Newsletter

March 2024

Important Dates & Events

| | |
|------------|--|
| March 2 | Skilled Trades Merit Badge Day |
| March 3 | River District Cub Scout Roundtable, Camp Horne, 1:00-2:15 |
| March 7 | Prairie District Hugh A. Lloyd FOS Luncheon |
| March 8-10 | Mountain District Spring Camporee, Camp O'Rear |
| March 9 | Council Pinewood Derby, Carl Cannon Chevrolet, Jasper |
| March 9 | Arrow of Light Cross-Over, Camp O'Rear, Jasper |
| March 14 | Mountain District Banquet |
| March 21 | River District Committee Mtg., 5:30 -- Scouts BSA Roundtable, 6:30 |
| March 21 | Scouts BSA Resident Pre-Camp Zoom Mtg., 6:30 |
| April 6 | Steep Horse Ride |
| April 11 | River District Banquet |
| April 11 | Mountain District Committee Mtg., 6:30 -- Roundtable to follow |
| April 16 | Council Recognition Dinner |

Upcoming Events



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
BLACK WARRIOR COUNCIL**

**SKILLED TRADES
MERIT BADGE
DAY 2024**

EACH SCOUT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE A MERIT BADGE DURING THE 2024 SKILLED TRADES MERIT BADGE DAY!

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 / 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM / TJAC 372 TRAINING CENTER

MERIT BADGES OFFERED

- American Labor
- Auto Maintenance*
- Electricity
- Surveying
- Plumbing**
- Welding***

REGISTRATION FEE: **\$15.00** PER SCOUT (INCLUDES A PATCH AND LUNCHEON)

WILL MARABLE
(205) 393-1963

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE DUE TO THE BLACK WARRIOR COUNCIL OFFICE BY FEB. 24TH AT 5:00 PM. IF REGISTRATION IS NOT MET BY THIS DATE, THERE WILL BE A \$5 LATE FEE ADDED TO INITIAL REGISTRATION FEE.

LOCATION: TJAC 372 TRAINING CENTER // 9610 HWY 82 E, DUNCANVILLE, AL 35458



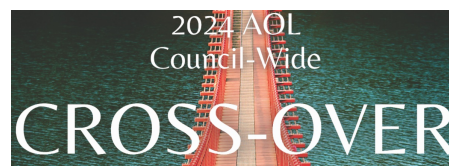
Council Pinewood Derby Saturday, March 9, 2024 Carl Cannon Chevrolet

Don't miss out on a great day of fast cars and excited Cub Scouts! The annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby will once again be held at Carl Cannon Chevrolet in Jasper on March 9th. Weigh-in for cars begins at 9:00 and the race kicks off at 10:00. For complete details and to register, click [here](#).

Skilled Trades Merit Badge Day

Scouts BSA are encouraged to check out a great opportunity to earn a merit badge in the career fields of skilled trades. Experts in the field will teach these badges and Scouts will have the opportunity to earn one badge during the day. The event will be held at the TJAC 372 Training Center in Tuscaloosa.

The Skilled Trades Merit Badge Day will begin at 9:00 and end at 4:00. The cost is \$20 per Scout. To register for this event, click [here](#).



Arrow of Light Cross-Over Ceremony at Camp O'Rear Saturday, March 9, 2024

It is a special day when that Arrow of Light Scout crosses over from the Cub Scout program into Scouts BSA. Those who are

eligible for this special accomplishment are invited to join the Mountain District's inspiring Cross-Over Ceremony across the swinging bridge at Camp O'Rear. Visit our Council [website](#) to learn how to participate in this memorable event.



Mountain District Banquet Thursday, March 14

The Scouters of Mountain District will enjoy a great evening of food and fellowship on March 14th. The banquet will be held at the Fayette Scout Hut. The program includes special awards including the awarding of Wood Badge beads to Scouters who just completed Wood Badge training last year. For more information, contact [Darren Hix](#).

