



Greetings!

This is the May 2015 issue of *The Scouter*. In it you will find information about upcoming events and issues of importance to Scouting in the Upstate of South Carolina. Learn more about the Blue Ridge Council by visiting our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

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Upstate Scouts Go "Onward and Upward"

Last weekend, over sixteen hundred boys and young men from across the Upstate gathered for a three day and two night camping experience at the Boy Scouts of America "Onward & Upward" Exporee.

Activities included archery, sharpshooting, mud-runs, Pinewood Derby competition, rock-climbing, and much more. The Blue Ridge Council hosts the Exporee every three years in the Upstate, and this year the Exporee was held at the South Carolina Technology and Aviation Center. Flying National Guard Chinook helicopters, fire fighters, K9 units, The US Marine Corps, and Greenville Police Bomb Disposal units also participated.

Congratulations to Wolf Cub Scout Owen C. out of Saluda River District for placing FIRST in the Blue Ridge Council Pinewood Derby!



"Our boys are learning essential boyhood skills, fostering friendships, building character, and being trained on the responsibilities of participating citizenship." District Executive Thomas Beach said. "Communities benefit from a Scout program, and its a fantastic way for parents to be more involved in their child's life. Life-long memories are made here."



For more pictures (like the above), check out the [Foothills District Facebook!](#)

Photo Credit: Boy Scouts of America



The 2015 Camp Card Sale

From a Card, The Adventure of Camp

In two weeks, the Camp Card Sale will be over. Many Scouts have already sold enough camp cards in the 2015 Sale to experience the adventure of Camp Old Indian for free! Will yours be among them?

The 2015 Camp Card Sale ends Friday, May 22 and all unsold cards must

be returned to your District Executive or the Council Service Center at that date. *Unit accounts will be billed for all cards not returned to the Council, but units will not be charged for returned cards.*

Friday, May 15 is the *last* drawing for a gift cards for Scouts who sell 35 cards. Send in your qualifying Scouts using the verification form in the leaders guide. Winners will be notified by email. Please scan your Scouts information and [email to Matt Kubler](#).

Learn more by viewing our **leader's guide!** Contact your District Executive today with any questions or concerns about the sale close-out.

Reminder: Camp Cards not returned to the Council by May 22 will be charged to the unit account. Camp Cards returned to the Council by May 22 will not be charged to the unit account.



BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL CONTINGENT

Are You Ready?

Ready to live Scouting's adventure? Ready to be part of one of the greatest opportunities a Scout or Venturer can experience as a BSA member?

Yes, it's time to start preparing for the 2017 National Jamboree being held July 15-29, 2017 at the Summit Bechtel Scout Reservation in West Virginia.

Sign up early to ensure your place with the Blue Ridge Council Contingent!

Participant cost to attend the Jamboree will be \$1550. By signing up now, you have over two years raise the money! Commit, set a goal, and work towards it: that's two years to sell camp cards, popcorn and work on other fundraisers.

Current Jamboree Scoutmasters include Darrell Green, Randy Dowell, and Bill Edge. Each troop will consist of 36 scouts and 4 adult leaders. Ventures will be organized by a full crew or by Venture Patrols depending on the number of participants we sign up.

National Jamborees are a once-in-a-lifetime experience for Scouts. Ready to sign up? [Click here for the application!](#) Fill it out and return it to the Blue Ridge Council Service Center along with your \$100 deposit to reserve your spot.



Take Your Scouts Out To The Ball Game Tuesday, July 7th

Mark your calendars for this year's Greenville Drive Scout Night: Tuesday, July 7th! This will be an evening of fun and exciting baseball action as the Drive take on the Savannah Sand Gnats.

All attending Scouts will receive a special Greenville Drive Scout Night Commemorative Patch, recognition on the DriveVision, Survival Training Challenge Workbook experience and chance to participate in on-field entertainment throughout the evening. For more details on this exciting evening, [Click Here!](#)

Troops and Packs who order their tickets by June 12th are guaranteed group seating and are eligible to win the following honorary roles:

- **Field of Dreams Team** - Awarded to the top selling unit (minimum 75 tickets sold) - *Take the field with Drive Players during the National Anthem*
- **Between Inning Game Participants** - Awarded to the 2nd and 3rd place selling units (minimum 50 tickets sold) - *Two units will participate in an on-field game. Possible games include Tug-Of-War, Shoe Scramble, Sleeping Bag Relay Race, and more!*
- **7th Inning Stretch Enter to Win** - All units that sell 25 tickets are eligible - *2 units will be randomly selected from the qualifying units to be lead "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the 7th Inning Stretch!*

