



2025-2026 Sandhills District Program Planning Guide

Version – 1 (February 2025)



**SANDHILLS
DISTRICT**
OCCONEECHEE COUNCIL

sandhills.ocscouts.org

Table of Contents

About Sandhills District and Key 3 Team	1
The Scouting Programs	2
Cub Scout Approved Camping Locations	3
Important Dates—2025	4
Important Dates—2025 Continued	5
Important Dates—2026	6
Important Dates—2026 Continued	7
Adult Training Opportunities	8
Adult Training Awards, and Recognitions	9
Training Program Descriptions	10
Key Events & Program Descriptions	11
Program Descriptions Continued	12
Program Descriptions Continued	13
Program Descriptions Continued	14
Activities and Civic Service	15
Order of the Arrow	16
Program Descriptions—Sea Scouts	17
Program Descriptions—Venturing	18
Fundraising Opportunities	19
Membership	20
District Staff	21
Occoneechee Scout Reservation	22



About Sandhills District and the Key 3 Team

The Sandhills District, part of the Occoneechee Council of the Boy Scouts of America, serves Scouting units in Lee, Cumberland, Moore, and Harnett Counties in North Carolina. The district's Scouting units and programs are supported by a dedicated District Committee, which includes members focusing on Membership, Finance, Outdoor Activities, Civic Service, Advancement, Training, Youth Protection, and a Quartermaster. Leadership and resources for these efforts are provided by the District Key 3.

The district offers excellent opportunities for Packs, Troops, Ships, and Crews. Use the provided planning calendar to develop your unit's program. Key dates can be found on pages 3-5, with descriptions on pages 8-17. If you have any questions, contact a member of the Key 3 team.

Key 3 Team

Kevin Frassel	District Chairman	sandhills-districtchair@ocscouts.org
Matt Hall	District Commissioner	sandhills-districtcommissioner@ocscouts.org
Jamie Ammons	District Executive	james.ammons@scouting.org

Important Contact Information

Occoneechee Council
3231 Atlantic Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27604
Phone: (919) 872-4884

Camp Durant
4637 Old Carthage Rd.
Carthage, NC 28327
(919) 872-488

Online Resources:

Sandhills District Website: www.Sandhills.OCScouts.org

Official Sandhills Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/sandhills.district

Occoneechee Council Website: www.OCScouts.org

Official Occoneechee Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/OcconeecheeCouncilBSA



The Scouting Program

The Scouting Experience is divided into programs according to age and activities



CUB SCOUTING – Boys and Girls ages 5-10 (Grades K-5)

Cub Scouting is all about encouraging boys and girls to make friends, be helpful to others, and do their very best no matter the outcome. With the help of powerful learning projects and exciting outdoor activities, we aim to teach children that doing their best can be a fun and rewarding experience—no matter the difficulty of the challenge.



SCOUTS BSA – Youth ages 11-17 (Grades 6-12)

Scouts BSA is the traditional Scouting experience where boys and girls can have their share of adventure in the great outdoors. Develop a love of service by volunteering in their community, boost your leadership skills through fun and exciting challenges, and create memories of a lifetime with no prior Scouting experience required!



VENTURING – Coed ages 14-20

Venturing is a youth-led program all about building adventures with friends. Choose to do activities that matter and develop essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication, and responsibility while having a blast!



SEA SCOUTS – Coed ages 14-20

For over 100 years Sea Scouting has promoted better citizenship and improved members' boating skills through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage

Find a unit near You!



www.BeAScout.org



Cub Scout Approved Camping Locations



Cape Fear Council

Camp Dixie – 373 Bladen Union Church Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28306
Jones Lake State Park – 4117 NC-242 N, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Singletary Lake State Park – 6707 NC-53 E, Kelly, NC 28448
Camp Clearwater - 2038 White Lake Dr, Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Camp Bowers – 13165 NC Hwy 53 West, White Oak, NC

Coastal Carolina Council

USS Yorktown at Patriot's Point – 40 Patriots Point Rd, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Occoneechee Council

