



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*

**November 2014**

## Table of Contents

<b>New Council Executive.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Fall Popcorn Sale .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Eagle Scouts.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Electronics Merit Badge .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Order of the Arrow One Day of Service.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Advanced Climbing Instructor Training - Natural Site .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>LOOKING for the BEST NYLT Staff.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>District Award of Merit.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Order of the Arrow Lodge Leadership Development and Winter Banquet.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>District Banquets.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>OH District Pinewood Derby .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>SAVE THE DATE! .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Rechartering .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>National Youth Leader Training.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Arrowman Service Award .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Summer Camp .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Friends of Scouting .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Boy Scout Essay Contest.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Greetings From Philmont Scout Ranch!.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Nine tips for preventing troop trailer theft.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Eagle Scout William E. Moerner Shares Nobel Prize in Chemistry .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>BSA's Advanced Leadership Training Announced .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Online Leadership Tools, Retooled .....</b>	<b>12</b>

**How your Scouts can take the SCOUTStrong challenge..... 12**  
**Make it Official - Report Service Hours..... 13**  
**Upcoming Key Dates ..... 14**

**HOLIDAY HOURS**

**The Scout Service Center will be closed at  
Noon on Wednesday, November 26,  
for the THANKSGIVING holiday.**

**The Scout Service Center will reopen at  
9:00 AM on Monday, December 1.**

## New Council Executive

Ty Roberts has been selected as Scout executive of the Cherokee Area Council, effective November 16, 2014.

Ty began his Scouting career as a district executive for the Quivira Council in Wichita, Kansas. He continued serving in Wichita as an SDE and field director, and then became an assistant Scout executive with the Jayhawk Area Council in Topeka, Kansas.

Ty, who enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking, and mountaineering, is a graduate of Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, with a BA degree in administration of justice. A veteran of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle, he is enrolled in the National Guard Officer Candidate School.



*Ty Roberts (seated) is pictured here with Council President Charlie Daniels (standing beside him) and members of the selection committee.*

Ty and his wife, Amy, have eight children: Blake, Megan, Melia, Keian, Emily, Micah, Garin, and Creed.

## Fall Popcorn Sale

### Important Dates to Remember

December 3      Units turn in popcorn money to the Scout office

December 6      Incredible Pizza Party

### Other Important Information

Sell \$400 in popcorn for FREE Cub Scout Day Camp

Sell \$900 in popcorn and receive \$150 towards Boy Scout Summer Camp or High Adventure Base  
Units receive 30% commission for popcorn sales

## 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 Scout who has achieved Eagle rank in the last month:

- Jordan Allen Schoonover – Troop 78 (YMCA After School Program building remodel)

## Electronics Merit Badge

**When:** November 8, 9AM to 5PM at the Oklahoma State Bank Community Room in Vinita

**Who:** Boy Scouts

**Cost:** FREE!

**Maximum class size:** 25

Scouts will learn about transistors, resistors, schematics, LEDs, capacitors, soldering, control circuits, and printed circuit boards and will complete all requirements for the Electronics Merit Badge.

Siemens is providing project materials and lunch.

To register, contact the Scout Service Center ([registrar@cherokeesba.org](mailto:registrar@cherokeesba.org), 918-336-9170, or toll-free 888-269-1328)

## Order of the Arrow One Day of Service

---

**Who:** All Arrowmen (youth and adult)

**When:** November 8, 10 AM to 4 PM

**Where:** Woolaroc <https://www.woolaroc.org>

Bring work gloves, trash bags, water, and a sack lunch. Work is to include trail signage and trash pickup.

These service hours will count for the Arrowman Service Award. See information about this award below or click these links

Youth requirements - [http://www.oa-bsa.org/uploads/resources/forms/asa\\_requirements\\_cards\\_youth.pdf](http://www.oa-bsa.org/uploads/resources/forms/asa_requirements_cards_youth.pdf)

Adult requirements - [http://www.oa-bsa.org/uploads/resources/forms/asa\\_requirements\\_cards\\_adult.pdf](http://www.oa-bsa.org/uploads/resources/forms/asa_requirements_cards_adult.pdf)

## Advanced Climbing Instructor Training – Natural Site

---

**When:** November 8-9, 9AM to 5PM

**Where:** Camp McClintock

**Who:** Adult leaders – participants must have competed the Climbing Tower Instructor course)

**Cost:** \$15 (includes lunch)

**Maximum class size:** 15

Participants will learn the purpose of the climbing/Rappelling program:

- Responsibilities of a Climbing Instructor
- Be able to lead a group through a climbing/rappelling experience on a natural site

To register, contact the Scout Service Center ([registrar@cheokeebsa.org](mailto:registrar@cheokeebsa.org), 918-336-9170 or toll-free 888-269-1328).