Back by popular demand: Immediately after the game, Scouts and their families will set up their tents and sleeping bags in the Fluor Field outfield. Campers will enjoy a movie on the DriveVision, a visit from Reedy Rip'It, and an unforgettable evening under the stars. **Overnight passes are \$3/person and will be sold at the gate that evening.**

All reserved seat game tickets for Scouts and Scout families are only \$7 and include the Scout Commemorative Patch. Tickets can be purchased online by [clicking here](#) or, by returning your troop's/pack's ticket order using [this document](#) to the following address by June 12th:

Boy Scouts of America
Blue Ridge Council
One Park Plaza
Greenville, SC 29607

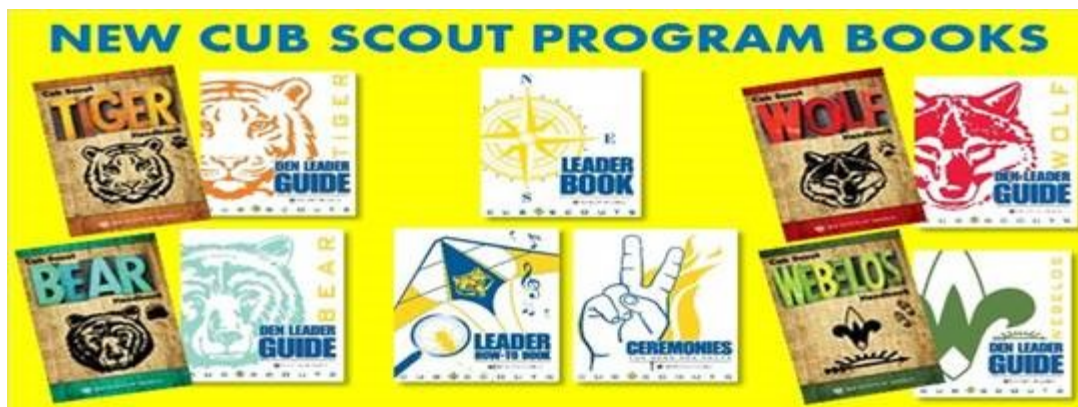
For questions contact Michael Prachar, Scout Field Director, at 864-233-8363 or Michael.Prachar@scouting.org

Thanks and we look forward to seeing you at the game!



Greenville **Scout Shop**

Official Retail Store of the Blue Ridge Council



Come one; come all to the Greenville Scout Shop.

The long awaited, highly anticipated new program materials have arrived in the store!!!!

Mark your Calendars for the:
New Cub Scout Adventure Program Kickoff

When: May 9, 2015 10am-2pm

Where: The Greenville Scout Shop

Details: We will have experienced Cub Scout leaders in our store on the 9th to answer questions and get you excited and prepared to start the new program in your packs!!

Don't miss out on the opportunity for fun, fellowship and the chance to network with some of the other leaders in the Blue Ridge Council.

Do You Know An Outstanding Eagle Scout?

The National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) recognizes outstanding Eagle Scouts across America with the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award. This prestigious recognition is for Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their profession, community and/or avocation.



All NESA recipients must be Eagle Scouts in good standing with the Boy Scouts of America and must either be registered with or have their primary residence within the boundaries of the nominating council. Each recipient's actions and accomplishments should elevate the stature of Eagle Scouts in the public eye, and each recipient shall be held to the standards set forth in the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and national BSA standards for membership.

To nominate a deserving Eagle Scout, download [the nomination form](#), complete sections 1, 2 and 4, and provide a separate attachment describing the nominee's professional, community and / or avocational achievements.

You may email a nomination to Thompson1994@msn.com or mail it to:

Michael Thompson

Council President
P.O. Box 337
Mauldin, SC 29662-0337

All nominations must be received by Friday, May 22, 2015.



Save A Life At The Matthew Borkowski Memorial Blood Drive

Please join us for the Third Annual Matt Borkowski Memorial Blood Drive to save a life and remember a local Eagle Scout. The Blood Drive memorializes Southbounder Eagle Scout Matthew Richard Borkowski.



This year's Matthew Borkowski Memorial Blood Drive will occur **Saturday, June 13 from 10am to 2pm at the Council Service Center**. Help us save lives by donating blood to the Blood Connection.

Cub Scouts Are Out Of This World! Day Camp 2015

Cub Scout Day Camp is nearly here! This summer, Cub Scouts will gather at six camps, conveniently located for each district, for a week of adventure and fun. Fulfill the promise of Scouting with BB guns, bows & arrows, horseback riding, compasses, knots, sports, and more!



