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Newsletter of the Blue Ridge Council, BSA

The Scouter



vol. 2014

Greetings!

This is the October 2014 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.

In this Scouter

:

Click on a title to navigate directly to the article

- [The Blitz Is On](#)
- [Enthusiastic Boys Greet Fall Membership Drive](#)
- [Save The Date: The 2015 Council Exporee](#)
- [Exceptional Items & High Stakes Bidding](#)
- [Scout Night at the Road Warriors](#)
- [The Promise Fulfilled: Cub-Parent Weekends](#)
- [From the Program Desk](#)
- [Scouting Community Bids Farewell](#)
- And More!



The Blitz is On

Scouts Knocking On Doors For Camp

Across the Upstate, Scouts are knocking on doors funding their Scout adventures. In the Six & Twenty District, dozens of Scouts blitzed the neighborhoods one Saturday and sold over \$900 in popcorn!

The 2014 Popcorn Sale is the primary fundraiser for Scout units. Over 70% of each sale stays locally and supports Scouting experiences for thousands of youth. **All orders are due November 7th.**

Show & Sell payments are due Monday, October 13th. Payments can be made by credit/debit card, cash, or checks payable to Blue Ridge Council. Running out of Show & Sell popcorn? Contact Robin Mullinax at Robin.Mullinax@Scouting.org or (864) 233-8363 to pick up more today!

For more information, [visit the website!](#)

Photo Credit: Blue Ridge Council/Black



Enthusiastic Youth Greet Fall Membership Drive

From Tigerville Elementary School to Little Mountain Elementary, the Fall Membership Drive is spreading the promise of Scouting: fun, adventure, and character. As of today, 2,126 new young people have joined Scouting!

Know someone interested in Cub Scouts? Send them to BeAScout.org, a new website where parents can easily locate Scout units around them and learn how to join.

After a school night, keep spreading the promise of Scouting! Participate in local festivals and open houses to reach more youth. Tell your friends, neighbors, and coworkers about Scouting!

The success of the Membership Drive would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers. In particular, congratulations to Reedy Falls and Six & Twenty for having the highest recruitment growth. Long Cane District, 2013's membership leader, has the best membership growth in the Council.

There are thousands of boys who want to become a Scout - empower them with the promise of Scouting!

Photo Credit: Boy Scouts of America



Scout Night at the Road Warriors

Thousands of Scouts will gather at the ice of the Bon Secours Wellness Arena on Saturday, February 7 for the annual Greenville Road Warriors Scout Night.



Discount tickets and special commemorative patches are available for Scout families and friends! Discounted tickets must be purchased by contacting Stacey Wise at (864) 250-4804 or stacey.wise@greenvilleroadwarriors.com.

For more information [view this document](#). To purchase tickets, [use this registration form](#),

Photo Credit: Greenville Road Warriors Facebook Page



The Promise Fulfilled

BB Guns and Bows at Cub Parent Campouts

The Cub-Parent Weekends bring fun and adventure to the entire family. Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Camp Old Indian is a scenic wonderland of mountains, cabins, and lakes.

After a night spent at camp, parents and Cub Scouts will experience an exciting day. Boys will learn how to start campfires, hike around Old Indian Mountain, and shoot bows and BB guns.

Guided by local leaders, this family adventure is perfect as an introduction to Scouting or an annual reminder of what makes Scouting great, the experiences and memories that last a lifetime.

Don't miss out on this time with your son, register for the Cub-Parent Campout today! Sessions have begun and continue every weekend through November 14th. For more information and to register, [view the informational flyer.](#)

Photo Credit: Boy Scouts of America



Exceptional Items & High-Stakes Bidding

Annual Auction Supports Scouting

Save the Date! The 2014 Sports, Entertainment, & Travel Auction will take place Tuesday, October 28 at the Greenville Hyatt Regency. Available items include safaris, cruises, resort packages, and more! [Click here](#) to view all items!

Purchase tickets online by [clicking here](#). Tickets to attend the auction are available for \$30 for one and \$50 for two! Tickets include heavy hors d'oeuvres and open bar.

For more information, including sponsorship and item donation opportunities, [view the promotional flyer!](#)

Photo Credit: Hyatt Regency Greenville



Save The Date: 2015 Council Exporee

A Weekend of Scouting Adventures

The 2015 Exporee will be held May 1st -3rd at SCTAC - Donaldson Air Field off Hwy 25 in Greenville. The committee plans for this to be **The Best Blue Ridge Council Exporee Ever**, seeking to **Retain Tradition While Embracing Innovation**.

The location is centralized and easy to locate: the committee is excited to set an attendance record! Our theme (title TBA) combines the US military, local first responders, and the STEM initiative. The Leader's Guide will be available December 1st and Early Bird Registration will offer exciting, unique values. Full registration will open January 1st with online options.

From The Program Desk

Updates on Upcoming Council Programs and Operations

The **World Scout Jamboree** is set for July 28 to August 8, 2015 in Kiara-hama, Japan. Contact [Robbie Hill](#) for more information. To apply for a \$1,500 need-based scholarship, visit the [website](#).

Local Scouts will be trekking to **Philmont Scout Ranch** this summer and you can be a part! For more information and to register, [view this document](#).

Silver Beaver Nominations are due December 2nd. The Silver Beaver, the highest volunteer award given by BSA Councils, recognizes adult volunteers whose service has made an impact on youth. Nominations must be made using [this form](#).

