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The Scouter - February 2014  
The official e-newsletter of the Blue Ridge Council

[View the 2013 Blue Ridge Council Annual Report Here.](#)

**Greetings!**

This is the February issue of the Blue Ridge Council e-newsletter, "The Scouter." In it you will find information about upcoming events and other things relating to Scouting in the Upstate of South Carolina.

If you do not wish to receive further emails regarding Scouting in the Blue Ridge Council, please use the safe unsubscribe link at the bottom of this email.

**A Great Night at the OA Winter Banquet**

On Saturday, February 1, the Atta Kulla Kulla Chapter of the Order of the Arrow hosted their annual Winter Banquet. During this great event many active OA members were honored for their selfless service. Pictured to the right are the newly elected officers for 2014.



**Scout Night with the Greenville Road Warriors**

The 2014 Scout Night with the Greenville Road Warriors is February 15th! We are looking forward to another fun night of fellowship and hockey among the Blue Ridge Council Scouts and volunteers. We hope that you will make plans to attend and help us beat last year's attendance record!

**Mark your calendars for Scout Night with the Greenville Road Warriors for February 15, 2014!**



**DUE TO THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST, WE HAVE EXTENDED THE SALE! SEE THE [FLYER HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CONTACT THE ROAD WARRIORS AT 250-4804 OR**

[stacey.wise@greenvilleroadwarriors.com](mailto:stacey.wise@greenvilleroadwarriors.com) **TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

**One Scout at a time, Your gift will make a difference**

**Calendar**

Download the 2013-2014 Blue Ridge Council Calendar by [clicking here.](#)

**February**

- 1 - OA Winter Banquet
- 1 - Scouting for Food
- 2- Scout Sunday
- 3 - Commissioner Meeting
- 4 - District Chairman Meeting
- 5 - Scout Anniversary
- 6 - Council Banquet
- 8 - Scout Sabboth
- 8 - COI Staff Interviews
- 8 - Scouting for Food Concludes
- 13 - Executive Board Meeting
- 15 - Trainer's Edge
- 15-16 - Camps Closed
- 17 - Council Service Center & Camps Closed in recognition of President's Day

**District News**

Did you know that your district has its own news page? Click your district link below to see news and events specific to you.

- [Foothills](#)
- [Long Cane](#)
- [Oconee](#)
- [Pickens](#)

Your investment in scouting is more important now than ever! We have continued to see a significant reduction in funding from the Greenville United Way to the extent that United Way funding now accounts for only 6% of our annual operating budget.

The youth of the Blue Ridge Council are counting on and need your continued support! **Please call the Council Service Center at 864-233-8363 today to make your 2014 Friends of Scouting gift!**



## Merit Badge University



This year's Merit Badge University was a huge success, and we want to congratulate all the Scouts who made it through the course and thank all of the volunteers who made it possible! This year we had over 50 Merit Badges offered and more than 700 Scouts attend at locations all around the Upstate. We hope to see all of you out again next year to make 2015 our biggest year yet!

## 2014 Patron Dinner - March 6, 2014



THE BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL and BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA are pleased to announce that FRED FESTA, Chairman and CEO of W.R. Grace & Company and owner of the Greenville Road Warriors will be our honoree and key note speaker of the 2014 Patron Dinner.

Make plans to honor Mr. Festa by attending this event and supporting the Boy Scouts of America! Proceeds from this event will benefit nearly 11,500 scouts and 4,000 volunteers in the Blue Ridge Council.

TITLE SPONSOR:

**Kathryn Williams, Attorney at Law**  
**Attorney Kathryn Williams & Attorney Tom Ervin**

PRESENTING SPONSORS:



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**The Palmetto Bank**

For sponsorship information and to reserve your seat please click [here](#).

