
Scouting America
Black Warrior Council

October 2026 Newsletter

Important Dates & Events

October 3	Family Fun Fest - River & Prairie Districts, Camp Horne
	Family Fun Fest - Mountain District, Walker Co. Lake
October 8	River District Committee Mtg., 5:30 pm
	River District Scout Roundtable, 6:30
	Mountain District Committee Mtg., 6:00
	Mountain District Roundtable (to follow district meeting)
October 15	JROTC Day at Camp Horne
October 16-18	Prairie District Camporee
October 28	Popcorn Take Order Product Due!
October 29	Popcorn Show N Sale Returns Due!
October 30- Nov 1	Cuboree, River & Prairie, Camp Horne
October 30-31	Cuboree, Mountain, Camp O'Rear
November 6-8	OA Fall Fellowship, Camp Horne
November 11	Veterans Day
November 12-13	Popcorn Take-Order Pick Up
November 12	River District Committee Mtg., 5:30 pm
	River District Scout Roundtable, 6:30
	Mountain District Committee Mtg., 6:00
	Mountain District Roundtable (to follow district meeting)
November 26	Thanksgiving Day (Scout Service Center CLOSED)

Scouting Calendar for 2026-2027

The Black Warrior Council Scouting Calendar is always available on our Council webpage (click on logo on the right to view or download).

NOTE: We try to minimize changes throughout the year but sometimes that is just unavoidable. Check regularly for updates and a quick way to know if you have the most current calendar is to check the "....current as of date" at the very top of the page.



UPCOMING EVENTS YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS!

Family Fun Fest: Saturday, October 3rd

A great day of family fun! Cub leaders are encouraged to be sure all of their parents know about this event and it is also a great recruiting tool to invite prospective new Cubs. Use the QR code to register.

River & Prairie District Family Fun Fest to be held at Camp Horne.
Mountain District Family Fun Fest to be held at Walker Co. Lake.



BLACK WARRIOR COUNCIL, SCOUTING AMERICA

FAMILY FUN FEST 2026

ADVENTURE STARTS HERE!

A DAY OF ADVENTURE, FUN & DISCOVERY
Experience exciting Cub Scout activities including fishing, archery, games, STEM challenges, crafts, hiking, and so much more!

SCAN TO REGISTER!









**BOYS & GIRLS
AGES 5-10 WELCOME**

**NO SCOUTING
EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

**ALL YOUTH MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**

**PLEASE BRING A
REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE.**

**IF YOU PLAN TO FISH,
BRING YOUR OWN FISHING
POLE AND EQUIPMENT.**

REGISTRATION FEE

\$40	\$20	\$15
INCLUDES ONE YOUTH, ONE ADULT, AND ONE EVENT PATCH PER YOUTH.	ADDITIONAL YOUTH	ADDITIONAL ADULTS

! PRICES INCREASE \$5 ON SEPTEMBER 25TH!



Cuboree, An Overnight Experience for Cubs!

This year's Cuboree is a Space-Themed Campout for Cub Scouts! There are three options for families to choose from.

1. **October 30-31** (Friday & Saturday) at Camp Horne (Cottondale)
2. **October 30-31** (Friday & Saturday) at Camp O'Rear (Jasper)
3. **October 31 - Nov 1** (Saturday & Sunday) at Camp Horne (Cottondale)

* At least one parent or guardian is required to attend with each Cub Scout. The entire family is welcome!

What's Included:

- A night and day of family fun
- Opportunity to sleep under the stars with your entire family.
- Evening and morning activity programs featuring our "Blast Off at Cosmic Cub Adventure" theme, outdoor adventure, and Cub Scout skills.

- An exclusive event patch for every registered attendee.
- Hot dinner in the evening and breakfast in the morning.

Registration

- The cost per person is \$25 if registered by October 20, 2026.
- The cost to register beginning October 21st is \$30 per person.



[Registration Link](#)

OA Fall Fellowship

November 6-8

The Aracoma Lodge will hold their annual OA Fall Fellowship at Camp Home November 6-8. All Lodge members are encouraged to attend. At this event, there will be the opportunity to complete Brotherhood and annual elections for lodge officers will be held. Time will also be spent on planning for NOAC in 2027. Complete details and registration information will be available on the Aracoma [webpage](#) soon. Check for details! Register early!



SCOUTING NEWS

**Visit the Updated TRAINING Webpage for Your Access to
All Council Offered Training Courses in 2026-2027**

[Training Webpage](#)



Required Training

- Safeguarding Youth training is required for all Scouting America registered volunteers and is a joining requirement.
- Safeguarding Youth training must be taken every year. If a volunteer's Safeguarding Youth training is not current at the time of annual registration renewal, the volunteer will not be re-registered.

To take the training, go to MyScouting.org and create an account. You'll receive an email notification with your account information, including a member ID/reference number.

From the MyScouting.org portal, you can launch the Safeguarding Training from the home page. Upon completion, you may print a training certificate to submit with a volunteer application, or wait for an email with your certificate to be sent to your email address. Your training will automatically be updated in our system and associated with the member ID/reference number issued when you created the account.

