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NEW: Interactive Table of Contents!!
Click on the underlined title to jump to that page of the newsletter. The red triangle ▲ will bring you back here.
NEW ROLES FOR A COUPLE OF FAMILIAR FACES

It has been announced that Pat Noack has been appointed as the new Chair for the National Outdoor Programs and Properties Subcommittee.

Pat has served as the National Aquatics Subcommittee Chair for the last 16 years, leading many aquatics-based initiatives for the BSA.

As the Chair of the National Outdoor Programs and Properties Subcommittee, Pat will give support and leadership to eleven subcommittees including the Aquatics Subcommittee. Pat's background in Scouting and specifically in outdoor programs has prepared him to give support to these key functions of Scouting's program.

While Pat will no longer chair the Aquatics Subcommittee, he will continue as a sitting member.

We wish him the best in this new endeavor.

We are pleased to announce Terry Budd as the Chairman of the National Aquatics Subcommittee. He has represented Central Region on the National Aquatics Task Force/Subcommittee since 2015.

A Mechanical Engineer and President of LSG Engineering in Akron, Ohio, Terry, an Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor Member, Venturing Leadership Award and Silver Beaver recipient, has been a leader in Scouting since he joined Troop 411 as a youth in 1981.

Since 2001, he has taught Aquatic Directors at the Regional Level for the National Camp School training course, for the last twelve years as Aquatic Section Director. He updated the BSA Lifeguard Instructor Manual in 2017 and most recently was the chairman/host of the 2020 National Virtual Aquatics Conference. Terry has been part of Aquatic Staffs at 5 National Jamborees and the most recent World Jamboree at the Summit.
2021 CHANGES TO AQUATICS MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

For example:
Swimming merit badge now required for Lifesaving

Revised requirements for Lifesaving, Motorboating, and Rowing merit badges were released for 2021. Both the current and previous requirements are provided at Merit Badges | Boy Scouts of America (scouting.org). Rowing requirement (2) was updated to allow work to proceed on non-skill requirements prior to completing BSA Swimmer classification, which is still required for all on-water requirements. A similar change (2a) was implemented for Motorboating merit badge along with updates to both cognitive material and boat handing skills (1a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 5c).

Changes to Lifesaving merit badge were made to requirements (1, 2, 15, 16). Completion of aquatics requirements for 2nd and 1st Class ranks has been replaced with earning Swimming merit badge prior to working on in-water skills. Demonstration of CPR skills must now be guided by a current CPR/AED instructor trained by a nationally certified provider.

The above link includes pdf files of the revised requirement pages for each merit badge pamphlet. That online posting provides the most current, accurate, and official requirements. As of January 2021, printed pamphlets from the Supply Division (Merit Badge Pamphlets - Program Literature - Literature (scoutshop.org)) and digital versions from Amazon (Amazon.com: kindle boy scout merit badge book) have not been updated.

Scouts beginning work on these merit badges in 2021 must use the new requirements. If Scouts have already started work on a merit badge prior to release of the new requirements, they may continue to use the previous requirements.
FAMILY ADVENTURE CAMP AT FLORIDA SEA BASE

Camp Jackson Sawyer is a beautiful oceanfront property located on Scout Key between the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean. At Camp Sawyer, Florida Sea Base is proud to offer an exciting new camping opportunity: **Family Adventure Camp**.

Both Scouting and non-Scouting families alike can stay in the new Luxury Deluxe Tents which offer “glamping”-style accommodations. Campers can enjoy many of the comforts of home while still experiencing the excitement of waterfront camping. Each tent provides real beds, quality linens, electricity, and air conditioning. Adirondack chairs on the front porch allow campers to relax and enjoy the scenery.

All tents are a short walk from indoor restroom and shower facilities. Of course, there is still plenty of rustic camping for those who prefer a more primitive experience. Florida Sea Base has partnered with Bahia Honda State Park to provide activities to campers such as snorkeling and kayaking with more options coming soon.

Florida Sea Base hopes to change the lives of youth by providing this wholesome camping adventure to Scouts and families.

