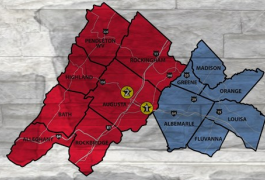


JULY 2023



THE TRIBUTARY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL



Steve Hammond
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Sue Hart
Assistant Scout Executive

Roger Burke, Jr
COUNCIL COMMISSIONER

Virginia Headwaters Council (VAHC)

617 Greenville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
Phone-540-943-6675
Fax-540-943-6676
www.vahcbsa.org

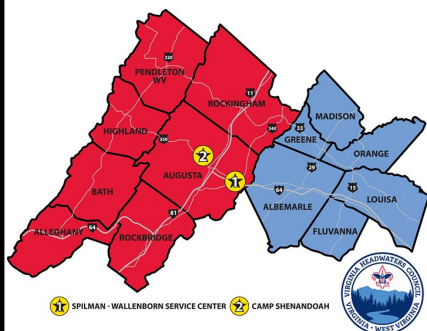
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

Sue Hart, Asst Scout Executive
susan.hart@scouting.org
434-872-3320

Terry Michael, Office Manager
terry.michael@scouting.org
540-943-6675

Bill Hunter, CS Ranger
bill.hunter@scouting.org
540-447-0579

Cindy Zollman, Tributary Editor
cedarspringz@comcast.net
540-460-4832





Camp Shenandoah is full of Scouts and the summer is off to a great start. To all the Virginia Headwaters Council units that are attending our summer camp this year, THANK YOU!

We have a talented and enthusiastic Staff to serve you. Our Camp Director, Pete Echols, has assembled an all-star group of Scouts and they are doing a great job. Well done, Staff! Good staff and good food make for a good camp. And, once again, we have good food. The new food service folks are providing high quality, nutritious and tasty meals. I attended the first week's "Leaders Bologna Fry". I have been attending that event for at least 20 years. I can tell you that this one was, by far, the best ever! If your unit is not coming Home to Camp Shenandoah this year, please make plans to do so next year and sign up early.

For over a year, the Council leadership has dreaded June 2023. During the COVID shutdown, the Council was forced to use a line of credit to pay its bills. By the end of last year, we had borrowed \$600,000 from a line of credit. The terms of the line of credit required it to be paid off in June 2023. As you all know, we ended up selling the office building in Waynesboro to help us get some of the money we needed to pay down that debt. Well, I can report that the office sale is final, and the proceeds partially paid down the line of credit. The remainder of the debt was rolled into a 20-year loan. Our monthly payments on that loan are about the same as the interest we paid on the, now paid off, line of credit. We also paid off a smaller line of credit, \$46,000 that was due in August. That too has been paid off. We do not intend to use a line of credit again if we can help it. Most important, we were able to do all of this and preserve every dollar of the Council Endowment. Overall, we have averted a major financial crisis. That

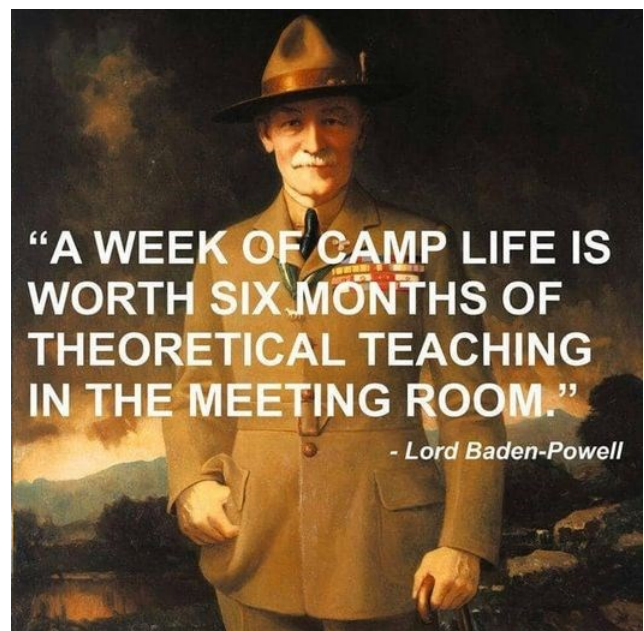
being said, we are still constantly in need of funding to keep the program alive in our Council. So, give generously to the Friends of Scouting Campaign and encourage others to do so as well.

