



Five Rivers Council Camping Newsletter

Calendar of Events

- January 7th
Williamson Road
Winteree at
Camp Gorton
- January 7th
OA Lodge 30 Annual
Lodge Banquet
at Camp Gorton
- January 13th – 15th
WR / TB Polar Bear
at Camp Gorton
- January 20th – 22nd
Andaste Polar Bear
at Camp Brulé
- January 21st
Thunderbird
Winteree at
Camp Gorton
- January 27th – 29th
Venturing Biathlon
at Camp Gorton.

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Unit of Distinction Program

In May of 2016 the Camping Committee and Executive Board set a three year camping fees schedule and also rolled out a Unit of Distinction Program.

The purpose of the Unit of Distinction program is to reward units with a solid unit program.

There are separate qualifications for units in Five Rivers Council and for Out of Council units.

In Council Qualifications:

- 1) Unit must be a JTE Bronze, Silver, or Gold level.
- 2) Successfully participate in a Family Friends of Scouting program and
- 3) Successfully Participate in the Popcorn (or other approved) Council Product Sale.
- 4) Complete a service project at either camp or donate \$500 worth of supplies approved by the Scout Executive

Out of Council Unit Qualifications:

See the attached form in the newsletter.

Each unit who qualifies as a Unit of Distinction will receive a \$25 discount per Scout in their unit for resident camp and the unit will be able to tent camp at either camp through the short term camping season for FREE!

Camp Brulé offers High Adventure Program in 2017!

In 2017 Camp Brulé will offer a High Adventure Experience to older Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts who are 14 – 20 years old.

The High Adventure Camp at Camp Brulé is a team challenge week that will test scouts' ability to work as a team, to hike mountain trails, to shoot, to cook, and to climb to new heights on our high ropes challenge course and climbing wall. Over the course of their adventure scouts will

grow as individuals, bond as a team, and create memories they will carry with them for a lifetime.

The Cost of this program is \$440 and is open to the first 30 Scouts who sign up for this program. There is a cap of 30 for the program this summer. There are a few spots for adult leaders, their fee is \$100 for food for the session. Please refer all questions to our Camp Director, Mike Salitrynski (salitrynski@gmail.com)



Campership Form Due March 1st

Camperships are designed to help those Scouts who are in need of having a summer camp experience.

Remember that these are not automatic and are given to Scout's who truly need the help.

The Five Rivers Council offers camperships to Scouts for Day Camp, Cub Scout Resident Camp, and Boy Scout Resident Camp who come from families who need help to ensure their Scout can have a summer experience.

The form is attached and needs to be filled out by both the Leader and the Parent. Leaders, please make sure you fill out the

form completely, as forms that are partially completed are evaluated after all completed forms are evaluated.

A Scout is Thrifty
Camperships are awarded based upon the need as well as other factors. Each unit is asked to ask their charter organization, local organizations, and the family before asking for

funds from the council. We try to ensure that those Scouts who truly need the extra support to have a summer experience are able to do so. This year we also request the amount of popcorn sold by the Scout this past fall. If you have any questions, please contact Camping Chairman George Bacalles.



Above is the patch for the Venturing Biathlon

Venturing Biathlon at Camp Gorton January 27th- 29th

The Five Rivers Council Venturing VOA has again planned a Biathlon at Camp Gorton from January 27th – 29th. This annual event will again challenge Venturing Scouts to a weekend of cross country skiing and shooting sports as well. More than that there is

always ample time for fellowship between Venturing Scouts from all over Upstate New York.

Unit Camp Promotion

Summer camp is around the corner and what better way to start the Scouting year but to have your Scouts attend the Five Rivers Council Resident Camp at Camp Gorton this summer! The Camping Committee and OA Lodge is willing to come to your unit to give a Camp Promotion to ensure your Scouts and

Parents know of the opportunities given to your Scouts this summer.