Camp Agape - 1369 Tyler Dewar Ln, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526
Camp Durant – 4637 Old Carthage Rd, Carthage, NC 28327
Camp Rockfish – 226 Camp Rockfish Rd, Raeford, NC 28376
Clark Park & Nature Center – 631 Sherman Dr, Fayetteville, NC 28301
Falls Lake State Recreation Area - 13304 Creedmoor Rd, Wake Forest, NC 27587
Freedom Farm Camp Ground – 231 Aiken Rd, Vass, NC 28394
Het Landhuis – 1898 Henderson Tanyard Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Jordan Lake State Recreation Area - 280 State Park Rd, Apex, NC 27523
Little River Regional Park - 301 Little River Park Way, Rougemont, NC 27572
New Sharon United Methodist Church – 1601 New Sharon Church Rd, Hillsborough, NC 27270
Smith Lake Recreation Area Site D – BLDG Q – 2922 Smith Lake Rd, Fort Bragg, NC 28307

Tidewater Council

Oregon Inlet Campground - 12001 NC-12, Nags Head, NC 27959

Tuscarora Council

Camp Tuscarora - 1433 Scout Rd, Four Oaks, NC 27524



Important Dates

2025						
Date		Event	Cub Scouts	Scouts BSA	Venturing	Sea Scouts
	Feb	Scouting For Food Service Project	X	X	X	X
08	Feb	National Boy Scout Day / Sunset Liberty March (Ft. Liberty)	X	X	X	X
08	Feb	Occonechee Council Eagle Banquet		X	X	X
22	Feb	Marksman Hockey Scout Night	X	X	X	X
01	Mar	Council Cub Open Program	X			
07-09	Mar	Catholic Camporee (Camp Bowers)		X	X	X
14-16	Mar	OA Spring Pow-Wow		X	X	X
15	Mar	OA WEBELOS Day	X			
21-23	Mar	Sandhills District Spring Camporee (Camp Bowers)		X	X	X
29	Mar	Sandhills District Pinewood Derby	X			
05	Apr	Sandhills District Bike Rodeo (Smith Lake)	X	X	X	X
	Apr	Spring Blitz Recruiting	X	X	X	X
11-13	Apr	OA Conclave hosted by Camp Cherokee		X	X	X
25-27	Apr	Council Cuboree	X			
10	May	United Way Day of Caring "Stamp out Hunger"	X	X	X	X
10	May	Occonechee Council Scouts BSA Open Program		X	X	X
16-18	May	OA Spring Inductions		X	X	X
12-14	Jun	Occonechee Council Cub Scout Camp @ Durrant	X			
23-27	Jun	Sandhills District Cub Scout Day Camp	X			
15-21	Jun	Occonechee Council Summer Camp (Week 1)		X	X	X
22-28	Jun	Occonechee Council Summer Camp (Week 2)		X	X	X
29 Jun – 5 Jul	Jun/Jul	Occonechee Council Summer Camp (Week 2)		X	X	X



Important Dates Continued

2025 Continued						
Date		Event	Cub Scouts	Scouts BSA	Venturing	Sea Scouts
06-12	Jul	Occoneetchee Council Summer Camp (Week 4)		X	X	X
01	Aug	Woodpecker Baseball Overnighter	X	X	X	X
16	Aug	Fall Round-up Recruiting (Runs through 28 Sep)	X	X	X	X
	Aug	Popcorn Kick-off	X	X	X	X
15-16	Aug	OA Trade-O-Ree / Gentgeen		X	X	X
16	Aug	Occoneetchee Council Scouts BSA Open Program		X	X	X
22-23	Aug	SHD Movie Overnight/Fishing Day @ Durant	X	X	X	X
	Sep	Popcorn Sales	X	X	X	X
05-07	Sep	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) – Weekend 1		X	X	X
19-21	Sep	OA Fall Fellowship		X	X	X
26-28	Sep	Davy Jones Rendezvous			X	
03-05	Oct	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) – Weekend 2		X	X	X
10-12	Oct	Sandhills District Jamboree		X	X	X
18	Oct	Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)/Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI)	X	X	X	X
18-19	Oct	OA Vigil Gathering		X	X	X
24-26	Oct	Council Spook-O-Ree	X			
	Nov	Scouting for Food Service Project	X	X	X	X
	Nov	Veterans Day Parades	X	X	X	X
01	Nov	Occoneetchee Council University of Scouting		X	X	X
08	Nov	Council Cub Scout Open Program	X			
14	Nov	OA Lodge Executive Committee (LEC)		X	X	X
15-16	Nov	OA Lodge Leadership Development (LLD)		X	X	X
	Dec	Christmas Parades	X	X	X	X
06	Dec	OA Winter Banquet		X	X	X
28	Dec	Last Day Hike	X	X	X	X