Membership. We are a membership organization, and we need to continue to recruit new members every year. Please make sure your unit has a plan for recruiting in the fall. Although we should be recruiting year-round, the fall is traditionally the time we have used to put forth our best efforts. We need more Scouts! And the youth in our area need Scouting, now probably more than ever.

Thank you all for what you do for Scouting. Your contribution to the development of our youth is greatly appreciated.

Have a GREAT SUMMER!

Steve Hammond - Council President
steve.hammond@hammondtownsend.com
434-962-5813





The 2023 Camp Shenandoah Staff!

As we complete our Opening Staff Week, we are proud to show off and highlight our Summer Camp Staff! Our staff worked around the clock, logging training hours, modeling campfires, researching teaching techniques, and learning from others.

With special thanks to the Order of the Arrow, the Staff was able to complete setting up the camp to welcome our hundreds of Scouts and Scouters back Home to Camp Shenandoah this summer.

Aquatics Staff is excited to teach swimming and watercraft skills to Scouts. Handicraft Staff is ready to create lasting artistic creations. STEM Staff has their electronics charged to power the robots to be built by scouts. The only thing missing is you! We cannot wait to welcome you Home this summer for an unforgettable time at Camp Shenandoah.

Welcome Home is much more than a slogan. It's our year-round philosophy and culture.

Pete Echols
2023 Camp Shenandoah
Director





 **CAMP SHENANDOAH**
VIRGINIA HEADWATERS COUNCIL, BSA



MOUNTAIN VALLEY District

District Chair: Dr. Lawrence Whitehurst

District Commissioner: Matthew Phillippi

Dr. Lawrence Whitehurst: lrwhitehurstmd@gmail.com

Matt Phillippi: mrphillippi@outlook.com

District Executive:

June was an exciting month in the district. Flag Day saw many units taking part in community events honoring the symbol of our country. Scouts of all ages dedicated new flags and retired those no longer serviceable. This is a great service to take part in and thank you to all of those that took part.

Summer programming is in full swing which means summer camp is going strong. Cub Scout resident camp at Camp Shenandoah was a remarkable success despite the rain. I saw so many happy faces out there from both Cubs and their parents, if a little soggy. I didn't make it out to Webelos camp, but I heard many wonderful things from parents and staff alike. As this comes out, week two of Scouts BSA camp is underway and I know that there are many young people in Swoope enjoying themselves.

July brings with it a ton of activities in Scouting. We have Scouts heading to Korea for the World Scout Jamboree and some a little closer to home for the National Scout Jamboree. I hope many of you will take advantage of the Summit being in an adjacent district to ours (Seneca District of the Buckskin Council) and come out for a visit. It will be a fun time and it's an opportunity to get excited for the next one if you were unable to attend this year as a part of the contingent.

We don't have a Roundtable this month, but we have set up a virtual companion to Roundtable on Facebook as a group. If you haven't joined the group yet make sure to search it out and be a part of the conversation. Join your fellow Scouters to talk about what is happening across the district and share ideas. Let us know what you want to see at Roundtable in the coming year.

When we come back in August we will be talking about recruiting. Growing our organization is a top priority for us and I look forward to seeing our packs and troops grow this fall. We do also need your help, though. We have gaps in our district committee and in our commissioner staff. I want to see our units

supported by a strong district, so if you are interested or have someone in mind that could be, please reach out to district leadership.

Enjoy your summer and share your pictures of Scouts having a great time!

District Chair - Dr. Lawrence Whitehurst
lrwhitehurstmd@gmail.com
540-717-1382

District Commissioner - Matt Phillippi
matt.phillippi.vahcbsa@gmail.com
540-560-2807



PHILMONT ADVENTURE - TROOP 37



This has truly been a wilderness experience like none other. We have traveled more than 100 miles by canoe and foot through remote lakes, passageways, and portage trails; camped literally on the international boundary line of the United States and Canada; jumped from an American rock into Canadian waters; caught a northern pike; and were often the only people we saw each day. As a crew, we truly depended on each and every member to keep us moving forward. And not once did anyone let us down.