## LOOKING for the BEST NYLT Staff

---

After participation in an NYLT course, a Scout may apply to serve on staff. If you enjoyed NYLT, and you want to make sure other Scouts have the same rewarding experience, then staffing may be for you.

### Staff Interviews

- Saturday, November 22, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
OR
- Saturday, December 6, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Both sessions are at the Scout Service Center in Bartlesville.

Attending National Youth Leadership Training was a positive step in learning leadership skills for a successful Scouting career, but leadership skills learned in NYLT can also be used in other aspects of your life: school, church, home and your future professional career. It is a lot of fun, but also requires dedication to hard work and preparation.

Conducting a National Youth Leadership Training course takes a great deal of planning, plenty of inspiration, and the enthusiastic participation of many dedicated people. The rewards for participants, staff, and the Scouting movement are tremendous.



If you are interested in staffing, please attend one of the NYLT youth staff interview opportunities. The process consists of a 3-5 minute presentation on some aspect of Scouting and a 5-7 minute interview.

Contact Course Director Paul Huttenhoff at [pchuttenhoff@gmail.com](mailto:pchuttenhoff@gmail.com) or 918-397-7048.

NYLT 2015 will be held at Camp McClintock  
May 31-June 5, 2015.

## District Award of Merit

---

The District Award of Merit is given annually to registered Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. This is a District award that is presented by at the annual District Banquet.



Previous recipients from the Osage Hills District - [http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=179](http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=179)

Previous recipients from the Grand Lake District - [http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=118&Itemid=227](http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=118&Itemid=227)

The award requirements, established by BSA National, are available here [http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/awards\\_central/districtmerit.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/awards_central/districtmerit.aspx)

The nomination form is available here <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf>

District Banquets will be held January 8 so nominations for the District Award of Merit are due in the Scout office no later than November 15.

The Osage Hills District Banquet will be held on January 8 at the LDS Church on Swan Drive. The Grand Lake District Banquet will be held on January at a location that will be announced at a later date.

## Order of the Arrow Lodge Leadership Development and Winter Banquet

---

### Lodge Leadership Development

**Who:** All Lodge and Chapter officers and their advisers AND any other Arrowmen who want to help guide the Lodge during the coming year

**When:** Friday evening, January 2 through Saturday, January 3 ← *Note the date change!*

**Where:** Vinita location TBA

The event consists of a number of training sessions that will help us all focus our attentions on issues our lodge needs to address so we can continue to be a “small lodge with a big attitude.”

### Winter Banquet

**Who:** All Arrowmen

**When:** Saturday, January 3

**Where:** Vinita location TBA

The 2015 Plan Book will be presented as well as the annual lodge budget. In addition, new Ordeal, Brotherhood, and Vigil Arrowmen will be recognized. The Lodge Distinguished Service Award and Arrowman of the Year will also be presented.

Come enjoy good food and good fellowship!

## District Banquets

---

**When:** January 8

**Who:** Scouts, Scouters, and their families in each district

**Where:** Locations TBA

District Banquet is held annually to recognize the work of all the volunteers who make Scouting possible in the districts.

In addition to the District Award of Merit, the Unit Leader Award of Merit will be awarded. Previous recipients of these district awards can be found on the respective district web site

GL District -

[http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=58&Itemid=85](http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=58&Itemid=85)

OH District -

[http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=86](http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=86)

## OH District Pinewood Derby

---

**Who:** All Cub Scouts

**When:** January 10

**Where:** Bartlesville location TBA

Additional information will be e-mailed and posted to the council web site (<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org>)

Be sure to join the council e-mail list!

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### University of Scouting FEBRUARY 7

Course opportunities and location TBA  
Training opportunities for all Scouters from newest to most experienced

#### Winter Merit Badge Festival FEBRUARY 28

Tri County Technology Center, Bartlesville  
Registration information available in December

## Rechartering

---

Recharter packets have been distributed to all units. **Recharter materials must be turned into the Scout Office no later than December 18th.**

Any units who have questions or need help with completing their recharter materials should contact their unit commissioner, district commissioner, or the Scout office.