More information and a link to book can be found on the Florida Sea Base website: [https://www.bsaseabase.org/camping/](https://www.bsaseabase.org/camping/).
NORTHERN TIER 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Beginning in the summer of 2022 and continuing through 2023, Northern Tier will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding. All three bases (Ely, Atikokan, and Bissett) will award special emblems to trek participants featuring a gold “100” and border. Participants in summer programs will also be eligible to earn a special re-issue of the original Paul Bunyan Award, earned by many scouts in the early years. Keep up to date on all things Northern Tier by visiting our web page at www.ntier.org!
Background: The Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) offers a multilevel scholarship program to introduce Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts to the exciting underwater world. PADI recognizes that adventure is one of the key elements of Scouting and scuba diving is an exciting avocation or vocation that can be enjoyed in just about every part of the country.

Level 1 Scholarships: Individual - PADI Open Water Diver Course

Ten Scholarships of eLearning codes for Open Water Diver Course ($195 value) will be presented annually.

Level 2 Scholarships: Individual - PADI Continuing Education Course

Five Scholarships of eLearning codes for Advanced Open Water or Rescue Diver (up to $189 value) will be presented annually.

Level 3 Scholarships: Troop - PADI Open Water Diver Course

Five Scouts BSA Troops, Venturing Crews and/or Sea Scout Ships of up to 8 members will receive scholarships of PADI Open Water Diver eLearning codes to use toward a PADI Open Water Diver Course.

Level 4 Scholarship: – Individual – Divemaster Course

Three Scholarships of materials for a PADI Divemaster course including eLearning codes and Crew Pak ($684 value)

Level 5 Scholarships: – Individual - PADI Instructor Development Materials

Three scholarships of materials for a PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor course including eLearning codes, Crew Pak, Instructor Examination Fees and IDC Registration Fees ($2012 value).

Here’s the Application link:

2021 PADI Scholarship Application
SUMMER CAMP LIFE DURING COVID-19
NORTH FLORIDA COUNCIL

As with all councils, North Florida Council (NFC) has faced challenges in how to manage camp activities in a safe and healthy manner, while still promoting the benefits of attending summer camp and supporting scouts.

For the summer of 2020, NFC made the decision to implement strict protocols for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and to open camp for a shortened schedule of four weeks (normally eight). Along with this decision came the need to look at each program area and determine what adjustments needed to be made to keep everyone safe.

Aquatics activities brought its own set of specific challenges. While the CDC has stated that being in chlorinated water, or even lake or river water, will kill/wash off the virus from skin or equipment, this does not remove the risk of scouts and leaders infecting each other through normal conversation – and it’s a bit difficult to wear a surgical mask in the water.

Recognizing the importance of aquatics activities in the life of a scout at camp, the decision was made to offer basic classes where appropriate social distance could be maintained – instructional swimming, Swimming MB, SUP Award, Kayak Award and free swim. Several courses, being “up close and personal” were not offered or were made available to Staff only.

Undoubtedly, our approach was not unusual or distinct – but we were determined to make a program available to scouts during a very difficult time. And this was successfully accomplished!

We are looking forward to 2021 where we will, again, open our resident camp – Camp Shands – as well as our Aquatics Day Camp, which was not open during 2020. Both camps will be opened for four weeks, plus Camp Shands will host ROTC activities for one week. The program schedule will be finalized over the next few weeks. Protocols now considered standard parts of our daily lives will be maintained.

Our Aquatics Committee has also continued to meet during the months of the pandemic – the ongoing contact being important to keeping the aquatics program moving forward. There are no simple answers to questions about safety during a pandemic. The complicated nature of the restrictions under which we are all living can be overwhelming. But aquatics can successfully be continued as a part of your overall program offerings at summer camp.

JK
POSEIDON ADVENTURE

The Venturing program has a High Adventure training called Powderhorn. Sea Scouts has no such program. Grand Canyon Council has developed such a program. It’s called POSEIDON. The idea came from Curt Ware of Central Region. We expanded the idea from his event. Thank you, Curt, for your inspiration. Our Goal is to document the event, create curriculum, and guide book to submit to National for adoption as the OFFICIAL Sea Scout advanced training event.

POSEIDON is a skills resource weekend filled with Aquatic adventure, and maritime learning being offered to adult Scouters and co-ed youth that are 14 years of age or older.

The goals of Poseidon are to help Scouts and Scout leaders safely conduct outdoor activities of a fun and challenging nature, introduce the resources necessary to successfully lead youth through a program of aquatic adventures, and familiarize participants with the skills involved in different adventure disciplines.