When your volunteer application is approved, you will receive a Scouting America membership card that includes your member ID number. Scouting America places the greatest importance on creating the most secure environment possible for our youth members. To maintain such an environment, Scouting America developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies and provides parents and leaders with resources for the [Cub Scout](#), [Scouts BSA](#), and [Venturing](#) programs.

Link to Scouting America's Youth Protection webpage: http://www.scouting.org/training/safeguarding_youth/

Black Warrior Council Training Opportunities

Training Contacts

River District

John Godwin
jgodwin@gmail.com
(205) 292-1250

Mountain District

Jeremy Bevins
jeremy@bevinsofficials.com
(256) 672-0248

Prairie District

Greg White
gregwhite@scouting.org
(334) 352-2482

Council Program Director

Walter Davis
walter.davis@scouting.org
(205) 554-1540 (205) 292-3392

The Black Warrior Council offers the following "in person" training courses on a periodic basis. If a course listed below does not have an "active" link, check back periodically. As soon as a course schedule and registration information for that course is confirmed, the link will become active. Training contacts for each district and the council are listed below.

Course Legend to Designate Intended Audience

Cub Scout Leaders



Scouts BSA Leaders



ALL Leaders



Youth Members (Under 18)



BALOO

BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION

Details & Registration

Basic Outdoor Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) is aimed toward Cub leaders and parents who want to take pack or den overnight camping.

September 12-13
Camp Horne
Offered by River District



OUTDOOR

LEADER SKILLS

Details & Registration

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills is a hands-on outdoor weekend course required for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters in Scouting America to be considered fully trained.



BB Gun

Rangemaster



Details & Registration

BB Gun Rangemaster is an app. 3 hour course that will train adults to safely and properly conduct a BB gun course for Cub Scouts.



Archery

Rangemaster



Details & Registration

Archery Rangemaster is an app. 3 hour course that will train adults to safely and properly conduct a BB gun course for Cub Scouts.



Details & Registration

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) - All four Scouting America high-adventure bases require individuals on each trek to have current certification in WFA. Having more participants trained in WFA skills is highly recommended for any high adventure or backcountry experience.

January 29-31
Camp Horne



NRA

Range Safety Officer
Rifle Shotgun



Details & Registration

NRA official courses to train adults to conduct per Scouting America standards, safe range activities at unit, district, and council level events.

Eagle Scout Scholarships

The rank of Eagle Scout and all that it takes for a young person to earn this award is admired and appreciated by many. There are organizations and groups that want to support our young people who have attained this prestigious award. We have recently received some timely award opportunities.

To support our Eagle Scouts, a new page has been added to our Council website that will maintain the most current information we have related to scholarships for Eagle Scouts. **PLEASE help us share this information with your Eagles and their families!**

As opportunities come and go, we will update this page so it is one your troop leaders and Eagles will want to visit regularly.



Eagle Scholarships

NEW Merit Badge Available: Wildland Fire Management

Wildfires cause significant destruction across the U.S. each year, with smoke affecting public health nationwide. Yet fire also plays a beneficial role in many ecosystems, supporting habitats and forest regeneration. Managing this balance between preventing harmful fires and promoting beneficial ones is a growing national challenge. As Scouts, we can help make our homes, camps, and communities more fire-resilient, understand fire's natural role in wildlands, and even explore careers in wildland fire management.



Merit Badge Webpage

Where to Go Camping?

Scouting is Outing but where do we go that we may not have been before or may not even know is an option? As part of his Wood Badge ticket, Dr. Wayne Harris updated a great resource for leaders, a "Where to Go Camping" guide. Reviewing this resource may provide many great ideas for your leaders and youth to consider.

Where to Go Camping Guide





Mark Your Calendar for the 2027 National Outdoor Conference

September 15-19, 2027

Where: Philmont Training Center, Cimarron, NM

Join us in the heart of the rugged Southwest at Philmont for the **2027 National Outdoor Conference**—the ultimate gathering for Scouters and outdoor enthusiasts! Whether you're looking to level up your skills, get inspired by top speakers, or simply connect with like-minded adventurers, this biennial event is the place to be.

Conference Highlights:

- Dynamic workshops and hands-on training to elevate your outdoor programs
- Inspiring keynotes from leaders in the outdoor industry
- Networking opportunities with Scouters and outdoor pros from across the country
- A firsthand look at the latest in gear, gadgets, and innovations

Don't miss this chance to discover new ideas, sharpen your skills, and share in the excitement of the great outdoors with fellow Scouters. Stay tuned for updates on registration, class offerings, lodging, and more!

Scouts BSA Senior Patrol Leader Summit

This fall, the Scouts BSA National Youth Council will expand to become the SPL Summit, where the SPL from every troop in the nation will be invited to quarterly, interactive feedback sessions. Senior Patrol Leaders will have the opportunity to take part in the summit Sunday, October 25th. Invitation emails with registration links will go directly to Scoutmasters in late September to be shared with their Senior Patrol Leaders. More details about the Scouts BSA Senior Patrol Leader Summit can be found on Program Updates page: <https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/scouts-bsa-program-update-spl-summit/>.