## National Youth Leader Training

---

May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 5<sup>th</sup> at Camp McClintock

Training Cost \$200 (*scholarships available*)

It's the premier Boy Scout youth training opportunity!

### LET THEM BE LEADERS!!

Give your youth a chance at making a difference:

- Teach them how to Lead
- Show them how to Lead
- Let them Lead!!

Includes meals-Sunday through Friday, 3 Course T-shirts, Course Hat, Patch, Participant workbook

**REGISTER EARLY! 30 Participants Spots Available**

May 1, 2015 Registration Deadline

## Arrowman Service Award

---

As part of the Order of the Arrow's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration next year at NOAC, the OA has established two service awards.

Arrowmen can work on the requirements for this award from July 16, 2014, until December 31, 2015. There is an award for youth (under 21) and adults (21 and older).

Both awards require that the Arrowman be registered and in good standing in the BSA, the local council, and the OA lodge.

Both awards require completion of requirements from each of three categories: Personal Growth, Scout Service, and 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events. The Lodge Adviser must approve completion of the requirements for this award.

**Youth Arrowman Service Award (complete two from each category; items in bold are required)**

### Personal Growth

- **Be or attain Brotherhood membership (if eligible)**
- Be an Eagle Scout or Venturing Silver/Summit award recipient, or advance one Boy Scout rank or Venturing award level
- Participate in or staff a BSA youth leadership training course

- Earn a STEM Nova or Hornaday award
- Participate in an OA High Adventure program or attend a BSA High Adventure Base with your unit

#### Scout Service

- **Contribute 25 hours of BSA organized (e.g., “in uniform”) service benefiting, the local community, the local BSA council or camp, or public lands (i.e., a National Forest or Park)**
- Serve as a chapter or lodge chairman or officer for a minimum of 6 months
- Participate as a ceremonial principal in a Pre-Ordeal, Ordeal, Brotherhood, or Vigil ceremony
- Serve on staff of a council camp or national BSA High Adventure Base
- Serve in a troop leadership position for a minimum of 6 months

#### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events

- **Contribute a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary related picture with the hashtag #OA100 or contribute to your lodge’s centennial history book**
- Attend your section’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event
- Attend your lodge’s sponsored 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event (This will be Spring Fellowship April 17-18, 2015)
- Attend an ArrowTour event
- Attend the 2015 NOAC

#### **Adult Arrowman Service Award (complete two from each category; items in bold are required)**

#### Personal Growth

- **Be or attain Brotherhood membership (if eligible)**
- Participate in or staff a BSA training course
- Attend a council long-term camp or a BSA High Adventure program as a unit leader or crew adviser
- Recruit a new or currently inactive Scouter to serve actively as a registered BSA volunteer

#### Scout Service

- **Contribute 25 hours of BSA organized (e.g., “in uniform”) service benefiting, the local community the local BSA council or camp, or public lands (i.e., a National Forest or Park)**
- Serve on staff of a council camp or National BSA High Adventure Base
- Support a youth chapter/lodge officer or chairman as an adviser or associate adviser for a minimum of 6 months
- Serve as an active Cub Scout, Boy Scout, or Venturing unit volunteer (including Unit Committee) for a minimum of 6 months
- Serve on a district/council committee or in a district/council role for a minimum of 6 months
- Provide a campership for at least 2 Scouts or Venturers to attend a council summer camp or BSA High Adventure program

#### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events

- **Contribute a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary related picture with the hashtag #OA100 or contribute to your lodge’s centennial history book**
- Attend your section’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event
- Attend your lodge’s sponsored 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event (This will be Spring Fellowship April 17-18, 2015)
- Attend an ArrowTour event
- Attend the 2015 NOAC

### Summer Camp

It’s not too soon to start planning for summer camp, especially with Fall popcorn sales almost over since that’s one way a lot of Scouts cover the cost of summer camp or day camp.

