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Thank you for a Wonderful Year of Scouting!
January 2019

1  Council Office Closed
   (New Years Day)
5  University of Scouting & the New Pow Wow
7  Camp Maintenance: Old Indian, White Pines, Carroll Brown
7  District Chair/Commissioner Meeting
12 Key Leaders Seminar
13 VOA Meeting @ Council Service Center
14 Camp Maintenance: Old Indian, White Pines, Carroll Brown
19 Merit Badge University - Weekend 1
21 Camp Maintenance: Old Indian, White Pines, Carroll Brown
21 Council Office Closed
   (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
26 Merit Badge University - Weekend 2
26 OA Lodge Leadership Development Conference & Winter Banquet
28 Camp Maintenance: Old Indian, White Pines, Carroll Brown
31 Cub Cabinet Meeting

Commissioners Comment Corner

David Surret, Council Commissioner
864-710-3152; davidcsurrett@gmail.com

January 12, 8:30am, Commissioners’ 2019 Training & Lunch Following (Service Center & Cracker Barrel, Woodruff Rd.)

February 4th & March 4th, 6:00pm, District Commissioners & Chairs Dinner & Meeting (Service Center) - District Executives will join on February 4th! Monthly themes will be announced at January training!

Contact your Unit or District Commissioner if your unit needs help, assistance, ideas, resources or any other needs - they are your constant resource!!!

Be sure & complete your Unit Re-Charter - again if you need help, then contact your Commissioner

I look forward to resourcing and assisting you & your unit as time goes by!!! Keep Scouting fun & fulfilling forever!!!
Silver Beaver Recipients

The Silver Beaver Class of 2018

- Gary Dean
- Bryan Dickard
- Lee Dixon
- Michael Kirby
- Ashley Steigerwald

The Silver Beaver is the highest award given by a Boy Scouts of America Council to a volunteer. Recipients of this award are register adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. The Silver Beaver is an award given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. It is given to those who do not actively seek it.

2018 Eagle Scout Class Honoree:
Charlie Warlick

These fine recipients along with the 2018 Eagle Scout Class and the 2018 NOESA recipients will be honored at the 2019 Annual Council Banquet on February 7th.

Register to attend the Council Banquet Here!
Friends of Scouting is our annual fundraising campaign that supports our Scouts and adult leaders. Funds not only help with financial assistance for our Scouts and families but also go to our great programs at Camp Old Indian!

In order for us to continue the excellence you expect out of Scouting, we need your help. Our goal is 100% participation. Our 2019 Friends of Scouting Campaign is about to begin! You can donate to the 2019 Friends Of Scouting funds below or by visiting https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/551/appeal/610

Starting this year, if you make a Friends of Scouting commitment of just **1 dollar a day** ($365) you will not only be investing in a young Scouts future, you will also receive the first of 5 upcoming collectible patches leading to the 100th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Council.

(1st Patch to be unveiled January 2019)

To celebrate the 95th Anniversary of our Council, we have released a limited-edition patch. We have commissioned only 100 of those patches to be numbered and only another 150 patches to be released unnumbered. We are offering these limited-edition patches to our Scout families and Eagle Alumni.

Your support with a gift of $250 by **January 31, 2019** will ensure your family receives a special numbered patch (only 100 available). Included with your patch is your name on the Wall of Fame at our Council office. You can also purchase an unnumbered patch for $100 that will not include participation on the plaque.

You may make your gift of either $250 or $100 online at:

https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/551/appeal/611

or mail directly to the Blue Ridge Council, 1 Park Plaza, Greenville, SC 29607.
The position of Commissioner is one of the oldest in Scouting. When the Boy Scouts of America began in 1910 it was understaffed. There were no Scouting professionals outside of the national office. Volunteers, known as Commissioners, helped start, register, and service units as they were formed around the country.

The Council Commissioner position began in the 1950’s and is an elected officer, nominated by the council nominating committee and approved by the Council Executive Board. The Council Commissioner is part of the Council Key 3 along with the Council President and the Scout Executive. As the council’s top uniformed volunteer, the Council Commissioner is seated on the Council Executive Board with the basic responsibility of representing all uniformed adult volunteers and Scouts in council matters.