We have seen black-headed loons dive beneath our boats, countless beaver slap their tails in warning, and bald eagles soar over our campsites.

We have identified scat from moose and bear (and a few other predatory animals we could not identify). We came upon fresh wolf prints, some that appeared to be left possibly just minutes before we arrived.

As silent as the Boundary Waters can be, it is often filled with calls of the wild. We listened to moose bugling in the distance, wolves howling nearby, loons and whippersnappers calling constantly, fish splashing, and always the hum of mosquitoes in the evenings. Occasionally, we would listen intently to noises we could not identify and still question their origin.

Campsites varied from luxurious peninsulas overlooking huge lakes to snug parcels along a remote waterway where we could fit only by setting up camporee style (tents side by side). At each, however, delicious meals were cooked up by our scouts including a huge pot of chili and mac, freshly baked blueberry muffins and pancakes, chicken and wild rice, cornbread, chocolate cheese cake, and so much more. We did not go hungry.

We watched unmatched sunrises and sunsets often on the same day, saw pictographs painted on rocky cliffs, and paddled on lakes so smooth and glassy it was difficult to tell up from down. We also pushed hard into headwinds for hours on end, were roiled by waves while crossing sea-like lakes, and once even lashed our canoes together, setting sail with our rain fly to a welcomed tailwind that carried us from one end of Red Rock Lake to the other.

Our NT Interpreter, Andrew (a.k.a. StrowBro), became a fast friend to all. He was consistently cheerful, engaged, sincere, and funny - not to mention very well heeled in the secrets and hot spots of the Boundary Waters. He will be missed as we leave this extraordinary and magical place. We have all really enjoyed his warm spirit and fun company.

For those interested, the bugs did not disappoint. Thank goodness for 100 deet and headnets, perhaps the second-most critical piece of gear next to the sleeping bag. Around here, we go by "bug o'clock," the bug "witching hour" after which retreating to tents is the only option.

It's hard to adequately capture in words the magic and beauty of this place up north. So suffice to say, we will do our best to share through photos and stories many of our adventures in the days and weeks to come. Be certain, however, that the wilderness adventure our Scouts have completed will live with them their whole lives. This was truly an adventure of a lifetime and we are thrilled to have shared it together with them.



Troop 37 - Their Adventure





CUB RESIDENT CAMP

Cub Resident Camp has returned to Camp Shenandoah for the first time in over a decade! 35 cubs and parents arrived on Sunday, June 18th in the afternoon ready for fun and excitement.

They started their time with making rockets, settling in to their tents and enjoying their first meal in the Dining Hall.

The Cubs were in awe of their first campfire and the Camp Staff did not disappoint! There was a ton of laughter.

After a great breakfast the next morning, the cubs were off to explore the best parts of camp. Cubs enjoyed crafts, swimming, fishing, BBs and Archery and making Sit Up ons at Nature.

The rain moved in but it didn't dampen the spirits of anyone. Everyone enjoyed dinner and another great campfire.

The next day was open programming for anyone who braved the rain! All in all, it was a great event. Many thanks to Melissa Watts, Liz Harman, Ed Murphy, Matt Phillipi, John Arpin and the Camp Staff for helping put on a great event.

Tracey Stakem - VP of Program/Cub Camp Director



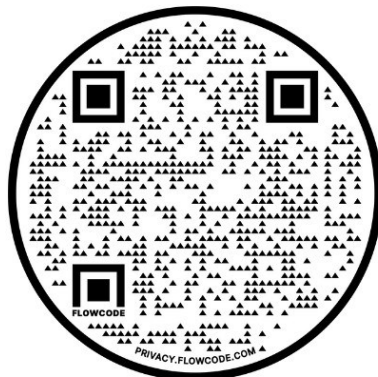


Leading the Legacy

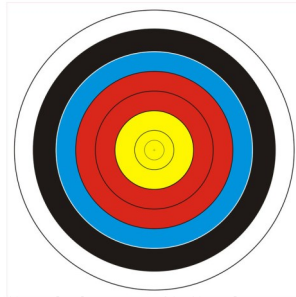
Sept 22-24 & Oct 14-15

Wood Badge Early Bird Pricing **Ends** August 1st!