#### **Boy Scout Summer Camp Opportunities**

[http://www.cherokeebsa.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=125&Itemid=309](http://www.cherokeebsa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=125&Itemid=309)

**Boy Scouts who had \$900 in popcorn qualify to receive \$150 towards Boy Scout Summer Camp or High Adventure Base**

## Cub Scout Day Camp

Osage Hills District Day Camp will be held at Camp McClintock, June 9-12. Note that this is a week later than in the past.

Grand Lake District Day Camp will be held June 17-19. The location will be announced at a later date.

**Cub Scouts who had \$400 in popcorn sales qualify for FREE day camp.**

## Friends of Scouting

---

Need a program item for your upcoming Blue & Gold or Court of Honor?

The Family Friends of Scouting team would be happy to visit your Blue & Gold or Court of Honor to make a Friends of Scouting presentation.

Call your District Executive or unit commissioner to get your Blue & Gold or Court of Honor on the calendar for an FOS presentation.

## Boy Scout Essay Contest

---

**Who:** All currently registered or former Boy Scouts, ages of 14 through 19.

**What:** Answer one short essay question on the ideas of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence (maximum 800 words).

*Abraham Lincoln described the [Declaration of Independence](#) as an "apple of gold" and the [Constitution](#) as the "frame of silver" which encases it. For Lincoln, the Declaration asserts the moral and philosophical standard which the Constitution aims to implement.*

*In your analysis, to what extent does the Declaration assert a moral or philosophical vision for America? Explain the principles that constitute that vision. In your explanation, root each principle in a specific passage of the Declaration.*

**Deadline:** January 30, 2015

**Win:** Grand Prize - \$1,000 for one Scout and \$500 for unit. Two Honorable Mentions - \$500 and \$250 for their units

**Apply Online:**

<http://billofrightsinstitute.org/boyscouts>

**Contact:** [lripp@billofrightsinstitute.org](mailto:lripp@billofrightsinstitute.org)

## Greetings From Philmont Scout Ranch!

---

Are you or someone you know interested in a **2016 High Adventure** experience?

On **October 29th, 2014** the registration entry period for **2016 Philmont 12-day** and **7-day expeditions** begins. This short period lasts only through **November 19th, 2014**.

**Who Can Register?** - Each unit (Troop, Venturing Crew, Varsity Team, Post or Ship) is entitled to register for one 2016 reservation entry. Representatives responsible for multiple units may register each of these units using the online reservation entry system. The minimum reservation size is one crew of 7 people. Individual unit reservations may include multiple crews but never more than 12 people per crew.

**Reservation Requirements** - View the complete summary of 2016 reservation requirements and opportunities by clicking the link below.

[www.philmontscoutranch.org/reserve](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/reserve)

**New in 2016** - Units may attend Philmont Scout Ranch in consecutive seasons. In other words, if you have a confirmed 2015 reservation, you may be considered for a 2016 reservation as well.



## Nine tips for preventing troop trailer theft



Imagine this: Your troop is ready to depart for a big campout. All the Scouts and adult volunteers have arrived at the church on time, and the weather is perfect.

But something's missing: your troop trailer.

Oh, and hundreds or even thousands of dollars in gear inside.

That nightmare scenario turned into a reality for North Ridgeville, Ohio, Troop 153 when its trailer and gear were stolen this month. Thankfully, a local company agreed to pay for the nearly \$3,000 in supplies lost in that theft.

But your troop may not be so lucky. That's why you should take steps now to safeguard your unit's trailer and its contents.

Acts of theft don't get much lower than stealing from a Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, Varsity team, or Venturing crew. But it happens all the time.

Here are some ways to ward off potential thieves:

- **Purchase a wheel lock.** Phillip Moore, insurance and risk management specialist at the national BSA headquarters, recommends checking with a boat dealership to buy a device like the ones police officers use on illegally parked cars. "The wheel lock is a visible deterrent and does not allow the trailer to be moved," Moore says.
- **Block the doors.** Moore also suggests parking your trailer so that its rear doors butt up against a wall or some other permanent structure. Combining that with a wheel lock will make it much tougher for a thief, he says.