Click on the District name for more information and to register!

SOUTHBOUNDER

6/22-6/26

Former Kingdom Life Center

LONG CANE

6/15-6/19

Camp Oasis @ Connie Maxwell Children's Home

PICKENS/OCONEE

6/15-6/19

Rock Spring Baptist Church

SIX & TWENTY

6/22-6/26

Darwin Wright Park

FOOTHILLS

6/8-6/12

Lake Robinson

SALUDA RIVER

6/8-6/9 @ Presbyterian College

6/11-6/12 @ Newberry College

REEDY FALLS **NEW!**

6/15-6/19

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

For more information, contact Council Registrar Traci Bridwell at (864) 233-8363 or Traci.Bridwell@Scouting.org!

Commissioner's Corner: Where Do Your Scouting Dollars Go?

Many of you probably think that the \$25 annual dues each Scout and volunteer pays to be a member of the Boy Scouts of America goes to the Blue Ridge Council. Actually, the Council does not keep even \$1 of that \$25. BSA annual dues are \$24 and all \$24 goes to National BSA. The dollar that is left purchases insurance for each Scout and leader - so it goes to National BSA as well.

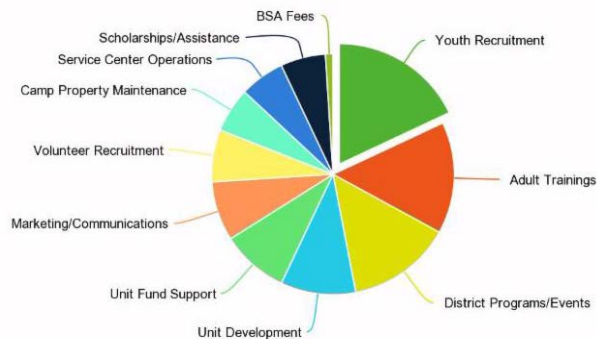


So where does the money come from that allows the Blue Ridge Council to offer the Scouting program? The United Way was a big supporter of Scouting in the past but now provides significantly fewer dollars. So most operating dollars come from the various fundraising activities/events that Scouts, volunteers, families and other community members participate in. Those fundraiser activities/events include the popcorn sale, camp card sale, golf tournament,

auction, patron dinner, and most importantly, the Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign.

The FOS campaign is a major source of funds for Council operations. Your participation at any level helps to ensure that the Scouting program will be offered to the youth in the Upstate. So where do your FOS dollars go? Below is a list of how each dollar from a \$100 FOS contribution is spent:

- **\$18** supports the School Night for Scouting new youth recruitment efforts and outreach programs to under-served markets.
- **\$15** provides training opportunities for more than 3,000 volunteers, support materials, and maintaining volunteer records (district roundtables, basic and advanced leader training, Commissioners, online training, Wood badge, and Pow Wow Cub leader).
- **\$14** goes to supplement the costs and programs of youth events like camporees, day camps, and other district-sponsored activities as well as supporting the Gold Star Unit Program.
- **\$10** supports processes to develop and organize new Scouting programs with churches, schools and community organizations.
- **\$9** provides coordination and support for unit fundraising programs like the camp card and popcorn sales.
- **\$8** goes to marketing efforts and promotional materials for recruitment and district operations (Scouter newsletter, council web site, flyers, posters, training packets, yard signs, commissioner's packets, and district operations packets).
- **\$7** goes to volunteer recruitment efforts to help recruit more volunteers to help at the district and unit level.
- **\$6** helps provide support for year-round property maintenance at Camp Old Indian open to 5,000 Scouts and family members outside of summer camp and Cub family weekends.
- **\$6** goes to pay for the Scout Service Center operations and record keeping for advancements, such as the Eagle Scout Award.
- **\$6** supports scholarship assistance for needy youth to join Scouting and participate in camping experiences.
- **\$1** goes to the Boy Scouts of America to provide local assistance for council and district operations.



The all-volunteer Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Council develops a budget for the Council each year. The Board therefore approves all expenditures made by the Council.

The Board and the professional staff of the Council work together to be good stewards of your dollars and to ensure that the Scouting program will continue to be delivered in the Upstate of South Carolina

The Friends of Scouting Campaign provided nearly 30% of the budget of the Blue Ridge Council in 2014. So why should you give to FOS? Without your financial contributions, no matter how small, the Scouting program in the Blue Ridge Council would look drastically different than it does now.

