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Cherokee Scouter

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 Boy Scouts of America*

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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:



- Nick Copeland – Troop 2000 (Changing room restoration)
- Parker Acree – Troop 1 (Repainting, Relining and Renumbering FCC Parking Lot)
- Landon King – Troop 5 (Pathfinder Kiosk)
- Austin Davis – Troop 3 (Commemorative Garden at First Presbyterian Church)
- Zachary Goforth – Troop 55 (Project Flagpole)

Electronics Merit Badge

Siemens is once again sponsoring an Electronics merit badge seminar. **This session will be held in Bartlesville at the Scout Service Center on Saturday, October 3. The seminar will start at 9 AM and end at 4 PM.**

There will also be a session in Miami at the Masonic Lodge on October 31 from 9 AM to 4 PM.



All requirements for the Electronics merit badge will be completed. Learn about transistors, resistors, schematics, LEDs, capacitors, soldering, control circuits, and printed circuit boards.

Class size is limited to 25 Scouts, so sign up today! Register for either session by contacting the Scout

Service Center to register 918-336-9170 or 888-269-1328 or registrar@cherokeebesa.org

Grand Lake District Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leaders Roundtable

**Thursday October 8th at 7:00pm
Northeast Technology Center, Afton OK**

Roundtable is your chance to discuss with other leaders and get new ideas for exciting program for your Scouts.

We will also offer the online trainings for those who would like to complete their training.

Recharter time: As the new year approaches, we take time to update our rosters of each Pack, Troop, Team and Crew. This is the “Recharter” process.

We will have the packet of information available for your group at October’s Roundtable, and walk you step by step through the process.

Grand Lake District FUN-o-Ree

Date and Time: Saturday October 10th - 10:00am-3:00pm

Location: Peoria Pow Wow Grounds – Miami, OK (Located 2 ½ miles East of Industrial Parkway on East 90th Road)

The Fun-O-Ree is our chance to show the newly recruited and the current Scouts the fun and excitement that the outdoor program of Scouting has to offer. We will have BB’s, archery, zip lines, games, rockets and so much more.

Bring your Scouts for all or just part of the day. Help us add to the excitement and plan on bringing an activity that your Pack or Troop can host. The more fun the better!

Osage Hills District Cub Scout Fall Festival

Date: October 10-11

Location: Camp McClintock

Chairperson: Charlie Lewis

Come one, come all to the Cub Scout Festival in the Fall!

Bartlesville area Boy Scouts will be hosting a fun filled evening for friends and families who may be interested in becoming involved with Scouts or just coming out for a fun evening on October 10.

This event will be held at historic Camp McClintock. During the day, starting at 2:00 PM, there will be archery, BB shooting, games, and several other activities. At night - when the real fun begins – there will be a bonfire and chilidog dinner. Then the costumes go on and the carnival-based games begin with prizes, a family costume contest, a hayride, and an enchanted forest.

This is a fun filled family event that will prepare the family for the Halloween season. Costumes are encouraged as long as they are family appropriate.

All this FUN for only \$7.00 per person paid in advance or \$10 per person at the gate.

The first 75 youth signed up will receive the Fall Festival Patch. Sign up at the Scout office.

Calling ALL Cherokee Area Council Troops

The Fall 2015 Council Camporee will be held Oct 23-25 at Camp McClintock.

Program includes:

- **Patrol Challenge:** Inter-Patrol competition to test Scouting skills and crown a Council Champion. Skill based games/competitions include
 - First Aid
 - Knots and Lashing
 - Map and Compass
 - Fire building

- Additional details to follow
- **Camp wide events** include
 - Shooting Sports
 - Climbing Tower
 - GaGa Ball
- **Fellowship events** include
 - Campfire (s)
 - Flag ceremonies
 - Cracker Barrel
 - Movie Night
 - Scouts Own service

Stay tuned for more details on registration.

Order of the Arrow Unit Elections

Unit election forms need to be turned in to the Scout office prior to the Council Camporee on October 23-25.

Unit elections forms are available on the National OA web site <http://www.oa-bsa.org/uploads/resources/forms/electionform-2015.pdf>

Contact Brandon Cragun if your unit would like the OA to conduct your unit's elections.

Reporting Service Hours

As we near year-end and begin the recharter process, please remember all of the service work you've done during 2015, and remember to log it as you work through your unit's recharter and Journey to Excellence (JTE).

Recording service hours helps your unit, your district, and your council meet their respective JTE goals for the year.

If you need help recording service hours, please contact your unit commissioner.

Earlier Deadline for NESAs Scholarships

With an all-time high of \$645,000 in Eagle Scout scholarships awarded last year, NESAs's scholarship program keeps getting better and better.

This year will be no exception as the National Eagle Scout Association plans to increase the minimum value of scholarships to \$5,000 from \$1,000 and allow students at vocational trade schools to apply. Also new: Scholarship recipients will be required to give back to Scouting by volunteering.