- **Don't store any gear inside.** It may not be practical for all troops, but some units keep all of its gear at a separate location. If thieves discover the trailer is empty, they may leave it alone.
- **Paint the top of your trailer with large identifying information.** This way if it is stolen it can be identified from the air.
- **Think before you park.** Rather than parking the trailer in a church lot that's empty most nights, many Scouters park their trailers at the home of an adult leader.
- **Make friends in high places.** If you don't want to or can't park at a Scouter's home or at your meeting site, ask your local police department if they'll let you store your trailer there.
- **Get insured.** Insure your trailer and its contents from theft or damage. It might be money well spent.
- **Go incognito.** A cool design for your trailer can be an important recruiting tool and instill a sense of pride for your troop. But those markings also might make it a target.
- **Lock it down.** You can never have too many locks. One Scouter reports, "When we built our troop shed and pad behind our charter organization, a heavy chain was cemented into the foundation. So, besides being locked to the pad, the trailer doors are secured with heavy duty discus locks and the hitch with a coupler lock."

Of course, there's one more way to make sure your trailer isn't stolen. Don't use a trailer - issue resolved!

## Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators

**Florida Sea Base, January 11-17**

The Conference on Education for Advancement Administrators, or CEAA for short, has established a well-deserved reputation for being a premier learning

experience and workshop for council and district advancement-oriented volunteers and professionals. The CEAA will be held at the Florida Sea Base this winter, and there is still time to sign up. Here is a sample of what you will experience during your week in the sunny Florida Keys, January 11-17.



First, you will have an opportunity to assist the National Advancement Committee in the development of educational materials and other resources that will be used across the country. Many of the PowerPoint education tools posted at [www.scouting.org/advancement](http://www.scouting.org/advancement) are the result of previous CEAA conferences.

This year's conference participants will view and discuss these existing materials and will be given the opportunity to make recommendations for additional tools to be developed for the future. Several members of the National Advancement Committee and its advisory panel will be on hand, along with representatives of the National Disabilities Awareness committee, to hear your ideas.

Better yet, you will be able to "road test" some of tools that were begun at last year's CEAA. Those in final development stages include "Effective Cub Scout Advancement," "Conducting Effective Eagle Boards of Review," and "Building and Sustaining High Performing Advancement Committees."

This year's conference will also provide participants an expanded list of interesting breakout opportunities dealing with topics such as Cub Scout issues, merit badge management, Eagle issues, increasing advancement, disabilities awareness, and advancement literature updates. Participants will have the opportunity to choose the areas of interest in which they want to spend some quality breakout time.

Wednesday will have an optional morning activity, but the afternoon will be time off for participants to relax and explore the Keys. In addition, a spouse program is being planned that includes snorkeling, kayaking, glass bottom boat tours, sunset cruises, and much more. Regrettably, there are no facilities or provisions for children at the Sea Base.

Do not miss your chance to visit the Florida Keys in January where you will have opportunity to engage in some amazing Scouting and advancement activities, and camaraderie.

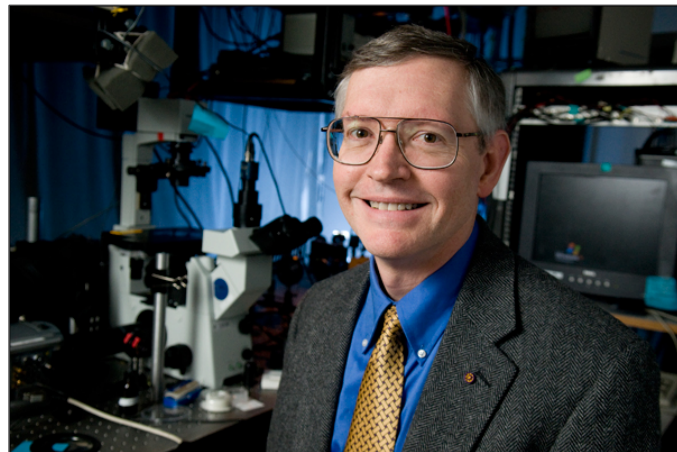
Registration is available here

<http://reservations.scouting.org/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x34182ffba>

## Eagle Scout William E. Moerner Shares Nobel Prize in Chemistry

by Patrice Eulin

The Boy Scouts of America congratulates Eagle Scout William E. Moerner, 2014 Nobel Prize in chemistry laureate for his role in developing microscopy techniques.



*Stanford chemistry professor W.E. Moerner was awarded the 2014 Nobel Prize in chemistry. (Linda A. Cicero/Stanford News Service)*



*Nobel Prize for chemistry (Nobel Prize)*

Moerner shares the \$1.1-million Nobel Prize in chemistry with Eric Betzig of Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Stefan W. Hell of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Germany. His research is praised for making it possible for researchers “to view the toxic protein accumulations in brain cells of patients with deadly Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s diseases.” Because of his work, researchers “can also study how biomolecules—such as DNA and enzymes—work in cells to carry out the processes that are critical to life.”