Important Dates Continued

2026						
Date		Event	Cub Scouts	Scouts BSA	Venturing	Sea Scouts
16-17	Jan	Winter Blast		X	X	X
	Feb	Sea Badge (Camp Durant)		X	X	X
	Feb	Scouting For Food Service Project	X	X	X	X
07	Feb	National Boy Scout Day / Sunset Liberty March (Ft. Liberty)	X	X	X	X
07	Feb	Occoneetchee Council Eagle Banquet		X	X	X
21	Feb	Marksman Hockey Scout Night	X	X	X	X
07	Mar	Council Cub Open Program	X			
13-15	Mar	Catholic Camporee (Camp Bowers)		X	X	X
20-22	Mar	OA Spring Pow-Wow		X	X	X
21	Mar	OA WEBELOS Day	X			
27-29	Mar	Sandhills District Spring Camporee		X	X	X
04	Apr	Sandhills District Pinewood Derby	X			
	Apr	Sandhills District Bike Rodeo	X	X	X	X
	Apr	Spring Blitz Recruiting	X	X	X	X
17-19	Apr	OA Conclave hosted by Camp Durant		X	X	X
24-26	Apr	Council Cuboree	X			
	May	United Way Day of Caring "Stamp out Hunger"	X	X	X	X
09	May	Occoneetchee Council Scouts BSA Open Program		X	X	X
15-17	May	OA Spring Inductions		X	X	X
12-14	Jun	Occoneetchee Council Cub Scout Camp @ Durrant	X			
22-26	Jun	Sandhills District Cub Scout Day Camp	X			
14-20	Jun	Occoneetchee Council Summer Camp (Week 1)		X	X	X
21-27	Jun	Occoneetchee Council Summer Camp (Week 2)		X	X	X
28 Jun – 4 Jul	Jun/Jul	Occoneetchee Council Summer Camp (Week 3)		X	X	X



Important Dates Continued

2026 Continued						
Date		Event	Cub Scouts	Scouts BSA	Venturing	Sea Scouts
05-11	Jul	Occoneetchee Council Summer Camp (Week 4)		X	X	X
01	Aug	Woodpecker Baseball Overnighter	X	X	X	X
15	Aug	Fall Round-up Recruiting (Runs through 27 Sep)	X	X	X	X
	Aug	Popcorn Kick-off	X	X	X	X
14-15	Aug	OA Trade-O-Ree / Gentgeen		X	X	X
15	Aug	Occoneetchee Council Scouts BSA Open Program		X	X	X
21-22	Aug	SHD Movie Overnight/Fishing Day @ Durant	X	X	X	X
	Sep	Popcorn Sales	X	X	X	X
04-06	Sep	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) – Weekend 1		X	X	X
18-20	Sep	OA Fall Fellowship		X	X	X
25-27	Sep	Davy Jones Rendezvous			X	
02-04	Oct	National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) – Weekend 2		X	X	X
09-11	Oct	Sandhills District Jamboree		X	X	X
17	Oct	Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)/Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI)	X	X	X	X
17-18	Oct	OA Vigil Gathering		X	X	X
23-25	Oct	Council Spook-O-Ree	X			
	Nov	Scouting for Food Service Project	X	X	X	X
	Nov	Veterans Day Parades	X	X	X	X
07	Nov	Occoneetchee Council University of Scouting		X	X	X
14	Nov	Council Cub Scout Open Program	X			
20	Nov	OA Lodge Executive Committee (LEC)		X	X	X
21-22	Nov	OA Lodge Leadership Development (LLD)		X	X	X
	Dec	Christmas Parades	X	X	X	X
05	Dec	OA Winter Banquet		X	X	X
27	Dec	Last Day Hike	X	X	X	X