All Scouts are invited to the **Furman Basketball Fan Jam** on Thursday, October 30th. This event will feature exciting activities for youth and adults. For more information, [check out this online announcement](#).

Last weekend, Boy Scouts from across the Council participated in the annual **Catholic Camporee** at Camp Barstow. Scouts competed in a variety of challenges and Troop 420 (Simpsonville, SC) earned top honors.

Reminder: All adult leaders must complete **Youth Protection Training** every two years. New adult applications must include the youth protection certificate and the signed background check disclosure in the application.

Recharter

Each year, every Scouting unit recharterers to renew the relationship between the chartering organization and the Boy Scouts of America.

Recharterers for units in **Saluda River, Foothills, Reedy Falls, and Southbounder Districts** are due December 31st. Recharter packets are being distributed and the online system will open November 1st. Recharterers for units in **Long Cane, Pickens, Oconee, and Six & Twenty Districts** are due January 31st. Recharter packets will be distributed during November and the online system will open December 1st.

Recharterers should be submitted prior to the due date to your local commissioner or district executive. *Units that do not recharter on time are not official BSA units, their activities are not covered under insurance, and their youth may not receive advancements.*

The Cub Corner



Changes are coming to the Cub Scout program! The following changes will begin in all Cub Scout packs beginning June 2015.

For more information, the BSA has [full coverage online](#).

- The current Boy Scout Oath and Law will be used in Cub Scouts. The current Cub Scout sign will still be used.
- A new advancement program, including new books and recognitions, will be implemented, and will replace the Academics and Sports program.
 - On the Tiger, Wolf, and Bear levels, boys will earn adventure loops
 - On the Webelos levels, boys will earn adventure pins
- Tiger Cubs will be renamed Tigers, including a new rank image.
- The Webelos badge is no longer a requirement for the Arrow of Light. Current Bears or Scouts that join in 2015 as fourth grade Webelos will use the new requirements. Current fourth grade Webelos can use the existing or new requirements to earn the Arrow of Light.

The Council will hold training and Q&A sessions in April and May 2015 to fully equip leaders about the new program.



One Scout at a Time, Your Gift Makes the Difference

Friends of Scouting Makes Life-Changing Experiences Possible

Your investment in Scouting is more important now than ever! 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!

[Invest in the future of our young people, our families, and our community.](#)

Photo Credit: Boy Scouts of America

The Venturing Corner



The Legacy Year Two is an adventure weekend for Venturers and Sea Scouts hosted at Camp Barstow October 17-19. For more information, view the [leader's guide](#). Registration is \$49 and [can be done online](#).

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.

Journey to the Summit Bechtel Reserve this summer for the **2015 Venturing Summit Adventure**. Further details will be forthcoming. Interested adult leaders must complete [this application](#) and submit by noon on October 20, 2014. For more information, contact Charlie Garwood at CAGarwood@prodigy.net.

Scouting Community Bids Farewell

Grayson Kelly Accepts New Position

The Blue Ridge Council community bids a fond farewell to Development Director Grayson Kelly, who announced his resignation this month.



Grayson began with the Blue Ridge Council in 2010 as a District Executive in Pickens District. In his current position, Grayson led the Council's development and marketing operations. His leadership and vision have secured the promise of Scouting to thousands of Upstate young people.

Grayson has accepted a position as Executive Director of the Tri-County Technical College Foundation. All of us in the Blue Ridge Council Scouting community wish Grayson the best in his new position.

After October 10, Robert Johnson will serve as the primary point of contact for Pickens and Oconee Districts. Robert can be reached at (864) 293-8664 or Robert.Johnson@Scouting.org.

Photo Credit: Blue Ridge Council

Blue Ridge Council Welcomes New Ranger

The Blue Ridge Council Scouting community welcomed Josh Hipps as the Camp Old Indian ranger on October 1.

Josh is no stranger to Blue Ridge Council Scouting. As a youth, he earned his Eagle Scout rank and served in leadership with the Order of the Arrow. He has served in leadership at Camp Old Indian, Philmont Scout Ranch, and Northern Tier High Adventure Base. From 2011 to 2012, he served as the District Executive of Long Cane District.

As a ranger, Josh will maintain the Camp Old Indian properties and work with camp staff and volunteers to provide the best experience for Scouts.

Executive Announcement

Blue Ridge Council Annual Meeting Set

Attention:

Executive Board Members
Advisory Board Members
Council Members at Large
Charter Organization Representatives

The Annual Business Meeting of the Blue Ridge Council, Boy Scouts of America will be Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 6:00 PM at the Scout Service Center, 1 Park Plaza, Greenville, 29607.

The Annual Meeting of the Blue Ridge Council shall be for the purpose of receiving annual reports of the executive board, officers and various committees; electing members at large, associate and honorary members of the local council, National Council members, regular members of the executive board and officers of the corporation; receiving and approving financial statements showing the financial position of the corporation from the most recent complete fiscal year; and transacting other business as may come before the meeting.

The Council President, with the approval of the Executive Board, has appointed Michael Thompson to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Committee members include Judge Michael Stokes, Mac McLean, and Nika White. Active members of the Blue Ridge Council may make recommendations of possible nominees to the committee for consideration. All recommendations

shall be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting and directed to the Nominating Committee at the Council's address.

Please RSVP your attendance to Linda Thompson at linda.thompson@scouting.org by Friday, November 21, 2014.

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Phillip Kilgore
Council President

James Blake
Council Commissioner

Mike Butler
Scout Executive

BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL

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