Moerner is the Harry S. Mosher Professor of Chemistry at Stanford University in California. His areas of research include chemical physics, single-molecule biophysics, super-resolution imaging, and nanoparticle trapping. He received his B.S. degrees in physics and electrical engineering and his A.B. degree in mathematics in 1975, all with honors from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He went on to receive his M.A. and Ph.D. from Cornell University, in Ithaca, New York, in 1978 and 1982.

Moerner now joins an elite group of chemists who have received chemistry’s highest honor. According to the Nobel Prize website, “chemistry was the most important science for Alfred Nobel’s own work. The development of his inventions as well as the industrial processes he employed were based upon chemical knowledge.” The Nobel Prize in chemistry, the second prize Nobel mentioned in his will, has been awarded 106 times since 1901.

## BSA's Advanced Leadership Training Announced

The BSA's most advanced youth and adult leadership training programs will be expanded this year to include all the high adventure bases.

In 2015, there will be seven National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) sessions at Philmont, two sessions at Northern Tier, two sessions at Sea Base and two sessions at the Summit Bechtel Reserve.

Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC) will be a 2015 fall course at Philmont and a new Summit Leadership Challenge (SLC) will be held in July 2015 at the Summit. It should be noted that Sea Base courses are held during the spring, providing alternate options for those whose summers are busy.

The purpose of these advanced training courses is to experience a hands on learning environment to apply and internalize the skills learned at National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and Wood Badge. This is the most advanced leadership training courses offered for Scouts and Scouters and will prove valuable not only in Scouting, but at school, work and other volunteer duties requiring best practice team leadership. And it is held at some of the most spectacular locations in the nation!

These courses usually fill up quickly so check them out soon. You can learn more by visiting the websites at:

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE):

<http://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2014/09/25/nayle/>

Philmont Leadership Challenge (PLC):

<http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC/~link.aspx?id=680DFF74D10240B4A45A3D435ADE8C76&z=z>

Summit Leadership Challenge (SLC):

<http://summitbsa.org/programs/training/scouting-development/summit-leadership-challenge/>

Or contact Dale or Donna Copeland at

[Dale@CopelandAppliance.com](mailto:Dale@CopelandAppliance.com),

[Donna@CopelandAppliance.com](mailto:Donna@CopelandAppliance.com) or (918) 333-4488 (work).

## Online Leadership Tools, Retooled

(Excerpted from Scouting November-December 2014)

“We wanted to do more than just replace the old system. We wanted to give leaders and volunteers the tools they need to do their jobs better and make it less time-consuming” says Alma Redmon, BSA change management specialist.

And that’s just what leaders and volunteers are seeing as they access the new tools at [my.Scouting.org](http://my.Scouting.org), which greatly simplify many tasks.

The *my.ScoutingTools* dashboard allows leaders to truly manage their units online. In addition, any registered leader can update his or her profile information, including changes in education, employer, civic and professional associations, etc., and view his or her personal training history.

Contact [myscouting@scouting.org](mailto:myscouting@scouting.org) with questions and feedback.

## How your Scouts can take the SCOUTStrong challenge

By Mark Ray

**ACCORDING TO THE U.S.** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 17 percent of American kids and 35 percent of American adults are obese, putting them at increased risk for heart disease, diabetes and a host of other health problems. The main causes, of course, are too little exercise and too much food. Studies show only a third of kids are physically active each day, while a fourth of young kids eats fast food daily. The BSA is helping to fight the obesity epidemic with the SCOUTStrong PALA Challenge.

**WHAT IS THE SCOUTSTRONG PALA CHALLENGE?** The Presidential Active Lifestyle Award is a program of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition. The SCOUTStrong PALA Challenge is a Scouting-specific version of the award.

**WHAT IS THE PROGRAM’S GOAL?** To motivate

participants to be physically active on a regular basis by encouraging them to participate in activities they enjoy, while also improving their eating habits.

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?** The SCOUTStrong PALA Challenge is open to Scouts and Scout leaders of all ages, as well as parents, siblings, BSA alumni and friends of Scouting.