Adult Training Opportunities

15	Feb	Sandhills / Eno River Trainers Edge
21-23	Mar	COPE/Climbing Level 1
11-13	Apr	Leave No Trace Trainer Level 1
17	Apr	First Aid/CPR/AED Training
25-27	Apr	Paddle Craft Safety Training Course
25-27	Apr	Sandhills BALOO Training
02	May	COPE 1 Training / Rock 1 Training
02-04	May	Sandhills IOLS Training
03	May	Wilderness First Aid
09-11	May	Whitewater Training
15	May	First Aid/CPR/AED Training
21	Aug	First Aid/CPR/AED Training
05-07	Sep	Wood Badge Week 1
12-14	Sep	Sandhills IOLS & BALOO Training
18	Sep	First Aid/CPR/AED Training
03-04	Oct	Wood Badge Week 2
03-04	Oct	Tower L1/L2
24-26	Oct	Leave No Trace Trainer
20	Nov	First Aid/CPR/AED Training
18	Dec	First Aid/CPR/AED Training



WOOD BADGE

Advanced Training for all Scout Leaders

Contact Monica Ezzell, sandhills-training@ocscouts.org, for additional IOLS & BALOO training opportunities outside of Occoneechee Council



Scouting America Adult Training Awards and Recognition

Den Leader Training Award

[Den Leader Training Award](#)



Scouter's Training Award

[Scouter's Training Award for Cub Scout Leaders](#)

[Scouter's Training Award for Scout BSA Leaders](#)

[Scouter's Training Award for Venturing Leaders](#)

[Scouter's Training Award for Sea Scouting](#)

[Leaders](#)



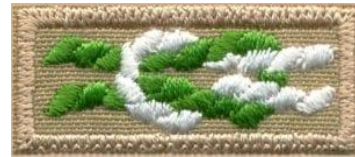
Scouter's Keys

[Cubmaster](#)

[Scoutmaster](#)

[Advisor](#)

[Skipper](#)



Submit training awards to: sandhills-training@ocscouts.org

Visit <https://sandhills.ocscouts.org/training> for the latest training information

Training Program Descriptions

Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)

BALOO is a one-and-a-half-day course designed to introduce Cub Scout leaders to the outdoor program and help them incorporate camping into their Pack activities.

The training consists of an online prerequisite component followed by an overnight hands-on practical session, which is offered through your District or Council. During BALOO training, leaders will learn about the Cub Scout level camping policies and discover the necessary tools to help their units carry out successful camping experiences. Completion of this course is mandatory for at least one adult on any Pack overnighter and never expires.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS)

Working as patrols, this hands-on course provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors. Upon completion, leaders should feel comfortable teaching Scouts the basic skills required to obtain the First Class rank. Along with Scoutmaster Specifics this course is required of all direct contact leaders registered in Scouts BSA Troops in order to be considered "trained".