Summer Resident Camp Zoom PreCamp Preview Meeting

Thursday, April 21, 6:30 - 7:30

Join Camp Director Wayne Harris & Program Director Charlie Plasters for a special PreCamp Preview Meeting for the 2024 Resident Camp. The Zoom meeting link will be active on the [2024 Summer Camp webpage](#) at least 24 hours before the meeting. Learn about plans for this summer and get any questions answered.

Council Website Updated

Visit the updated Black Warrior Council website! Changes have been made to refresh our online presence, enhance features, and hopefully make navigation easier for users. Check the site frequently for updates and share with others!

<http://bwc-bsa.org>

District News

River District (Tuscaloosa, Bibb, and Pickens Counties)

District Director: Roland Lewis [email](#)

- Scouters are reminded that due to Spring Break, the **March District Committee Meeting** and **Scouts BSA Roundtable** has been moved to Thursday, March 21st.
- The Cub Roundtable will remain on Sunday, March 3rd, 1:00 - 2:15 at Camp Horne
- **Save the Date: The River District Banquet will be held Thursday, April 11th.**



Pack 36 Cake Auction

Pack 36 held a Cake Auction on February 29th at Faucett Brothers Activity Center and every sweet tooth around was satisfied! There were nine cakes submitted and the top three prizes were given for looks. The Camp Home cake won 1st Place! The Pack raised \$300 on this event and then the Cubs enjoyed a nice swim to cap off the day!

[Text Link](#)

Pack 88 Visits the USS Alabama

Pack 88 Webelos and AOLs learned more about the Patrol Method and worked on some scout skills with Troops 316 B and G at The Historic Blakeley State Park in Spanish Fort, AL on Saturday night. The scouts enjoyed exploring the woods at the park, a very cold boat tour of the marshes, a low country shrimp boil and fried alligator for dinner, and touring and picnicking at The Five Rivers Delta Resource Center. The scouts then joined 200 other scouts and adults with units from Alabama, Florida, and Missouri aboard the USS Alabama for a night of exploring and learning how the sailors lived and slept during World War II aboard the battleship. The Chicken Nuggie Patrol had a great time and are looking forward to their next adventure!



Cub Scouts Shooting Sports Day

Ready, Aim, Fire! Cub Scouts enjoyed a great day at the Tuscaloosa Police Firing Range Saturday, February 24th. Cubs received range safety instruction, fired BB guns, fired paint balls (no, not at each other!), and was able to see the Tuscaloosa Police helicopter land. Cubs were also able to complete a few requirements for progress awards. Mr. Ian Barksdale was the event chair; he and his team did an amazing job!

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

District Executive: Darren Hix [email](#)

- There will be no District Meeting or Roundtable in March. Instead, make plans to join your fellow Scouters at the Mountain District Banquet to be held at the Fayette Scout Building on Thursday, March 14th. A highlight of the banquet will be the Wood Badge Beading of two Mountain District Scouters.

Scouts & Scouters - Get Signed Up - Great Events Ahead - Read Below!

Mountain District Camporee

March 8-10 at Camp O'Rear



Make plans now to have a wonderful weekend of Scouting fellowship. There will be plenty of activities for the Scouts and Saturday evening, a very special "Arrow of Light Cross Over" ceremony will take place across the swinging bridge. For more information, contact [Darren Hix](#).

Arrow of Light Cross Over

Saturday, March 9

A special ceremony will be held at Camp O'Rear to transition Arrow of Light/Webelos into the Scouting program. AOL/Webelos from across the Council are welcome to participate. Contact [Darren Hix](#) to hold your place.



Council Pinewood Derby Hosted by Mountain District

Saturday, March 9th
Carl Cannon Chevrolet, Jasper

Rev your engines and get ready to race! Once again, Carl Cannon Chevrolet and the Mountain District will host this great event. A Pinewood Derby is a crowd pleaser for all and just a wonderful family event. Check-in and weigh-in begins at 9:00 and the race kicks off at 10:00. For complete details and to register, click [here](#).



Beaver Day at Camp O'Rear

Many needed work projects and improvements were made at Camp O'Rear during Beaver Day on Saturday, February 24th. All of this great work could not have been accomplished without the help of many. Thanks to the units below who supported this effort.

