

THE SCOUTING TRAIL

A resource for parents, Scout leaders, district committee members and commissioners.

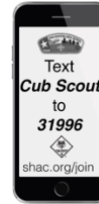


October 2020

samhoustonbsa.org
facebook.com/shac.bsa

Covid-19. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak many district and council meetings, activities, and events are canceled or postponed. For the latest information, visit shac.org/news.

Text to Join. Promote our new text to join feature in your pack marketing: Text Cub Scout to 31996. Parents will be encouraged to visit shac.org/join, a webpage that makes it easy to search for a pack by school district. We want to reach out to each potential Cub Scout and their family with a personal invitation to join a pack within our council, where they will learn positive values, new skills and have fun with friends. www.shac.org/recruiting



Popcorn Sales. Selling popcorn is a wonderful opportunity for units to earn funds to support their entire year of Scouting by selling gourmet popcorn. Traditional take-order sales run through **November 1**.

shac.org/popcorn Every Scout who sells at least one item online during **Cyber Weekends** will automatically be entered into a weekly drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift card! Oct 16-18 and Oct 30-Nov 1.



Scouting at Home. Scouts can sharpen their Scouting skills without leaving home. We have compiled a list of activities that Scouts of all ages can complete at home, advancement opportunities and online educational resources. Learn more at shac.org/scouting-at-home

Rank Advancement Update. See the latest updates about rank advancements and time extensions in the article posted at shac.org/news.

University of Scouting offers a variety of Scouting classes presented by some of the most experienced volunteers in the council. Whether you are a new leader or experienced... or simply an interested parent... there is something for you. Look for some exciting changes this year. **November 7**. shac.org/uos



BeAScout.org has a Google pin for every unit. Unit leaders: update your unit information to make it EASY for new Scouting families to find your unit at myscouting.org by looking under Unit Tools, selecting BeAScout, and then clicking on Unit Pin Management. Also, visit your district website and look under the unit tab. There is a link on the page to send corrections to the webmaster.



Pictures— help us promote Scouting. Share your Scouting memories with us by tagging us and sending them as a message to www.facebook.com/shac.bsa. Let parents know about our page. Like and Share our stories to help attract more people to our page. facebook.com/shac.bsa



September Unit Checklist

- Sell popcorn
- Leaders attend roundtable
- Sign up for University of Scouting
- Leaders update BeAScout.org pin
- Packs: Hold new parent meetings
- Packs: Submit all new Scout applications
- Troops: Sign up for winter camp / NYLT
- Crews: Attend Venturing Forum

The Scouting Trail is a monthly newsletter produced by volunteers that conveniently summarizes upcoming council events. This newsletter is a great resource to share with leaders and parents. Copies distributed at roundtable and the Scout Shops are made possible through the generosity of Friends of Scouting donors. shac.org/toolkit



October 2020

- 8 Sporting Clays Tournament
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 15 Council Coordinated
- 16-18 Popcorn Cyber Weekend #1
- 17 Merit Badge Days
- 17 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 24 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 30 Popcorn orders due (by 4:00 pm)
- 30-1 Popcorn Cyber Weekend #2
- 30-1 OA Fall PowWow
- TBD New Eagle Scout Reception

November 2020

- 7 University of Scouting
- 17 Council Recognition Reception
- 21 Popcorn distribution
- 21 Merit Badge Days
- 21 Cub Scout Adventure Camp

December 2020

- 3 Unit recharter turn-in #1
- 5 College of Commissioner Science
- 5 Cub Scout Adventure Camp
- 10 Unit recharter turn-in #2
- 26-31 Winter camp
- 26-31 National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

January 2021

- 9 Key Leaders Conference
- 16 Shooting Merit Badge Fulfillment Day
- 16 OA Banquet and LLD Training
- 18 Eagle Scout Project of the Year submission deadline
- 28 Scout Fair Kickoff
- 30 Scouting for Food (door hangar drop-off)

February 2021

- 6 Scouting for Food (food pick up)
- 6/7 Scout Sabbath / Scout Sunday
- 13 Shooting Merit Badge Fulfillment Day
- 19-21 Venturing Challenge
- 26 Baden Powell Dinner

March 2021

- 4 Scout Fair coupon book, 5% bonus deadline
- 18 Scout Fair coupon book, 3% bonus deadline
- 20 University of Scouting



instagram.com/samhoustonbsa



pinterest.com/samhoustonbsa



flickr.com/samhoustonbsa



fb.com/shac.bsa



youtube.com/samhoustonbsa

Cub Scouts

Rocket Days. Boys and girls in kindergarten through fifth grade who join Cub Scouts will receive a rocket that they can design, build, and launch at a fall event. shac.org/rockets

Adventure Camps will be a half-day event at Bovay Scout. Cub Scouts (accompanied by a parent or guardian) can participate in an exciting variety of activities such as archery, BB guns, fishing, and sports (or a hike). www.shac.org/adventure-camp

Fall Recruiting is the time to focus on recruiting new families to the fun and adventure of Cub Scouting. The council will provide support materials to your pack to ensure your for fall recruiting success. Ask someone to join Cub Scouting today! shac.org/recruiting

Cub Scout Planning - Take some time now to plan your den and pack meetings for the coming year. A common element of strong units is they all have a good annual program planned a year in advance. shac.org/leader-resources



Training

Leader Training. Every Scout deserves a trained leader. SHAC offers  a wide variety of training courses for all levels of leaders in all Scouting programs. shac.org/training-schedule



Scouts BSA

Merit Badge Days are an opportunity for Scouts in troops to participate in merit badge classes held at the new Camp Strake. shac.org/merit-badge-days.

Winter Camp is held between Christmas and New Years and is a wonderful opportunity for Troops to camp and for Scouts to earn merit badges. Merit badge classes are taught by Scouters with actual real-life experiences in the field. shac.org/winter-camp

NYLT or National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed six-day council-level program designed to provide Scouts BSA and Venturers who are 13 years and older with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home units and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. shac.org/nylt

Camp Strake is a first-class and state-of-the-art facility for Scouts and leaders. Registration for summer 2021 opens soon. Activities will include shooting sports, Wild Hex, ziplining, climbing, repelling, COPE and more. shac.org/summer-camp.

Order of the Arrow. Fall PowWow is an event for Order of the Arrow members. It is a combination of activities such as exciting games, sports, ceremony and dance classes, regalia building activities, competitions, pow wows, shows and more for three days of non-stop fun, food, fellowship and celebration. **October 31-November 1.**

oa.shac.org/fall-pow-wow. **OA Unit Elections:** To become a member of the Order of the Arrow, a Scout is chosen by a vote of the youth in his unit. Elections must be



Adventures for Older Scouts

Venturing is a youth development program for young men and women 14 years of age through 20 years old. Venturing provides positive experiences to help young people mature and become responsible and caring adults. venturing.shac.org

Sea Scouts is a specialized program that focuses on water high adventure and personal development. Fleet meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month. sea-scouts.shac.org

Exploring is program that provides experiences to help youth mature and prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. exploring.shac.org

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conducted by the OA chapter election team. oa.shac.org/elections