Cub Scouting

Cubmasters, Assistant Cubmasters, Pack Committee Members, & Den Leaders

- ✦ Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Cub Scout Basic Training
- ✦ Hazardous Weather Training*

Scouts BSA

Scoutmasters and Assistants

- ✦ Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster Position Specific
- ✦ Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- ✦ Hazardous Weather Training*

Committee Members

- ✦ Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Troop Committee Challenge

Venturing

Advisors and Associate Advisors

- ✦ Venturing Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Venturing Advisor Position Specific
- ✦ Hazardous Weather Training*

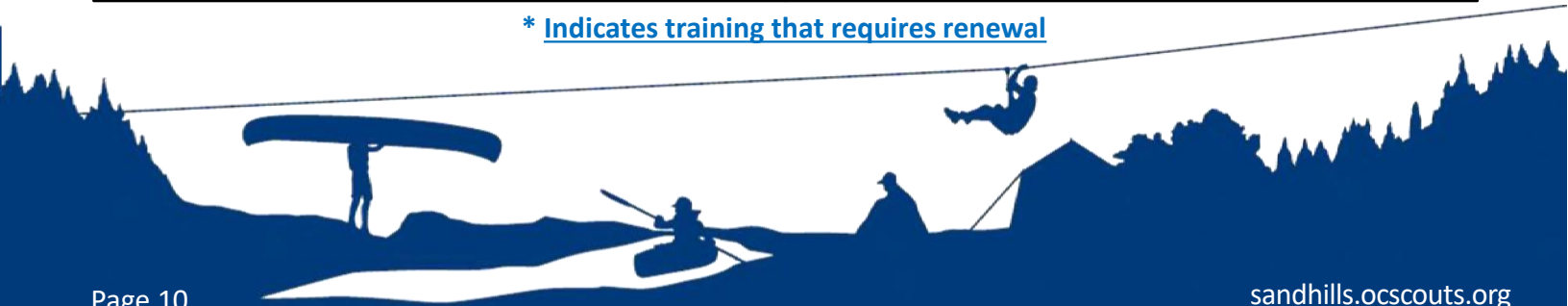
Sea Scouting

- ✦ Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic (All adults in Ships)
- ✦ E-Learning online training
- ✦ Hazardous Weather Training*

Chartered Organization Representatives

- ✦ Youth Protection Training*
- ✦ Training the Chartered Organization Representative

* [Indicates training that requires renewal](#)



Key Events & Program Descriptions



Selling popcorn as a fundraiser provides essential funds for activities and programs, directly supporting local Scout units. It also helps Scouts develop valuable life skills like salesmanship, communication, and financial management, while engaging with their community and earning rewards.

August 2025

Tri-District Fall Jamboree



Attending the Trial District Fall Jamboree offers Scouts an exciting opportunity to participate in a variety of fun and challenging activities, fostering teamwork and camaraderie in a non-competitive environment. It's a great way for Scouts to showcase their skills, learn new ones, and make lasting memories with fellow Scouts from across the council.

October 2025

Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI)



JOAT & JOTI are global Scouting events held annually in October. Scouts of any age, including Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, and girls, use amateur radio to connect with other Scouts and hams worldwide. They share information like names, locations, ranks, and hobbies. The event runs throughout the third weekend of October, allowing participants to communicate locally and internationally.

October 2025

Fishing and a Movie



Come cast a line and reel in the fun at Camp Durant! Whether you're a seasoned angler or casting for the first time, this is the perfect chance to enjoy a relaxing day by the water. Scouts of all ages can test their skills, swap fishing stories, and even work toward earning the Fishing Merit Badge or a Cub Scout Adventure. After a day of great outdoor excitement, kick back under the stars for a family-friendly movie on the big screen.

August 2025

Program Descriptions Continued

Last Day Hike



Last chance to get together and finish off the year of Scouting in style before we ring in the New Year! San Lee Park, Sanford

December 2025



Scout Sunday



The Boy Scouts of America allows chartered organizations to celebrate Scout Sunday on any day in February that best serves the chartering partner. Some organizations choose the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as the date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. For others, Scout Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. It is permissible for a local church to celebrate on the day most acceptable to the pastor and congregation

February 2025

Sandhills District Spring Camporee



Our annual Spring Camporee draws Scouts BSA from across the District for an action-packed weekend of Scouting fun! This event provides an excellent opportunity for Scouts to participate in a variety of activities, challenges, and competitions, fostering camaraderie, skill-building, and the spirit of Scouting.