Troop 126, Curry
Troop 77, Arley
Troop 117, Jasper
Troop 79, Carbon Hill
And also, the Walker County Forestry Commission

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

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

Hugh A. Lloyd FOS Luncheon

The Annual Hugh A. Lloyd Friends of Scouting (FOS) Luncheon will be held Thursday, March 7th beginning at 11:30 at the Demopolis Civic Center. This annual event recognizes the value of Scouting and provides the needed financial support to carry out the mission of the Prairie District and Black Warrior Council.

Spring Camporee

March 8-10, 2024 at the Millwood Hunting Club

Don't miss out on the fun! Scouts in the Prairie District will be enjoying a great Spring Camporee at the Millwood Hunting Club in Greensboro. In addition to just being in the great outdoors and camping, Scouts will have the option to participate in an archaeological dig, search for prehistoric shark's teeth, fish, and participate in a flag retirement ceremony. The cost is \$15 per Scout and includes a patch (to be received after the event) and programming. Units will cook and prepare their own meals. For questions, contact [Greg Whitis](#) at (334) 352-2482.



Resident Camp Aquatics Director Announced

Wayne Harris, Camp Director, has announced that **Mr. Daniel Western** will serve as this summer's Aquatics Director for Cubs and Scouts BSA Resident Camp. Although this will be his first year on the Camp Horne staff, Daniel Western has been serving the youth of Tuscaloosa for the past seven years as a den leader, cub master, and now scoutmaster of Troop 90B. Daniel is an Eagle Scout from the Heart of America council's Troop 59 in Kansas City, MO. He is Wood Badge trained and has served on Wood Badge staff.



Nominations for the Prestigious Silver Beaver Award are Being Accepted

The Silver Beaver Award was introduced in 1931 and is a council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. It is the highest honor a Scout Council may bestow on an individual.

Nominations must be made by using the official [nomination form](#). **Nominations should be received by the Council Service Center no later than March 15, 2024.**

NEW Cub Scout Program RollOut

Major changes are in the works for the Cub Scouting program. Changes and improvements are based upon feedback from Cub leaders across the country. Each month, an informational video and webinar will be rolled out. Visit the [Aaron on Scouting web page](#) to learn more and keep up with the changes to come. These changes are a result of months long study and feedback from current Cub Scout leaders in the field.

A very useful link that combines all of the informational pieces distributed about the new Cub Scout Program RollOut may be found by visiting this [link](#).



CUB SCOUT PROGRAM UPDATES ROLLOUT

| NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Cub Chat Live! 11-10-23 General Announcement | Cub Chat Live! 12-1-23 Rank Advancements and Bobcat | Cub Chat Live! 1-12-24 New and Improved Adventures | Cub Chat Live! 2-2-24 Webelos and Arrow of Light | Cub Chat Live! 3-1-24 Handbooks and Leader Resources | Cub Chat Live! 4-5-24 Den and Pack Meetings | Cub Chat Live! 5-10-24 Top 10 Most Common Questions | Cub Chat Live! 6-7-24 Safety Integration |
| Council Programs Resources for councils and districts to plan for programs for the summer of 2024 | Presenters Trained December 18 Team of experts trained and available to present to local councils and districts. Commissioners Resources for Commissioners | Prime Time Episodes of Cub Chat Live! January 16 th @ 7 p.m. Central January 23 rd @ 7 p.m. Central January 30 th @ 7 p.m. Central | Scouts BSA Resources for Scouts BSA Leaders | Scout Shops Spring of 2024 New Cub Scout Handbooks New Cub Scout Adventures Loops and Pins | Training Position Specific Training Updated Updated Cub Scout Roundtable Videos | On-line Tools Scoutbook Updated Online Reports Updated | June 1 New Program Takes Effect |



Youth Protection Training Required

All adult leaders in Scouting are reminded to keep your Youth Protection Training (YPT) current. This is a non-negotiable requirement for all. YPT certification is current for two years. Adults are prohibited from working with or leading any activity without current YPT. This training is an essential step toward providing protection not only for the youth we serve, but adult leaders as well.