Dr. James H. Blake
Council Commissioner
jblake@clemson.edu

From The Program Desk

Updates on Upcoming Council Programs and Operations

Join Scouts from across the region at the **Apalachee Fall International Camporee**, Oct 9-11, 2015 at Camp Rainey Mountain in Clayton, GA. Exhibits will represent other countries and games such as cricket and Australian football (sponsored by the Atlanta professional leagues). Scouts will work on the Citizenship in the World and International Spirit merit badges and participate in an internationally sponsored Messengers of Peace service project. For more information, [view this announcement flyer!](#)



It is nearly summer - and summer is **Camp Old Indian** season! [View the Leader's Guide](#) for complete information about the summer experiences. Not yet registered? Provisional campers (campers whose unit did not register) are placed with another unit. View page 43 for more information and to register.

Webelos Resident Camp will be held at Camp Bob Hardin in Saluda, NC. Sessions last from July 12-15 and July 15-18. [Please see this guide for more information and to register.](#)

The **Fifth Annual Scout Night At The Races** will be held June 6th at the Anderson Motor Speedway. Admission is FREE to all Scouts and leaders in uniform. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the local food bank. For more information, [view this document.](#)

The inaugural **Area Five NYLT for Venturers** will be held at Camp Old Indian the week of July 4-9, 2015 NYLT is a high level youth leadership training. Please [see this brochure](#) for more information and to register.

The **Cub Scout program** is receiving updates this June! Check out the [BSA program updates page](#) for recorded webinars, roundtable guides, and FAQs on all of the changes coming to your pack.

All recharterers are now past due. All units that have not rechartered have been dropped. *Units that have not rechartered are not official BSA units; unit activities are not covered under insurance and youth may not advance.*

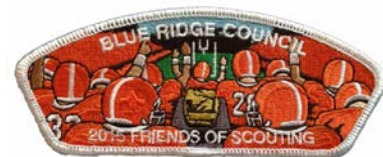
Families are the Best Friends of Scouting

Each year, Family Friends of Scouting (FOS) enables Scouting families to support Blue Ridge Council Scouting. On average, it costs the Council \$330 to support each Scout in our Districts. District volunteer Family FOS Committees help coordinate giving through presentations at banquets and gatherings to help support our Scouts.



These Family FOS presentations and the families who give during them have a significant impact on our ability to support and provide strong Scouting programs and sustain our own Camp Old Indian.

If your Unit hasn't had an FOS Presentation yet, call us to schedule one! If yours is coming up, please consider supporting local Scouting. Every family who donates will be invited to a special thank you event soon!



Don't miss the [2015 Family Friends of Scouting brochure](#), including the exclusive 2015 Family FOS recognition patches!

The Foothills District, BSA will honor City of Greer Fire Chief Chris Harvey

(Retired), Shift Captain Paul Brown, and Greer High School Principal Marion Waters for their service and leadership in the community. Join fellow Scouting supporters at the [Greer Good Scout Dinner](#) to honor these community leaders and support our local Scout program.

Each gift of \$150 or more counts as a vote for your favorite university - plus, receive a limited edition Clemson or Carolina Council Shoulder Patch (CSP)! Each Friday, the university flag of the leader will be flown at the Council Service Center. **Make your voice heard in the 2015 Clemson-Carolina rivalry!**



Atta Kulla Kulla Lodge of the OA

2015 is the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Atta Kulla Kulla lodge and the one hundredth anniversary of the Order of the Arrow. Visit our lodge at akk185.org for up-to-date information!

Congratulations to the entire AKK Lodge for its performance at the Dixie Fellowship! The Lodge won the Spirit Award and the Honor Lodge. For a complete list of awards (too many to list here!) [please visit the AKK website.](#)

To commemorate the lodge's 75th anniversary, Atta Kulla Kulla has assembled a Where To Go Camping Guide. This stunning resource includes over one hundred regional parks, attractions, and camping sites. [Click here to view this document.](#)

Scouting Community Bids A Fond Farewell

The entire Blue Ridge Scouting community bids District Executive Brandon Loflin a fond farewell. As of May 4, Brandon has resigned his position with the Boy Scouts of America. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.



In the meantime, Field Director Mike Prachar will serve the Foothills District. Mike can be reached at (803) 457-5740 or Michael.Prachar@Scouting.org.

Brandon joined the Blue Ridge Council in June 2013 with the Six and Twenty District in Anderson County. Since July 2014 he has served as the Foothills

District Executive. His service has secured the promise of Scouting for thousands of young people.

Like us on Facebook 



Michael Thompson
Council President

James Blake
Council Commissioner

Mike Butler
Scout Executive

BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL

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