Between Day Camp, Cub Scout Resident Camp, Boy Scout Resident Camp, and the new High Adventure Camp at Camp Brulé the council is offering the most diverse programs

we have ever offered to Scouts in our council. As many of you know, Scouts who attend a Scouting summer camp program are 80% likely to continue in Scouting. To sign up for a Camp Promotion, please fill out the google form here: <http://tinyurl.com/frcampromo>

Andaste District Polar Bear at Camp Brulé

The Andaste District's Polar Bear will be January 20th – 22nd at Camp Brulé. This year there will be a STEM Themed Bridge Engineering theme for troops in attendance.

The event will start on Friday evening, troops

arriving to set up their campsites followed by a crackerbarrell. Saturday morning will be the construction of bridges followed by judging of the bridges in the afternoon. There are seven awards that will be presented. Saturday

evening there will be a Scout's Own Service followed by a campfire.

For more information, contact Event Chairman Kelly Horton at: Horton96@yahoo.com



Above is the patch for the Camp Brulé Polar Bear

TB / WR District Polar Bear at Camp Gorton

The Thunderbird and Williamson Road District Polar Bear will be Friday January 13th – Sunday January 15th. The Gorton Iditarod will challenge Scouts and Venturers on their Scouting skills with over 12 activities where troops/crews will be competing against each other for Polar bucks.

The fee of \$18.50 per Scout and adult ensures you have lunch by the OA, though a \$50 pre-registration and approximate number of Scouts and adults from each unit attending is due by Tuesday January 3rd. If the pre-registration fee and approximate number is not given, it will be

\$23.50 per Scout and adult. There will also be a night Iditarod Challenge and campfire. Shooting Sports range time for Scouts aged 12 and older. Each Scout who wishes to participate needs to completely fill out the Firearm Authorization form in the Polar Bear Packet. See you there!

Cub Scout Winterees at Camp Gorton

Williamson Road District

Williamson Road District will again host their Cub Scout Winteree at Camp Gorton on Saturday January 7th. This year's theme is Jungle Mania which will provide fun activities for you Cub Scout. Registration starts at 8:00 am on Saturday followed by activities beginning just after 9 am. Lunch can either be brought or can be purchased through the OA Lodge by pre-registering. There are bonus points

given to packs if they provide adult leaders to help run events, all members of the pack wearing matching clothing items, performing a cheer at a activity station, bringing their den flags, staying overnight, or by participating in the Friday evening campfire.

Thunderbird District

Thunderbird District will be hosting their Cub Scout Winteree on Saturday January 21st at

Camp Gorton. This year's theme is Cub Scout in Shining Armor. The fee for this event is \$3.00 for Cub Scouts and \$1.00 for Adults if you pre-register. It will be \$5.00 at the door. If you have any questions contact Mary Stears at: judd@frontiernet.net

Indian Waters District Cub Scout Winteree will be a Gold Rush theme on Saturday January 21st at the First Presbyterian Church in Horseheads on Westinghouse Road. Pre-Registration is \$4.00 per person before January 10th, \$8.00 per after that.

Resident Camp Early Bird Discount due May 1st

Has your unit signed up for a
Camp Promotion for
Resident / Day Camp? If not,
fill out the google form below

<http://tinyurl.com/frcamppromo>

There may be snow on the ground, but it is not too early to start communicating with Scouts and parents in your unit about preparation for summer camp!

The Early Bird Fee is due to the Council Office by May 1st, 2017.

This will ensure your Scouts get the early bird discount which is \$30 less than the regular price. This can be done online or can be paid at the Arnot Mall Scout Store.

The other advantage is having your payments made early helps with

the online merit badge registration which will start on May 15th.

Five Rivers Council units who wish to have a camp promotion can sign up for one filling out the google survey here:

<http://tinyurl.com/frcamppromo>

Day Camp Theme of Bug Hunters Coming this Summer!