## Popcorn News

[Reedy Falls](#)  
[Saluda River](#)  
[Six & Twenty](#)  
[Southbounder](#)

### Quick Links

[Blue Ridge Council Scouting.org](#)  
[Scout Parents](#)  
[Boys Life Magazine](#)  
[Sea Scouts](#)  
[Scouting Magazine](#)  
[BSA Field Book](#)  
[Philmont](#)  
[Northern Tier](#)  
[Sea Base](#)  
[Good Turn For America](#)  
[BSA Museum](#)  
[Scouting Friends](#)  
[Hispanic Initiatives](#)  
[Be A Scout](#)



If you would like to advertise your company on the Blue Ridge Council Newsletter or Website, please contact Grayson Kelly at (864) 233-8363 or [grayson.kelly@scouting.org](mailto:grayson.kelly@scouting.org)

Greenville Scout Shop

Phone: 288-1560  
 Fax: 288-1614

Monday - Friday  
 8:30am - 6:00pm

Saturday  
 10:00am - 2:00pm

### Round Table

All Leaders are invited to attend their Districts monthly Round Table





**- Clemson Day has been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014!**

\*All youth who qualify and have registered with the Blue Ridge Council to participate in Clemson Day have been sent a letter with all details of Clemson Day. **This year, scouts who sold \$600 or more of popcorn in the 2013 Sale will have the opportunity to participate in the sports clinic with coaches and players from the Clemson Soccer Team, Football Team and Golf Team!**

If you have any questions regarding Clemson Day, please contact Robin Mullinax with the Blue Ridge Council at [robin.mullinax@scouting.org](mailto:robin.mullinax@scouting.org)

**- Carolina Day has also been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, 2014!**

\*All youth who qualify and have registered with the Blue Ridge Council to participate in Carolina Day should have received an email with all details during the 2014 Carolina Day. If you have any questions regarding Carolina Day, please contact Grace Thompson with the Indian Waters Council at [gthompson@bsamail.org](mailto:gthompson@bsamail.org)



## Scout Shop News



**Mark your calendars - the Greenville Scout Shop is celebrating the Birthday of the Scouting program!**

**Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
10:00am until 2:00pm**

**Come out and join the Fun, Fellowship, Games and Refreshments**

**And, check out our new Festive Blue and Gold party supplies!**

**See you then!!!**

## Journey To Excellence

Journey to Excellence is the Boy Scouts Council Recognition program. It is designed to encourage and reward success and measure the performance of our units, districts and councils. **We are proud to announce that the Blue Ridge Council achieved Silver Level JTE Status for 2013!**

Please visit the [National JTE website](#) to see what you are already doing, and what you need to be doing to qualify as a Gold level Unit.

To log your service hours [Click Here](#)

## Commissioner's Corner





Congratulations to two Commissioners for being the first in the Blue Ridge Council to earn the new Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service. Jim Ballard, Assistant Council Commissioner for Training and District Commissioner for Reedy Falls earned his the first of December. Michael Peeler, Assistant Council Commissioner for Roundtables and Assistant District Commissioner for Foothills earned his the first of January.

Want to know what they did to earn this knot? Check out the new pages on the Commissioners Corner page on the Blue Ridge Council web site. There you will find a Council Commissioner's Cabinet Roster, listings of awards earned by Commissioners, a calendar of Commissioner activities, links to Commissioner training events, as well as links to numerous documents used in Commissioner service.

On February 3rd we held Commissioner Basic Training for Blue Ridge Council Commissioners. Jim Ballard taught the Unit Commissioner Basic Training with nine participants. Michael Peeler taught Roundtable Commissioner Basic Training for five participants. I taught District Commissioner/Assistant District Commissioner Basic Training to five participants. An excellent turnout for our training event. A Commissioner is considered trained and eligible to wear the Trained emblem upon completion of Commissioner Basic Training and the online trainings in Youth Protection, This Is Scouting, Unit Commissioner Fast Start, and Unit Visit Tracking System (UVTS). Congratulations to the 19 newly trained Commissioners.

Dr. James H. Blake  
Council Commissioner  
[jblake@clemsun.edu](mailto:jblake@clemsun.edu)