March 2025

District Pinewood Derby



The Sandhills District Pinewood Derby is a turbocharged event where Cub Scouts from different packs unleash their handcrafted wooden cars. The air crackles with excitement as sleek cars zip toward the finish line, vying for speed supremacy. And don't forget the design showdown.

March 2025

Program Descriptions Continued

Sandhills District Bike Rodeo



A Cub Scout bike rodeo is an educational and fun event where Scouts learn and practice biking skills and safety.

Activities include bike inspections, helmet fitting, skill courses, safety lessons, and fun challenges, helping Scouts develop confidence and promote a healthy, active lifestyle.

March 2025

Cub Day Camp



Cub Scout Day Camp offers the chance to explore new activities, develop skills, and build friendships. Day Camp provides age-appropriate activities and create memorable experiences for Cub Scouts.

June 2025

Cub Scout Summer Camp



Don't miss out on three unforgettable days at Cub Scout Summer Camp, nestled in the heart of Camp Durant. From sun-soaked adventures to themed activities, we've got it all. And don't miss the campfire program—it's where stories come alive under the starry sky

June 2025

Summer Camp



Summer Camp is a week-long adventure where Scouts participate in a variety of experiences, including merit badge classes, Troop competitions, swimming, flag ceremonies, campfires, and other outdoor activities. These fun and educational programs help Scouts develop skills, deepen friendships, and make progress through their ranks. Imagine learning lifesaving techniques, practicing archery, exploring environmental science, or honing your basketry skills all while surrounded by fellow Scouts and the great outdoors!

June – July 2025



Program Descriptions Continued

20 in 25 Hike



The "20 in 25" hike is a challenge where scout units aim to collectively hike 20 miles or more throughout the year. To participate, a unit must have 50% or more of their registered scouts complete this distance. Units that successfully achieve this goal receive a streamer to display at all their scouting events. It's a great way to encourage physical activity and teamwork within the scouting community!

Community Support—Local Parades



Scouts should participate in parades to recognize holidays or special occasions, like Veterans Day or Memorial Day. It's a chance to display loyalty to the nation and be part of the civic process. Marching in a parade is a great way to represent Scouting in your community.

OA Trade-O-Ree



The Order of the Arrow (OA) Trade-O-Ree is an event organized by the OA lodge where members and gather to trade Scouting memorabilia, such as patches, neckerchiefs, and other items. It's a social event that allows collectors to meet, exchange items, and share their passion for Scouting history and memorabilia. Lodge 104 Trade-O-Ree occurs the third weekend of August

Scouting for Food



Scouting for Food is the largest food collection event in the nation. Approximately 300,000 Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers, friends, family, and other volunteers go door-to-door collecting non-perishable food items for the less fortunate. The collected food is then distributed to local food pantries and assistance agencies across the globe. Last year, the Sandhills District made a significant impact collecting 34,797.60 pounds of food.

Activities and Civic Service

Helping the Environment

Scouts play a vital role in preserving our natural surroundings. By picking up litter in neighborhoods, cleaning trash from rivers, lakes, and streams, and planting trees, flowers, or seedlings, Scouts can make a significant impact on the environment. These activities not only beautify our communities but also instill a sense of responsibility towards nature.

Supporting the Community

Scouts can make a difference in their communities by conducting flag ceremonies at schools, organizing food drives for local food banks, raking leaves for neighbors, and visiting or reading to seniors. These acts of service foster a spirit of goodwill and strengthen community bonds. Imagine the pride and fulfillment of seeing a school event commence with a flag ceremony you organized or knowing that a senior citizen's day was brightened by your visit.

Assisting the Chartered Organization

Helping the chartered organization through cleanup projects, flag ceremonies, event setups, and distributing programs or bulletins at meetings showcases Scouts' commitment to their roots. These activities ensure that the organizations supporting Scouts thrive, creating a supportive environment for future generations of Scouts.



Scouting for Food

What is it?

Scouting for Food is an annual food drive where Scouts collect food for those in need. This initiative reflects the core values of Scouting by addressing food insecurity in our communities.