Philmont 2028 Registration Opens October 1 — Get Your Council's Contingent Trek Priority Dates

Philmont Scout Ranch's Backpacking Trek Programs continue to be one of the strongest tools in retaining older youth and providing a flagship experience for units. On October 1, 2026, registration opens for Philmont 2028 treks. Don't miss out on this opportunity for older Scouts to experience the magic of Philmont and make memories to last a lifetime!

Philmont Scout Ranch Website



Mark Your Calendars: Northern Tier Winter Registration Opens October 1st!

Get ready to thrive in the cold! Registration for Northern Tier's legendary Okpik winter adventures officially launches on October 1st. Scouts will load their sleds, venture onto frozen wilderness lakes, and build confidence through snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, broomball, ice fishing, and snow shelter building. Don't worry about the extreme cold—we teach Crews how to thrive in winter environments and supply nearly all technical gear, even boots. Scouts only need to bring their personal skin-contact clothing (base layers, hats, gloves, and socks)!

Peak dates like Holiday Stay (right after Christmas), MLK Jr. Day, and Presidents' Day weekends fill quickly on a first-come, first-served basis, so act fast on launch day to secure your preferred slot. If your Crew wants to try dog sledding, our new lottery entry window runs from October 1st through October 15th. Off-peak discounts are available on our website for thrifty crews that can come outside of the holidays—visit <https://www.ntier.org/winter-adventures/winter-registration-info/> to see more details ahead of registration!

Northern Tier Website

New Cub Pack Program Guide Available!

This new resource looks amazing! It is specifically designed for multi-rank dens and small packs and provides leaders with a ready-to-use structure for their first four meetings, beginning with parent orientation and continuing through team building, character and leadership, and personal fitness.

This resource doesn't just give leaders ideas; it also provides meeting plans, timelines, scripts, checklists, family engagement tools, and specific responsibilities that can make delivering a quality program much easier. For example, the guide walks a new leader through welcoming families, developing the next two months of programming, gathering parent information, and identifying specific ways parents can help.



Cub Pack Program Guide

District News

River District (Tuscaloosa, Bibb, and Pickens Counties)

District Executive: Ty Nevith [Email: tyrenee.nevith@scouting.org]

- October 3rd: Family Fun Fest, Camp Horne
- October 8th: District Committee Mtg., Scout Service Center, 5:30 pm
- October 8th: District Scout Roundtable, Scout Service Center, 6:30
- October 30 - Nov 1: Cuboree (Cosmic Blast Adventure), Camp Horne

Troop 316 Performs Community Service at Deerlick Creek

On September 11-13, Troop 316 camped at Deerlick Creek Park and teamed up with the Army Corps of Engineers to complete multiple service projects with all three patrols. The Killer Whale Patrol cleaned out bluebird boxes while logging the contents for the Biologist. The Trash Panda Patrol cleaned an area of shoreline that was inundated with trash and collected 20 bags of litter from the river. The Mustang Patrol repaired lighting, cleared brush, raked, swept, and installed a new fire ring in the park's amphitheater. This was all registered with the National Public Lands Day initiative. In all, the troop completed 90 hours of conservation service to the park. Thanks Troop 316!

ScoutsBSA Units - looking for a great place to camp you may have never been? Consider Deerlick Creek Park, we are hearing that the park upgrades are very nice!



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

District Executive: Darren Hix [email](#)

- October 3rd: Family Fun Fest, Walker Co. Lake
- October 8th: District Committee Meeting, Camp O'Rear, 6:00
- October 8th: District Roundtable (to follow District Committee Meeting)
- October 30-31: Cuboree (Cosmic Blast Adventure), Camp O'Rear

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

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

How to Address Mail to the Scout Service Center

Volunteers are reminded that the most efficient way to send mail to us is by using our post office drawer.

**Black Warrior Council
P.O. Drawer 3088
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403**

Our physical location is:

**Black Warrior Council
2700 Jack Warner Parkway, N.E.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404**



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>

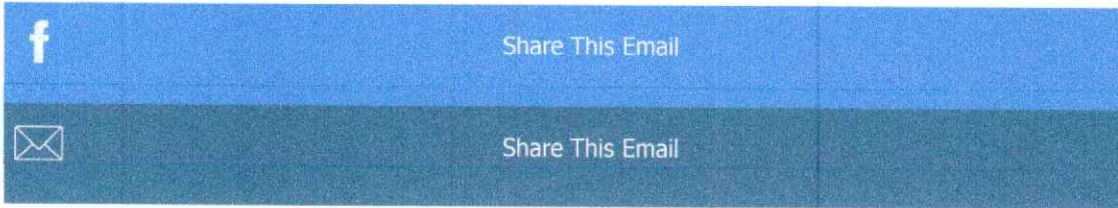
Services:

- 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



Black Warrior Council, BSA | (205) 554-1680 | Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 US

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