## Sign up for the 2014 Camp Card Sale!

FRONT			BACK				
<p><b>\$5 OFF</b> Your Purchase of \$50 or more One time use only. Please present to cashier. LID# 1254 Issue 12/10/14 Expires 6/30/14</p>	<p><b>\$10 OFF</b> Your next \$50 Purchase Limit one coupon per transaction. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. Coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. Not redeemable for cash. Offer issue: 12/10/14</p>	<p><b>\$10 OFF</b> Signature Service Oil Change Not valid with other discounts or offers. One-time use only. Expires: 12/31/14. Code (BSA10)</p>	<p><b>\$10 OFF</b> Signature Service Oil Change Limit one coupon per transaction. Not valid with any other coupon or discount. One-time use only. Expires: 12/31/14. Code (BSA10)</p>	<p><b>\$5 OFF</b> Your Purchase of \$50 or more LID# 1254 One time use only. Limit one coupon per shopping per day. Excludes alcohol, tobacco, tires, auto maintenance, postage items, gift cards, fuel and prescriptions. Customer responsible for applicable state, federal and local taxes. 2014 © The Scout Store, LLC 2014 © The Scout Store, LLC All rights reserved. South Carolina and Missouri.</p>	<p><b>10% OFF \$50</b> on more purchase Expires 6/30/14 Not valid on gift certificates or on non-transferable items. Redeemable at participating locations. Expires 6/30/14</p>	<p><b>Buy One Get One FREE</b> Sausage Biscuit or 12" all-entire purchase. Expires 6/30/14</p>	<p><b>1 Free Fountain Drink</b> at Camp Old before Trading Post Good Jun/Jul 2014</p>
<p><b>SONIC</b> Buy one Sonic Burger. Get one of equal or lesser value FREE. Offer good at participating locations in the South. Other expires: 12/31/14 Offer expires: 12/31/14</p>	<p><b>Sport Clips</b> <b>\$5 OFF</b> on MVP haircut. Offer good at participating locations in the South. Other expires: 12/31/14 Coupon Code: 2274</p>	<p><b>PIZZA</b> Buy a large pizza at regular menu price and receive a medium dessert pizza at no cost. Valid at participating locations. Expires: 12/31/14</p>	<p><b>Blue Ridge Council</b> Boy Scouts of America (864) 233-8363 • <a href="http://www.blueridgecouncil.org">www.blueridgecouncil.org</a> Expires 12/31/14</p>				

Sign up today for the 2014 Blue Ridge Council Camp Card Sale! Each card sold, the selling scout will receive \$2.50 in commission to be used towards summer camp!

To register for the camp card sale, [click here](#).

## Author, Alvin Townley to visit Blue Ridge Council Service Center

Best-selling author **Alvin Townley** risked everything on a dream when he embarked on an odyssey to discover stories of leadership, service, and adventure with a higher purpose. His travels have taken him around the world and led to his nationally-acclaimed books, *Legacy of Honor*, *Spirit of Adventure*, and *Fly Navy*. His newest book, *Defiant* will inspire anyone wondering how courage, faith, and brotherhood can endure even the darkest of situations.



Since the *Legacy of Honor's* publication, Alvin has traveled coast-to-coast speaking to thousands about Scouting, character, and leadership. In researching his second book, *Spirit of Adventure*, he circled the world - diving in Australia, surfing in Hawaii, rock climbing in Nevada, working with Peace Corps volunteers in Africa, and cruising aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz.

An Eagle Scout himself, Alvin graduated from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, interned with the U.S. House of Representatives, served on the executive staff of an 85,000-person international consulting firm, and coached high school track and field. His presentations have inspired thousands of people in more than seventy cities across North America. He lives in his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia.

**PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO VISIT WITH ALVIN ON FEBRUARY 28th AT THE**

**BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER FOR A BISCUIT DROP-IN AT 8:30am.**

**Blue Ridge Council set to participate in Voice of the Scout**

As part of a national Boy Scout of America program, the Blue Ridge Council is excited to announce their participation in the Voice of the Scout. With over four million members, this program is being adopted as a key way to collect experiences and deliver upon the expectation of members as they participate in Scouting.

**Look for an email from the Boy Scouts of America in your inboxes!**

Beginning mid-March, parents, Scouts & Venturers over 14, volunteers and chartered organizations will begin seeing surveys delivered into their email inboxes for Voice of the Scout. The surveys have been designed to be very brief but will give needed insight into the variety of experiences at the unit and district within our council.

Surveys will stay open for three weeks, then information will be referenced for making key decisions to drive Scouting forward, as guided by the people that matter most- our members. It will be a continuous program, in that we will launch these surveys twice per year, with no household receiving more than one survey every six months.

