



Cherokee Area Council
 520 S Quapaw
 Bartlesville OK 74003
 Phone: 918-336-9170
 Fax: 918-512-4789
 Toll Free 888-269-1328
<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org>
[@CherokeeBSA](#)

Cherokee Scouter

*An official publication of the Cherokee Area Council
 Boy Scouts of America*

August 2015

Table of Contents

Program Updates.....	2
Eagle Scouts.....	2
Congressional Award.....	2
Everything a Scout should know about U.S. Flag Retirement.....	2
Millsaps College Announces Scholarships for Scouts.....	3
New 2016 Boy Scout Handbook.....	4
Upcoming Key Dates.....	5

Program Updates

[2016 Boy Scout requirements--parallel comparison](#) 

The 2016 Boy Scout rank requirements are now available for viewing. This document gives a parallel comparison of existing requirements and requirements that will be effective Jan. 1, 2016.

Check here for other Programs Updates – 2015 and Beyond -

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/programupdates.aspx>

Eagle Scouts

Only 5 percent of the Scouts have achieved Eagle rank, Cherokee Area Council ranks above the national average in Eagle rank achievement.

Our congratulations go out to the following Scouts who have achieved Eagle rank in the last month:



- Albertyn Brown – Troop 66 (School striping)
- Walter Lajara-Nanson – Troop 2000 (ASPCA: painting kennels)
- Bailey Poage – Troop 78 (Paint the Town Red)
- Trevor Kanke – Troop 33 (Veteran’s Memorial Fence)
- Calvin Wynn – Troop 66 (Wooden set for the VHS Drama Department)
- Frederick Drummond – Troop 3 (Clare Grave restoration)
- Jack Williams – Troop 2000 (St. James Pavilion repair)
- Chase Waldorf – Troop 2000 (Bench repair project for Price BAAB Fields)
- Nathan Coordsen – Troop 3 (Painting parking lots at First Presbyterian)

- Eric Werline – Troop 55 (Flag pole at Senior Center)

Congressional Award

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress’ award for young Americans. It is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive.

The program is open to all 14- to 23-year-olds; young people may register when they turn 13 1/2 years old and must complete their activities before their 24th birthday.

Participants earn Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas; Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration.

Earning the Award is a fun and interesting way to get more involved in something you already enjoy or something you’d like to try for the first time. You move at your own pace – on your own or with your friends.

This is not an award for past accomplishments. Instead, you are honored for achieving your own challenging goals after registering for the program.

Regardless of your situation, you can earn the Congressional Award. The Congressional Award has no minimum grade point average requirements. It accommodates young people with special needs or disabilities who are willing to take the challenge.

For more information:

<http://congressionalaward.org/about-us/>

Everything a Scout should know about U.S. Flag Retirement

Did you know the Boy Scouts of America is one of the very few organizations that have an official code for flag retirement? Respect for our nation’s symbols are an integral part of being a reverent, responsible Scout; thus we have specific rules for the appropriate retirement of the United States flag. In fact, conducting a flag retirement ceremony is a very meaningful opportunity for Scouts and Scouters to reflect on the

meaning of the flag as a great symbol of freedom.

The BSA Handbook states: *“A national flag that is worn beyond repair may be burned in a fire. The ceremony should be conducted with dignity and respect and the flag burned completely to ashes.”*

Furthermore the comprehensive Scouting book, “Your Flag: Everything You Want to Know About the Flag of the United States of America” explains, *“When the national flag is worn beyond repair, burn it thoroughly and completely on a modest, but blazing, fire. This should be done in a simple manner with dignity and respect. Be sure the flag is reduced to ashes unrecognizable as a former flag.”* [Title 4 of the U.S. Flag Code](#) also explains the same method as proper protocol.

Ultimately, it’s important to remember that the United States flag is more than just a banner of red, white and blue. The [Boy Scout Handbook](#) explains, *“As the symbol of America, it stands for the past, present, and future of our country. It represents our people, our land, and our many ways of life.”*

Other Acceptable Flag Retirement Methods

While burning the flag is the preferable method of disposal by the BSA and U.S. Flag Code, there are other dignified ways to retire the flag too. If your flag is made from synthetic materials that could be environmentally harmful (like flame retardants or other noxious coatings), recycling the flag may be your best option. In this case, delivering the flag to a nylon recycling plant would be acceptable. For this option, you can still conduct a flag ceremony and pay tribute before flag send-off.

Another recycling option involves [cutting the flag](#) with an approved technique that avoids tearing through the blue star field. Once the flag is cut, it is no longer an official flag and can be disposed of.