**WHAT IS THE ACTIVITY REQUIREMENT?** For at least five days a week during a six-week period, participants must meet an activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for kids from 6 to 17 years of age. Participants can take up to eight weeks to complete the program, allowing them a margin for error if they fall short once or twice.



**WHAT ACTIVITIES COUNT?** Participants can count more than 100 indoor and outdoor activities, including walking, gardening, canoeing, water aerobics and more. The key is to engage major muscle groups at a moderate to vigorous activity level. Activities do not have to be Scouting-related.

**DO THE ACTIVITIES HAVE TO BE DONE CONTINUOUSLY?** No. A Scout could count the 15 minutes he walks to school, a half-hour recess and the 15 minutes he walks home.

**WHAT IS THE NUTRITION REQUIREMENT?** Participants choose a healthy eating goal to focus on each week, such as eating smaller portions or drinking water instead of sugary drinks. They add a new goal each week.

**HOW CAN I TRACK MY PROGRESS?** The program relies on self-reporting. There are two options: You can download a paper activity log, or you can use the free online activity tracker. (Scouts should get their parent’s permission before going online.) The online option lets you create a group and see how your

performance stacks up against other people in your group.

**HOW DO I GET STARTED?** Visit the SCOUTStrong PALA website at [scouting.org/SCOUTStrongPALA](http://scouting.org/SCOUTStrongPALA), choose your state and council, and then click “Start your PALA Challenge!”

## Make it Official - Report Service Hours

---

If your pack, troop, team or crew completes a service project, be sure to register the activity in the **BSA’s Journey to Excellence** dashboard.

Council, district, unit or individual Lone Scout projects can be recorded here. Plus, you can view other registered activities to find additional project ideas. Find the online registration at

<https://servicehours.scouting.org/UI/Security/Login.aspx>

Service hours to be recorded can include hours provided by individuals – Boy Scouts for rank advancement, for example – or by Packs, Troops, Crews, or Posts. Services hours done by Eagle Scouts for their Eagle Scout project should also be recorded.

Units can create individual accounts to record service hours. You will need a unit ID number to make sure the unit hours are recorded for your unit. The Scout office can provide you with your unit ID number.

If you have questions about recording service hours online, see New User Instructions here <https://servicehours.scouting.org/includes/files/popHelp.htm>

## Upcoming Key Dates

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

### **NOVEMBER**

- 8 – Electronics Merit Badge – Vinita
- 8-9 – Advanced Climbing Instructor Training – Natural Site
- 13 - Osage Hills District Eagle Boards of Review
- 13 – Grand Lake District Roundtable
- 13 – Grand Lake District Order of the Arrow Chapter meeting
- 14-15 – Order of the Arrow Vigil Weekend
- 15 – District Award of Merit nominations due in Scout office
- 22 – NYLT Staff Interviews, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Scout Service Center
- 26 – Scout office closes at Noon for Thanksgiving holiday
- 27-28 – Scout office closed for Thanksgiving

### **DECEMBER**

- 3 – Unit popcorn money due at the Scout office
- 4 – Osage Hills District Unit Commissioners
- 4 – Osage Hills District Roundtable
- 4 – Osage Hills District Order of the Arrow Chapter meeting
- 6 – NYLT Staff Interviews, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Scout Service Center
- 6 – Incredible Pizza \$1000 Party

- 11 - Osage Hills District Eagle Boards of Review
- 11 – Grand Lake District Roundtable
- 11 – Grand Lake District Order of the Arrow Chapter meeting
- 24 – Scout office closes at Noon
- 25-26 - Scout office closed
- 29-31 – Scout **SHOP** closed for inventory; Scout office open

### **JANUARY**

- 1 – Scout office closed
- 2 – Scout **SHOP** closed for inventory; Scout office open
- 2-3 – Order of the Arrow Lodge Leadership Development
- 3 - Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet
- 8 – Osage Hills District Banquet
- 8 – Grand Lake District Banquet
- 10 – Osage Hills District Pinewood Derby
- 17 – Scouting for Food flyer distribution
- 24 – Scouting for Food pickup
- 31 – Wilderness First Aid

### **FEBRUARY**

- 1 – Wilderness First Aid
- 7 – Scouting University
- 26 – Friends of Scouting Patron Dinner
- 28 – Winter Merit Badge Festival