Why Participate?

Participating in Scouting for Food is a fantastic way for Scouts to earn service hours for rank advancement while making a real difference in their communities. It strengthens ties with local communities and is an easy-to-plan. Most importantly, it's a fun and rewarding experience that teaches Scouts the value of giving back.

Get Involved!

Join us in making a difference! Whether you're a Scout, a parent, or a community member, your participation in these service activities can create a lasting positive impact. Encourage your Scout troop to organize a local cleanup, plan a visit to a senior center, or participate in Scouting for Food. Together, we can uphold the Scouting tradition of doing a Good Turn Daily and contribute to a better, brighter future for everyone.

Take action today and be a part of something greater. Let's show our communities the true spirit of Scouting through dedicated service and compassion.



Order of the Arrow



As Scouting's National Honor Society, we forge lifelong bonds among the leaders in Scouting and:

- Recognize those who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives and, through that recognition, cause others to act in the same way
- Reinforce a life purpose of leadership in cheerful service to others
- Create and deliver peer-led, adult-guided, advanced leadership experiences for Scouts and Scouters that positively impact their unit, community, and ultimately our nation
- Be an integral part of Scouting America and encourage participation in all it offers through units, outdoor adventures, and national events to further the Scouting experience



Three OA Chapters of the Sandhills District:

[Mimahuk](#)
[Lauchsoheen](#)
[Netopalis](#)

Who can I talk to for more information?

Email the Chapter Advisors at sandhills-oa@ocscouts.org
or visit www.Lodge104.net

SEA SCOUTS

Sea Scouting offers high-adventure experiences on both sea and land, providing participants with opportunities for exploration, adventure, and lifelong memories. Activities include recreational boating such as sailing, power boating, water sports, kayaking, canoeing, camping, and more. No prior experience is necessary—just come ready to learn new skills and have fun on the water!

Sea Scouts, BSA, is a specialized program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women ages 14 to 20 who are eager to experience the rich opportunities and traditions of the sea while having fun.



Sea Scout Ship Nine-Four

Sea Scout Ship Nine-Four, chartered by the Anderson Creek POA in Harnett County, North Carolina, has been one of the premier Sea Scout Ships in the Occonechee Council since its inception in 2020. This unit has established itself as a leader in providing exceptional Sea Scouting experiences.

Whether you're looking to gain new skills, embark on exciting adventures, or simply enjoy the camaraderie of fellow Scouts, Sea Scout Ship Nine-Four offers something for everyone. Come join us and be part of a vibrant community dedicated to high-adventure, learning, and fun on the water!

For more information, visit <https://shipninefour.org/>



VENTURING

Venturing is a youth-led program for young men and women ages 14 to 20 and is all about building adventures with your friends. Choose to do activities that matter to you and develop essential skills like leadership, event-planning, organization, communication, and responsibility while having a blast!

Everyone has that moment that opens their eyes to a bigger world than they ever imagined. It might happen while paddling a quiet lake, bonding with new friends around a beach bonfire, or rising to the challenge of leading an exhausted crew to the edges of adventure. Venturing empowers you to create your own experiences while bringing Scouting values to life through high adventure outdoor activities and challenging real-world projects.



SHD Crews

Crew 0032, Bryce H Swindle VFW 10630, 3226 Davis St, Hope Mills NC, 28348

Crew 0094, Anderson Creek Club POA, 216 Anderson Creek Dr, Spring Lake, NC 28390

Crew 0711, St. Ann Catholic Church, 357 N Cool Spring St, Fayetteville, NC, 28301

Crew 0907, Trinity Lutheran Church, 525 Carthage St, Sanford, NC, 27330

For more information, visit

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/venturing/>

Fundraising Opportunities



The Sandhills District Popcorn and Scout Card Sales play a crucial role in supporting local Scouting units. Here's what it means for your unit



1. Financial Independence:

- ✿ By participating in these fundraisers, your unit can fund its entire year's activities. Imagine hosting great events, campouts, and sending every youth to summer camp—all without asking families for additional money.
- ✿ Last year's average popcorn sale per Scout was approximately \$335, with some units achieving over \$1200 per Scout!