At the Annual Meeting of the Blue Ridge Council on December 4, 2018, I completed my fifth and final year as Council Commissioner for the Blue Ridge Council. It has been an eventful five years and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the best leaders in Scouting -- Scout Executive Mike Butler; Council Presidents Phillip Kilgore, Michael Thompson, and Mac McLean; and Professional Staff Advisors Robert Johnson and Eric Black.

It is my honor and pleasure to introduce to you the new Council Commissioner for the Blue Ridge Council, Reverend David C. Surrett. David has extensive Scouting experience spanning 39 years in four councils. Listed below are some of Reverend Surrett’s Scouting accomplishments and positions he has served in:

- Eagle Scout
- God & Country Adult Religious Award
- Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow
- National Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award
- District Award of Merit
- Silver Beaver
- Distinguished Eagle Scout Award
- Former Lodge Chief - Order of the Arrow Bob White Lodge
- Former Section 5 Chief - Order of the Arrow

Continued on next page...
The window for Charter Renewal officially opens November 1st and is due by December 31st, 2018. The chartering process is one of the oldest traditions in all of Scouting history. It is the formal document that certifies the agreement between a Charter Partner (an organization that agrees to utilize Scouting as a part of its service to youth and community outreach) and the Boy Scouts of America, setting expectations for the quality of program to be delivered to the Charter Partner’s youth population. The charter renewal process ensures continuity of a unit’s program, advancement and activities for youth as well as continuity of service and tenure records for youth and adult advancement and recognition. This process is something to be taken very seriously, executed thoroughly and conducted in a timely manner according to the schedules in this handbook.

More information on the Resources page of the Blue Ridge Council Website.
Welcome to Blue Ridge Council Merit Badge University 2019! We will be changing things a little bit this year by offering it over 2 weekends, January 19 and January 26. First weekend will be mainly at Buncombe Street United Methodist Church and various satellite locations (maps attached). Second weekend will take place at Roper Mountain Science Center for a weekend of STEM merit badges. We hope this change will allow Scouts to have new experiences as they travel on their journey to First Class or Eagle Scout Registration Coming Soon! Please check back often as we will add classes as we find instructors!

Register Here Today!

UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING AND THE NEW POW WOW

Earn your Degree in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, or Venturing!

January 5th, 2019

Easley First Baptist Church - 300 E 1st Ave, Easley, SC 29640

Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University of Scouting provides interesting courses in any aspect of the Scouting program. Adventure and leadership training for Adults, Elective courses applicable across all Scouting programs, and Advancement and Program Operation courses are awaiting you at the University.

REGISTER TODAY
We have so many new and exciting programs coming for Cub Scouts in 2019! Coming in January, registration will open for District Cub Scout Day Camps. Come join us this summer as we go under the sea to meet new friends and create great memories! This February we will host our first ever Cubmaster Summit at Holland Park Church. This event will include dinner, time for fellowship, an open forum for questions and suggestions, and a review of Cub events for 2019. Our first Cub-O-REE will take place on April 5th - 7th at Camp Old Indian. This is a two night camping event with meals provided in the dining hall on Saturday and Sunday! Cub Scouts will have an opportunity to go fishing, hiking, geocaching/orienteering, and of course participate in shooting sports. Arrow of Light Scouts who will or have earned Arrow of Light rank this Spring are invited to join us for all activities including a mini-summer camp experience and a special recognition ceremony to honor them for earning the highest award in Cub Scouting! New Year, New Memories - Let’s make this your best Scouting year ever!

Remember these upcoming dates.....The NEW Pow Wow (Joined with University of Scouting) will take place on January 5th, 2019 at Easley First Baptist Church. Register Here!

Next Cub Cabinet meeting will be held on Jan. 31st, 2019 at the Council Service Center at 6:30 pm.

New Council CUB-O-REE will be held at Camp Old Indian April 5th - 7th, 2019! Loads of activities for your Cubs and Webelos plus Arrow of Light recognition! Full use of camp!

There is magic to camping in winter. It is one of the most challenging outdoor adventures. However, potentially extreme weather conditions, cold temperatures, and unique hazards associated with outdoor winter activities require careful planning to ensure safety.
The 2019 Blue Ridge Council Banquet

The Blue Ridge Council would like to cordially invite you to an evening of celebration and fellowship as we honor many of our outstanding leaders, volunteers, and the Eagle Scout Class of 2018.