There's one other big change, and NESAs needs your help communicating it to the Eagle Scouts in your life. Beginning this year, **applications are due by October 31** (rather than by December 31).

Scholarships are open to NESAs members through their junior year of college. Learn more and find application instructions at <http://nesa.org>

OA Fall Fellowship and Ordeal

This year's Fall Fellowship and Ordeal will be held at Camp McClintock November 6-8. Check-in begins at 7:00 PM in the dining hall.

Activities Friday night include:

- Elangomat orientation
- Pre-Ordeal ceremony
- Cracker Barrel

Planned activities on Saturday include:

- Vigil rededication at the Chapel at 6:30 AM
- Work projects in the morning
- Tribal Council & Lodge Elections in the dining hall at 1:00 PM
- New Members meeting and Brotherhood Class in the Cub Cabin at 2:00 PM

A new activity at this year's Fall Fellowship is screen-printing – be sure to bring a t-shirt to screen print. The ink will be red, so consider bringing a white t-shirt.

Activities Saturday night will include the Brotherhood Ceremony, Ordeal Ceremony, Elevations, and Vigil

Call-out. Saturday night's activities will conclude with popcorn and a movie.

Fall Fellowship will conclude on Sunday with a prayer service at the Chapel at 7:30 AM and camp cleanup.

Online registration is available here

<http://www.jotform.us/form/52646677081160>

2017 National Scout Jamboree

The 2017 National Scout Jamboree will be held at Summit Bechtel Reserve from July 19 to July 28, 2017. More information about Jamboree can be found here <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/overview/>



The Cherokee Area Council is forming a three-council contingent with the Cimarron Council, headquartered in Enid, and the Arbuckle Area Council, headquartered in Ardmore.

Cherokee Area Council is now accepting applications from adult volunteers who wish to be part of the three-council contingent. The application form can be found here

<http://www.cherokeesba.org/activities/2017%20CAC%20National%20Jamboree%20Adult%20Application.pdf>

Florida Sea Base — Advancement Treasure Hunt

Mechanics of Advancement: January 10-16, 2016

Ahoy, Scouters! Are you struggling with understanding how advancement should work, how to help youth succeed, or how to assist units to achieve proper and effective advancement? The answers to these golden questions—and so many others, such as “Does it snow in the Keys in the winter?”—are just waiting to be discovered at the Florida Sea Base Conference Center

this coming January.

The Mechanics of Advancement curriculum that will be presented January 10-16, is for all advancement personnel, but is particularly directed at those who are new to advancement or are in need of some refreshing. The goal of this conference-style course is to create an advancement environment in districts and councils that will increase their rates of advancement and retention through proper advancement administration.



Every significant aspect of advancement, from Cub Scouts to Sea Scouts, lies “buried” in the curriculum, which will be presented by members of the National Advancement Committee and National Advancement Advisory Panel, who can be expected to bring more “treasures” from their own experiences, as well as the very latest updates on advancement issues and trends.



So, what are you waiting for? Make plans now to attend this fun and exciting opportunity. Information about the conference center, which also will be offering a very exciting spouse program during the week of January 10-16, 2016, is available at www.bsaseabase.org/seabase.aspx. Don't miss this chance to dig for advancement treasures in the Florida Keys in January!

Boy Scout Rank Requirement Changes Begin January 1, 2016

With all the recent “buzz” about the new Cub Scout rank changes, some may have missed that at the beginning of

next year, Boy Scout rank requirements will also undergo changes.

What's Changing?

Scout Badge Becomes Scout Rank

Beginning January 1, 2016, Scout becomes a rank and is no longer considered just a “joining badge.” As with all other ranks, each requirement now must be completed as a member of a Boy Scout troop. The Scoutmaster or designated leader must sign off each individual requirement as the boy demonstrates his knowledge or skill. There is no board of review for Scout rank—the Scoutmaster conference is considered sufficient adult interaction at this introductory rank.

Service: The Scout Oath in Action

In keeping with the Scout Oath and “helping other people at all times,” service is now a requirement at each Boy Scout rank except for Scout rank – one hour at Tenderfoot, two hours at Second Class, and three hours at First Class. The total hours for Star and Life remain the same at six hours each. But half of the hours for Life rank must now be conservation-related, emphasizing the importance of stewardship of the earth.

Scout Spirit and Duty to God: It's a Monologue, Not a Dialogue

Scout spirit requirements are not meant to require a discussion or a two-way conversation about duty to God. The boy is simply to “tell” how he believes he has done his duty to God as defined by him and his family. The troop leader's role is to listen. The intent is for the Scout to have a self-reflection about belief and reverence, for expression by the Scout to his leader.