**Thurs. 4/15/21 Noon Check In**  
**Sunday 4/18/21 Graduation Landship and Check out by Noon.**

Poseidon presents a wide variety of hands-on high adventure skills experiences, and thus is not designed to provide any specific skills certifications.

**What will you learn at POSEIDON??**

- Navigation-  
- Marlinspike -  
- Radios/Communication-  
- Fishing-  
- Sailing-  
- Paddlecraft-  
- Capsize Safety-  
- Lifesaving-  
- Planning a long cruise-  
- Landships-  
- Scuttlebutt--  
- SCUBA-  
- Small boat handling-  
- Marksmanship-  
- Boat repair -  
- Engine maintenance-

Below are the series of BLING for graduates of the event. Offered in GOLD for participants, Black for Adults, and Silver for Instructors and Special Guests.

Join us at:  
**https://scoutingevent.com/010-poseidon**
AMERICAN RED CROSS LIFESAVING AWARD

Lifesaving Award. Have you or someone you know used your Red Cross training to Save or Sustain a life?

We would like to hear about it. The American Red Cross would like to recognize any individual or team of individuals that utilize their training in an emergency.

Eligible nominees may receive one of three awards:

- **Certificate of Merit**
  - For Red Cross trained individuals and off-duty Professional Responders
  - Signed by the President of the United States, the Honorary Chairman of the American Red Cross.

- **Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders**
  - For Red Cross trained Professional Responders and Healthcare Professionals acting while on duty

- **Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action**
  - For individuals and teams who are not Red Cross trained.

For more information or to nominate an individual or team, please visit the American Red Cross Lifesaving website at [https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/lifesaving](https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/lifesaving).

FOR MORE INFO ON RED CROSS PROGRAMS:

Todd St. Clair – todd.stclair@redcross.org
FIRST AID FOR SEVERE TRAUMA (FAST) will be available in the Fall. This program will help individuals respond to severe trauma such as life-threatening bleeding.

- Recognize and stop a life-threatening bleeding emergency
- Communicate effectively during an emergency
- Safeguard rescuers and the trauma victim
- Safely position the trauma victim
- Apply direct pressure and tourniquets

FAST was developed by the American Red Cross in collaboration with the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health with grant support from the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate. Through this grant, the FAST course will be offered at no charge to students attending high school. For more information, please visit https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/first-aid/first-aid-training/first-aid-classes/fast-training

TRAINING DURING A PANDEMIC. Many have asked questions regarding training and decontamination of manikins during the pandemic. The American Red Cross has created a Guidance Page on the Learning Center. This page provides course-specific information and updates for training. It will also provide information for course modifications to maintain social distancing during class. More information is available online at https://www.redcrosslearningcenter.org/s/american-red-cross-covid-19-guidance
VIRTUAL SEABADGE

Sea Scouts has gone virtual - virtual Seabadge that is.

Last fall, Tran-Atlantic Council tried something new -- a virtual Seabadge which covered 9 time zones and over 60 participants.

With their success Sea Scouts has launched programs across the country. Virtual Seabadge has been popular for several reasons:

- cost is low,
- meet Scouters from far away places and
- travel is not required.

Seabadge is a leadership and management training focused on the “how-to” aspects of managing a successful youth led Sea Scout program.

While Seabadge was developed as an advanced leadership training program for experienced Sea Scout adult leaders the course is open to all adult Scout leaders.

The driving theme for the training is to “Focus on Youth”, which makes the course especially valuable for any Scout leader dealing with older youth. Seabadge does not cover topics like boating, knots, or other program-related materials found in the Sea Scout Manual.

For calendar and registration: https://seascout.org/adult-training/seabadge/
THE BSA NATIONAL AQUATICS SUBCOMMITTEE

The National Aquatics Subcommittee meets at least twice a year and has multiple on-going projects aimed at helping you in support of your local aquatics programs.

This eNewsletter is one effort to keep you informed of what’s going on in BSA aquatics.

Direct information or inquiries regarding this newsletter or the Aquatics Subcommittee to Steve at:

terrells@indy.rr.com

To subscribe to this newsletter and all Outdoor Program newsletters check the front page of the Outdoor Programs webpage. Here is the link:

http://t.email.scouting.org/lp/subscribeoutdoorprograms