Although somewhat less ceremonial, many Scouts and Scouters prefer these methods for their eco-friendliness. Recycled flags not only produce the least amount of waste, but they’re also repurposed for others to enjoy for years to come.

How Organizations Team Up with the BSA to Retire Flags

Some organizations look to the BSA for assistance in

proper flag retirement. For example, in an effort to help collect soiled, used, or damaged U.S. flags in communities in Florida, Goodwill is partnering with the BSA to gather flags for retirement. The collected flags will be sent to Boy Scouts of America for proper flag retirement ceremonies. During these ceremonies Scouts are encouraged to reflect on our nation’s independence.

“Flag retirement has been a tradition for Boy Scouts for decades,” said Greg Graham, Scout Executive of the Southwest Florida Council to Florida Weekly. “It teaches our Scouts respect for the country. They are retiring a symbol of honor, courage and strength of our nation where many have selflessly sacrificed for others’ freedom.”

Learn More About Proper Flag Retirement

Read up on what the BSA officially says on how to destroy worn out flags by reading [Destroying Worn-Out Flags](#), check out Bryan on Scouting’s recent story uncovering [what to do with leftover grommets](#) from retirement ceremonies, and learn more about [flag etiquette](#) from the Nashville Scouts of Troop 1914. Share with us in the comments below, how does your troop retire worn U.S. flags?

Millsaps College Announces Scholarships for Scouts

In recognition of their leadership, academic, and extracurricular achievements, Boy Scouts attaining the rank of Eagle Scout who also meet admission criteria for [Millsaps College](#) as entering freshmen will receive a minimum total scholarship package of \$60,000 (\$15,000 per year, renewable for four years).

“Millsaps’ motto ad Excellentiam means ‘toward excellence,’” said Dr. Rob Alexander, vice president for enrollment and communications. “We know that the young men and women who have earned the Gold Award or rank of Eagle Scout share that same commitment to excellence in all they do, and we created this program to honor their hard work and support them as they continue their education at the finest liberal arts college and business school in the state.”

The scholarship support will be available for freshmen students entering Millsaps in the fall of 2015.

"Several studies have shown that Eagle Scouts are the leaders in their churches, communities, and professions as they get older," said Anthony Haines, CEO/Scout Executive with the Andrew Jackson Council of the Boy Scouts of America. "This scholarship from Millsaps for Eagle Scouts will give numerous young men the opportunity to attend one of Mississippi's premier colleges."

Other colleges have similar scholarship opportunities.

New 2016 Boy Scout Handbook

Here is the BSA's transition for the new requirements:

Beginning work in the new requirements will be determined by the Scout's joining date or current rank as of January 1, 2016:

For 2016:

- Boys joining on or after Jan. 1, 2016 **MUST** use the new requirements.
- Boys who have joined prior to Jan. 1, 2016:
 - Who are working on the Scout badge **MAY** continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon completion of the Scout badge.
 - Who are working on Tenderfoot through First Class **MAY** continue to work on the existing requirements, but **MUST** convert to the new requirements upon attaining First Class.
 - Who have completed First Class **MAY** complete the rank they are currently working on in the existing requirements, but then **MUST** convert to the new requirements for subsequent ranks.

For 2017: All Scouts **MUST** use the new requirements regardless of rank.

Upcoming Key Dates

Check the Council web site (<http://www.cherokeebssa.org>) for more information about these events.

AUGUST

- 3-8 – National Order of the Arrow Conference
- 6 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 13 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 13 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 17 – Popcorn Show & Sell Orders due at the Scout Office
- 27 – School Night for Scouting

SEPTEMBER

- 3 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 4 – Popcorn Show & Sell product distributed to units
- 4 – Popcorn Take Order Sale begins
- 7 – Popcorn Show & Sell begins
- 10 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 10 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 19 – OH Cub Scout Family Festival

OCTOBER

- 1 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 8 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 8 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 10 – GL Scout Fun-o-Ree
- 10-11 – OH Cub Scout Fall Festival
- 15 – Popcorn Take Order Sale ends
- 18 – Popcorn Show & Sell ends
- 20 – Popcorn Orders due at the Scout Office
- 23-25 – Council Camporee

NOVEMBER

- 5 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 6 – Popcorn distributed to units
- 6-7 – OA Ordeal & Fall Fellowship
- 12 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 12 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 13-14 – OA Vigil Weekend

DECEMBER

- 3 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 7 – Popcorn money due at the Scout Office
- 10 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 10 – OH Eagle Boards of Review