Historic Trails Award

Units looking for award options to pursue that are perhaps a bit different may want to investigate the "Historic Trails Award". The program emphasizes an overall love and devotion for America through appreciation of principles, ideals, and traditions that have made our country strong.

To earn the award, Scouts must plan and participate in a historical event. There are many options available and several historical societies that are typically happy to help.

For full details, review the award application by clicking [here](#).

Leaders are Invited to Participate in the BSA Marketing Bootcamp

The **2024 BSA Marketing Bootcamp** will be held on March 14 and March 21 at 8pm ET / 7pm CT / 6pm MT / 5pm PT. During this 2-session marketing bootcamp, attendees will learn about the following:

- Scouting's 2024 marketing plans with BSA's VP of Communications and Marketing Michael Ramsey.
- New strategies to take your recruitment marketing efforts to the next level.
- Exciting new research on Scouting's "value proposition" ... the outcomes and benefits families derive from being involved in our programs. Tips to help you produce impactful photography and engaging websites.
- New PR strategies to help amplify your local Scouting stories.
- Real-world examples of successful units, districts, and councils recruiting in the digital space.
- And much more!

You'll come away with impactful marketing strategies and tools!

Who should attend? Volunteers at the unit, district, or council level interested in reaching new families! (Professional staff, we'd love to have you, too! Although not required, join us if you can!)

Each session contains different content and will be recorded for future viewing. Agendas will be emailed to registrants prior to each session.

Earn the "2024 BSA Certified Marketer" digital badge: If you attend both sessions, you'll become a BSA Certified Marketer for 2024 and will be awarded this year's digital badge.

Don't miss it. Register now!

Register here: <https://scouting-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdO2trDsjHtcgFlmd7ctCQwEwh2B2lolo>



Philmont 2024: Two (2) Youth Spots Open

Crew 89 from Tuscaloosa is heading to Philmont for a 56 mile backpacking trip this summer. There are still two open youth (must be 14 years old or 13 and have completed the 8th grade) slots available.

June 29 - July 14

Cost: \$1,575 plus travel (travel costs minimal)

Chris Holloway is the leader for this trek and has completed 3 previous treks as well as served 2 years on the Philmont staff. Any interested youth may contact Chris by [email](#) or phone: (205) 792-3276.

10th Annual Alabama Trade-O-Ree May 10-11, 2024

Patches, Patches, Patches, and a little bit more! If your Scouts are interested in patches and Scouting memorabilia in general, the Alabama Trade-O-Ree is a must do event. Dealers from all over the Southeast will have tables and tables of patch collections. Whether you are interested in actively trading and buying or just want to see all the collections, plan a visit.



Location: Five Points Baptist Church
3718 36th Street, Northport
Hours: Friday from 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Saturday from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Leaders! When planning your outings, whether for a day or week-end, remember our Council offers three beautiful camping properties to enjoy.



Camp Horne is located in Cottondale, AL! That's where summer camp, day camp, and Packs, Troops, and Crews can rent out camp for unit activities.

Camp O'Rear is located in Jasper, AL! We have day camps and other district events. Please reserve this beautiful camp for all your primitive camping needs. Packs, Troops, and Crews can rent out camp for unit activities.

White Bluff is located just outside of Demopolis, AL! The Prairie District utilizes this beautiful property on the Black Warrior River. Packs, Troops, and Crews can rent out camp for unit activities.

Please remember, a Camp Use Permit must be submitted online at least two weeks prior to going to camp.

[Camp Availability Calendar](#) [Camp Use Permit](#)

Visit our Facebook Page

Leroy McAbee Scout Service Center

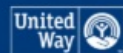
2700 Jack Warner Parkway NE Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
P.O. Drawer 3088 Tuscaloosa, AL 35403
Office: (205) 554-1680
Fax: (205) 554-7830

Service Center Hours of Operation

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

Visit our Scout Shop for all of your Scouting needs!

Visit our Website



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