Physical Fitness: Developing Lifelong Habits

New requirements in Tenderfoot through First Class ranks are designed to encourage physical activity as a lifelong habit. Boys are challenged to set goals and work toward achieving them. This might include additional exercise or incorporating requirements for earning merit badges that encourage physical activity. Troop programs can make fitness activities a regular part of their program plan—which could lead to even higher goals, such as the SCOUTStrong® program or the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA).

Camping: Learning in the Great Outdoors

Although the number of troop or patrol activities remains the same (10 total for First Class), the number of campouts required has doubled – one for Tenderfoot, two more for Second Class, and three more for First Class – for a total of six campouts. This increase will help ensure that First Class Scouts have sufficient camping experience to have developed and improved upon the outdoor skills that Scouting promotes.

Navigation: Using Handheld GPS Units

Some navigation requirements allow the option of using a handheld GPS unit, GPS app on a smartphone, or other electronic navigation system. Map and compass requirements are still included as Scouts should “be prepared” for situations where electronic systems are not available. However, Scouting wants to train Scouts to use their resources, including electronic ones, safely and appropriately.

Program Updates Web Page

Watch the Program Updates web page for “Frequently Asked Questions” about the new Boy Scout requirements. Submit your own questions at advancement.team@scouting.org. The FAQs will be updated periodically as new questions arrive.

<http://www.Scouting.org/programupdates>

Merit Badges: Enhancing Our Youth’s Competitive Edge

Using the New Digital Merit Badge Pamphlets

New digital merit badge pamphlets promise to put advancement at a Scout’s fingertips with a mere keystroke. With innovation comes the concern that Scouts will lose the “hands on” experience that most merit badges offer. Since this new technology will soon become an option for some merit badges, we need to be aware of the guidelines for its use in order to better counsel our Scouts as they work on merit badges.

- The introduction of this new format will be gradual. Expect to see the Eagle-required merit badge pamphlets to appear first in digital format, accompanied by a few optional ones, such as Photography, Animation, and Robotics.
- Digitally formatted pamphlets will not replace the traditional ones, but will be available in addition to the printed copy currently sold at your local Scout service center or trading post. Merit badge pamphlets in both print and digital formats will be available through the BSA National Supply Group (www.scoutstuff.org).
- Digitally formatted pamphlets, while including all of the information found in the printed versions, will also incorporate videos, links to related websites, interactive activities, and many other subject matter-related enhancements not available in the standard merit badge pamphlet.
- All merit badge requirements are written—and will continue to be written—so they can be completed using only the material contained in the printed pamphlet. Any resource, link, or enhancement found in a digital pamphlet—or used in conjunction with a printed pamphlet, for that matter—should be considered “bonus” material, and as such, cannot be required viewing for any Scout. While the merit badge experience is enriched by offering these digital resources, counselors cannot add any additional requirements or “homework” because of its availability. Although most of our Scouts have moved into the digital-electronic era in school, not all Scouts have availability to “smart” phones and de- vices, or even access to the Internet, at home.

Which merit badges are currently available in digital format?

- Animation
- Communication
- Cooking
- Digital Technology
- Family Life
- First Aid
- Personal Fitness

- Robotics

The remaining Eagle-required merit badges are expected to be available later in 2015.

So click away. To find more information or order digital merit badges: www.scoutstuff.org/bsa/literature-media/interactive-digital.html.

Don't Miss Out on These Great Training Opportunities in 2016!

The Philmont Training Center schedule of conferences for next summer is available now at

www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC.aspx. Download a digital copy of the 2016 conference brochure now, or visit your local council service center for a copy.



(Hint: If you cannot get to the Mechanics of Advancement course at the Florida Sea Base in January, check out the PTC's schedule for the week of June 12-18!)

Upcoming Key Dates

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

OCTOBER

- 1 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 3 – Electronics Merit Badge @ Scout Service Center, Bartlesville
- 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
- 31 – Electronics Merit Badge in Miami

NOVEMBER

- 5 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 6 – Popcorn distributed to units
- 6-8 – 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
- 5 – \$1000 Popcorn Party at Incredible Pizza
- 7 – Popcorn money due at the Scout Office
- 10 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 10 – OH Eagle Boards of Review

JANUARY

- 7 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 8-9 – OA Lodge Leadership Development
- 9 – OA Winter Banquet
- 14 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 14 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 16-18 – Trappers Rendezvous
- 23 – Scouting for Food flyer distribution
- 30 – Scouting for Food pickup
- 30-31 – Wilderness First Aid

FEBRUARY

- 4 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 7 – Scout Sunday
- 11 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 11 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 20 – Winter Merit Badge Festival
- 25 – Friends of Scouting Patron Dinner
- 27 – Winter Merit Badge Festival (snow date)

MARCH

- 3 – OH Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 5 – OH Cub Scout Activity Day
- 10 – GL Roundtable & OA Chapter meeting
- 10 – OH Eagle Boards of Review
- 18-19 – OA Ordeal
- 24 – Council Banquet