Due to the sheer volume of surveys in this program, we must deliver via email to effectively and efficiently collect opinions. To make the most of this program we will begin asking for email updates regularly, so please make sure we have your most recent email by contacting Traci Bridwell at [traci.bridwell@scouting.org](mailto:traci.bridwell@scouting.org).

Voice of the Scout is how we will help guide our decision-making for our future programs and operational delivery. Please take a few minutes of your time to participate!

**2014 NYLT, June 8 - 13**

National youth Leadership Training is a six-day experience conducted by the Blue Ridge council to provide each Scout with a meaningful Scouting experience that will enhance his/her knowledge and create a deeper understanding of his/her role and responsibilities as a leader.

NYLT integrates the best of modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of the Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussions, and audiovisual support, NYLT participants engage in a unified approach to leadership that gives the skill and confidence to lead well.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

**National Jamboree Duffle Bags for Sale!**

**ONLY 10 ARE AVAILABLE! GET THEM WHILE THEY LAST!!!**

**The Blue Ridge Council has a limited number of 2013 National Jamboree Duffle Bags for sale at \$50 a piece! Limited to while supplies last! If you're interested in purchasing one of these bags please stop by the Council Service Center or contact our receptionist at 864-233-8363 or [kay.borkowski@scouting.org](mailto:kay.borkowski@scouting.org)**

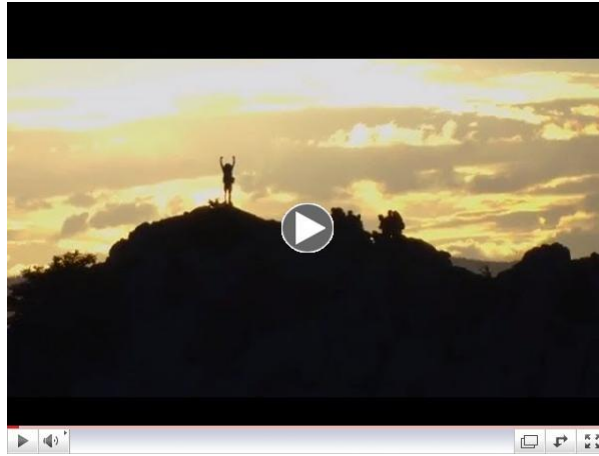


**Philmont 2015 Unit Registration**

If your unit would like to travel to Philmont Scout Ranch in 2015 outside of the Blue Ridge Council contingent in 2014, you can find more information by following this link: <http://philmontscoutranch.org/Camping/TrekPlanning/HowToReserve.aspx>



## Experience Philmont 2014



Philmont Scout Ranch Promo

Registration is now open for the Blue Ridge Council 2014 Philmont Trek!

This is the Scouting experience of a lifetime! Philmont is one of the National High Adventure bases of the Boy Scout's of America located in Cimarron, New Mexico. For more information on this trek taking place between June 14-28, 2014, please click [here](#).

## 2014 Camp Old Indian



If you have not made plans for Scout Camp in 2014 we would like to invite you to attend Camp Old Indian.

Camp Old Indian is located 25 miles north of Greenville, South Carolina in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains.

We are excited about the upcoming camping season at Camp Old Indian and we would like for you to make plans to be with us. We camped over 2,800 youth and adults during the 2013 season, and with the reservations that are already booked, we know that 2014 will be bigger and better.

Camp sites are filling up fast, don't be left out, get registered today! If you have questions or need help getting signed up, email [Traci Bridwell](mailto:Traci.Bridwell) or call at 864-233-8363.

## Climbing and Rappelling

Blue Ridge Council  
Climbing and Rappelling Program

TROOP & CREW  
CLIMBING & RAPPELLING  
OPPORTUNITIES

Help your scouts learn self-confidence & communication while having a "wow" time. Get your scouts on **real** rock.

BSA Certified Instructors and Council-owned gear is available for your use.

Cost per day is \$20 per climber/rappeller (Scout and leader)

For more information and available dates contact the Council climbing chair - Paul Herr - [pdherr@gmail.com](mailto:pdherr@gmail.com) or 864-907-9356.

The Blue Ridge Council, BSA serves 8 counties in the Upstate of South Carolina:  
Abbeville, Anderson, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, Newberry, Oconee and Pickens.

Visit our Website:  
[www.blueridgecouncil.org](http://www.blueridgecouncil.org)

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