The 2019 Blue Ridge Council Banquet will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019, 6:30pm at Buncombe Street United Methodist Church, in Greenville.

Click Here To Register!

Early Registration— now through January 19, 2018 - $26
Regular Registration— January 20 - February 8, 2018 - $31

2019 PATRON DINNER

Tuesday, March 5th, 2019

THE BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA is proud to recognize the honorable Richard W. Riley, Jr., Senior Partner of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, with the Good Scout Award. Join us to help honor Dick Riley at this special occasion. Your attendance will also support Scouting and upwards of 9,000 youth served in the Upstate!

Title Sponsor
Reception Sponsor

GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM

LIVE FEARLESS
South Carolina
Join us for a week of Adventure at Camp Old Indian!

With over 80 merit badge opportunities, and more coming this summer, Camp Old Indian provides Scouts with a traditional camp experience while also offering high adventure activities! Check out the new Callahan Mountain Adventure for your Exploration Merit Badge! For more information contact Traci.Bridwell@scouting.org.

- **2019 Camp Old Indian Registration**
- **2018 Summer Camp Photos**
- **2018 Leaders Guide**
- **Camp Old Indian Map**
- **Smoke Signals**

SCOUTBOOK is FREE Starting January 1st

It’s here! Remind your unit leaders, parents, and Scouts that SCOUTBOOK – our suite of online unit-management tools – will be completely free starting January 1st, 2019. A helpful new Bryan on Scouting blog post will go live January 1st to aid volunteers and parents.

Please note that Scoutbook is down for scheduled maintenance through December 31st in preparation for the launch.
We are very excited to announce that Jeremy Baker has been selected as the Camp Ranger for Camp Old Indian Scout Reservation effective January 1, 2019. Jeremy is a “homegrown” product of the Blue Ridge Council. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 50 and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.

He served on the Camp Old Indian camp staff as a youth and has been the Shooting Sports Director at Camp for the last two summers. He also has been working part-time as the Assistant Camp Ranger for the past year. Jeremy is a decorated veteran of the United States Navy having served our Country for 20 years.

Please join me in congratulating Jeremy in his new role for the Blue Ridge Council.

We are also pleased to announce that we have hired Jake Gotimer as a Field Director for our Council starting January 1, 2019. Jake will supervise the District Executives serving the Long Cane, Oconee, Pickens and Six & Twenty Districts.

Jake is originally from Rhode Island. He started his Scouting career with the Twin Rivers Council in Albany, NY as a District Executive. He later served as a Senior District Executive in the Connecticut Rivers Council in East Hartford, CT and has served as the Program Director of that Council for the past four years. He is a graduate of Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, VA with a degree in Political Science and Spanish.
Sew guess what. The Greenville Scout shop can sew your patches on for just $3 per patch! Need a hemming? They can also hem for only $10! So come check out the Greenville Scout Shop where you’ll find everything you’ll need to BE PREPARED!

*Usual 2-day turnaround
The Blue Ridge Council would not be able to do so many amazing things for the youth in our community without the help of so many great volunteers and leaders. Below you will find the Executive Committee Officers for the 2019 Council year.

**2019 Executive Committee Officers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mac McLean</td>
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<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Bruce White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>David Surrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Administration/RM</td>
<td>Russell Smart</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Finance</td>
<td>Dannie Newell</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Exploring</td>
<td>Capt. J. H. Thompson</td>
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<td>VP-Facilities</td>
<td>Everett Baker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lee Dixon</td>
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<td>Asst. Treasurer</td>
<td>JB Garrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Counsel</td>
<td>Lindsay Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Council Representative</td>
<td>King Dixon II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President/Board Dev. Chair</td>
<td>Michael Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>Mickey Stokes</td>
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<td>NESA/Alumni Chair</td>
<td>Phillip Kilgore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scout Executive</td>
<td>Mike Butler</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-District Operations</td>
<td>Glenn Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Membership Growth</td>
<td>Matthew Delk</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Outdoor Adventures</td>
<td>Russell Cann</td>
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<td>VP-Special Events</td>
<td>Robin Foster</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Program</td>
<td>Fred Hyslop</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Endowment</td>
<td>Bruce White</td>
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<tr>
<td>VP-Major Gifts/FOS</td>
<td>Dave Brenner</td>
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