This Five Rivers Council Day Camps will have the theme of Bug Hunters for this summer at each of the Day Camps we offer throughout the council.

Day Camp is an excellent opportunity for Cub Scouts to

experience a summer experience with Cub Scouts from their pack and ones outside of their pack.

Each Day Camp due to their facility has unique program opportunities which include archery, BB guns, crafts, games,

nature, swimming, fishing, and other activities. More information will be released through the Day Camp Committee in future newsletters.

Parent Guide to be Released Soon!

The Five Rivers Council Summer Camp Parent Guide will be released in mid-January. This packet is designed to give Parents of Scouts information that is important to ensuring their Scout is prepared for their summer camp experience.

In the packet is information on Day Camp, Cub Scout

Resident Camp, Boy Scout Resident Camp, and for the High Adventure Camp at Camp Brulé. Each camp is broken down into sections to ensure parents will be able to focus on the program their Scout is attending.

The Camping Committee made changes this year to the guide to ensure that

new parents or seasoned veterans would get the necessary information to prepare their Scout for success.

Please ensure your parents are informed and have access to this document. It will be available on our camping pages on www.fiverivers.org.

The parent guide will be available on our council website:

www.fiverivers.org

Contact Information

Camping Chairman
George Bacalles
gbacalles@gmail.com

Camping Staff Adviser
Karl Ziegenfus

Council Activities Chairman
Dan Carpenter

District Camping Chairs

Andaste Chairman
John Laidlaw

Indian Waters Chairman
Vacant

Thunderbird Chairman
Bob Aho

Williamson Road Chairman
Vacant

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.fiverivers.org

Member of our Facebook group?
If not join today

[Facebook.com/campbrulebsa](https://www.facebook.com/campbrulebsa)

[Facebook.com/campgorton](https://www.facebook.com/campgorton)

YouTube Channels

Camp Brulé
<http://tinyurl.com/bruleyoutube>

Camp Gorton
<http://tinyurl.com/gortonyoutube>

Are your Scouts & Adults BSA Medical Form Up to Date?

Each year all Scouts and Adult Leaders are required to have an up to date physical form completed by physician. This is done in order to ensure each Scout and Adult Leader are ready to participate in the variety of activities

In order to ensure you

have this, please make sure you educate parents to make their physician's appointment far in advance. It is much easier to bring the physical form to camp than to try to fax or email it to camp.

Also please make sure they have parts A, B,

and C completed as well as all required signatures on them. To get the most current and up to date physical form, see the link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/olwfkku>

Training for Adult Leaders

Five Rivers Council decided last year that all adult leaders (registered in the BSA and those who are not) who participate as an adult leader at camp needs to have BSA Youth Protection Training. This was made a requirement to ensure all adult

leaders know the policies of the BSA when dealing with Scouts.

Why does this matter in January? Certain times of the year there is a higher demand for online training than others. May and June are two of those times when

Scouters and adults throughout the country have to get their training online which causes delays and other issues. Encourage your adult leaders to complete their training now to avoid delays or other online complications.

Camp Brule and Camp Gorton on Facebook

Camp Brule and Camp Gorton have active social media accounts for up to date information, pictures of current events, or history that will bring you back to different times for both camps. We also have YouTube accounts with videos from past summers as well as promotional

materials for your unit to use or share for promotional materials.

If you have history of either camp or have video or pictures from previous summers that you would wish to provide to us, please email George Bacalles: gbacalles@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

January 7th

January 13th – 15th

January 20th – 22nd

January 21st

January 27th – 29th

Williamson Road District Wintee at Camp Gorton
TKäen DöD Lodge 30 Annual Banquet at Camp Gorton
Thunderbird/Williamson Road Polar Bear at Camp Gorton
Andaste District Polar Bear at Camp Brule
Thunderbird District Winteree at Camp Gorton
Indian Waters District Winteree in Horsheads
FRC VOA Venturing Biathlon at Camp Gorton