Spaces are filling fast! Sign up today!



www.vahcbsa.org/woodbadge



VAHC SHOOTING SPORTS TRAINING

30 Jul	NRA Basic Pistol	Camp – Nature, ranges
5-6 Aug	Basic Pistol	Camp - Nature, ranges
19-20 Aug	NRA Basic Rifle and Basic Shotgun	Camp – Nature, ranges
9-10 Sep	NRA Basic Instructor Training, Rifle & Shotgun Instructor (part 1)	
16-17 Sep	Rifle/Shotgun Instructor (part 2)	Camp – Staff lounge, ranges
9 Dec	NRA Range Safety Officer	Classroom TBD
20-21 Jan	NRA Pistol Instructor Invitation only	Classroom TBD, camp ranges
3-4 Feb	NRA/NMLRA Basic Muzzleloading (R/P/S)	Classroom TBD, camp ranges
24-25 Feb	NRA/NMLRA Muzzleloading Instructor	Classroom TBD, camp ranges

Dates are subject to change based on facility availability. Cost depends on facility availability; includes cost of ammunition. A basic course is required before taking the instructor course in that discipline.

Basic Instructor Training (BIT) is required for instructor training; BIT certification is good for two years.

If you have any questions on these classes, please contact **Andrew Campbell, Shooting Sports Training Coordinator**, andrewcampbell007@gmail.com

Other shooting sports questions, please contact **John Arpin, Council Shooting Sports Coordinator**, arpinfamily@gmail.com

**THANKS to
all who proved
summer camp
pictures for
our July
Tributary
issue.**





The Jamboree Cultural Showcase needs you to help highlight Scouting's core ideals

By Aaron Derr June 29, 2023

Photo by Michael Roytek

Update, June 29: The Cultural Showcase, one of the many exciting activities at the 2023 National Jamboree, is looking for Scouts and Scouters who would like to share aspects of their culture in an effort to highlight the core Scouting ideals of kindness and friendliness to all.

“Think of it as an international potluck under the tent of Celebrating Humanity,” says Antonio del Rosario, diversity chair of the Greater New York Councils and one of the volunteer chairs on the Jamboree Celebrating Humanity team. “We want a taste of your culture.”

If you descend from Jamaica, Greece, the Philippines, Ireland, Italy, China, Scotland, Ghana, India or any country that your parents or grandparents identify with, stop by the tent at Jamboree to contribute to their interactive cultural display.

The Cultural Showcase will rely on Scouts and Scouters to showcase their cultural identity by providing an artifact that represents that identity, whether it's a flag, a piece of clothing, a picture, a poem, a drawing or any item that showcases the diversity of the Scouting world.

You can even stop by the exhibit and share a story

about your culture, as oral history is indeed a kind of artifact.

The following is a post from December we shared about the Cultural Showcase.

There are lots of reasons to be excited about the 2023 National Jamboree, happening July 19-28, 2023, at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Today, we look at one of them: the Cultural Showcase.

Most experts believe the earliest Americans came from Asia, crossing a land bridge that no longer exists. In the 16,000-plus years since then, humans from all over the world have come to America, bringing some elements of their home culture — food, language, customs and traditions — with them. The National Jamboree will celebrate the different cultures of the United States in an area called the Cultural Showcase.

“We want to celebrate humanity and all of its richness,” says Andrew Miller, a longtime Scouting volunteer at the local, council and national level who's helping to lead this section of the Jamboree. “One element of humanity's richness is cultural richness — especially in America, where so many different cultures come together in our nation.”

The Cultural Showcase, which is part of the Jamboree's larger Celebrating Humanity program, will have designated spaces for different cultures. Each space will feature activities and displays such as games, attire and more.



About Aaron Derr

Aaron Derr is the senior editor of Scout Life and Scouting magazines, and also a former Cubmaster and Scouts BSA volunteer.