2. Teaching Valuable Principles:

- ✿ Scouts learn the principles of free enterprise and the importance of "paying their own way."
- ✿ They gain financial literacy and responsibility, which are essential life skills.

3. Unit Commissions:

- ✿ The funds earned can help offset BSA membership fees and other unit expenses.
- ✿ With strategic planning, your unit can fully finance its Scouting program for the entire year.

4. No Up-Front Costs:

- ✿ The Council allows your unit to order the necessary products without requiring immediate payment.
- ✿ This flexibility ensures that units can participate without financial strain.

5. Life Lessons:

- ✿ Scouts learn self-confidence by actively contributing to their Scouting journey.
- ✿ Leadership skills and financial management become second nature.

Embrace these opportunities, empower your Scouts,
and continue building character through Scouting!



Membership

**46% of families in Scouting were never asked to join!!
Spread the word...invite family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers**

Discover the Adventure of Scouting!

Since 1910, Scouting has been inspiring future leaders by combining exciting adventures with values that last a lifetime. It's more than just activities – it's about building confidence, character, and skills that prepare youth for success in life. When we support our youth, we create a more caring, responsible, and thriving community.

This year, we're excited to launch a year-round recruitment initiative, bringing more families into the transformative experiences Scouting offers. Whether it's exploring the great outdoors, learning new skills, or giving back to the community, Scouting helps families grow closer while empowering young people to become their best selves.

Our mission this year is to showcase how Scouting positively impacts families, not only by creating unforgettable memories but also by helping youth build confidence, leadership, and a heart for service. We're here to show why Scouting is a must-have experience for every family!

To make this happen, we're equipping local units with everything they need to succeed – resources to grow their membership, strengthen retention, deliver high-quality programs, and engage more adults in leadership roles. Thriving Scout units create ripple effects across our community, from higher camp participation to successful fundraisers like popcorn sales and impactful service projects.

We're proud to stand on the strong foundation of Scouting's legacy, ensuring that even more youth and families can share in these life-changing opportunities.

Now's the time to join us! Whether you're a new family eager to explore Scouting or someone who's ready to share this incredible journey with others, we invite you to be part of our movement. Let's make this Scouting year unforgettable – together!



District Staff

District Key 3 and Vice-Chair Responsibilities

District Chair: The district chair oversees the successful operation of all district committees. They provide leadership to committee chairs and ensure that committees function effectively.

District Commissioner: The District Commissioner serves as the quality control officer. Their responsibilities include recruiting, training, and leading a team of commissioners. Commissioners coach adult leaders in every unit to achieve success. The District Commissioner also plays a crucial role in the unit service function of the district.

District Executive: This full-time paid professional guides the district and its top leadership. They oversee the overall functions of the district, working under the direction of the Council Scout Executive.

District Vice-Chairs: These individuals are assigned to specific counties within the district. Their role is to assist the district chairman in membership, program, and fund development functions.

District Staff and their Responsibilities

Program Vice-Chair: This role involves recruiting volunteers and leading the team in four critical functions: Activities, Advancement, Outdoor Program, and Training.

Camping & Outdoors Chair: Responsible for promoting camping programs, this committee also tracks trends in summer camp attendance and provides input on the operation of summer camping facilities.

Order of the Arrow Advisor: The Order of the Arrow, Scouting's national honor society, relies on the chapter advisor to mentor, coach, and train youth officers.

Membership & Marketing Chair: This position focuses on steady, balanced membership growth throughout the district. It involves building volunteer committees, maintaining relationships with chartered organizations, and addressing areas of special need.

Advancement Chair: The district advancement program equips both youth and adults with the knowledge and skills necessary for a successful unit advancement program. This includes record-keeping, merit badge counseling techniques, and guidance for aspiring Eagle Scouts.

Training Chair: Training courses are essential for all levels of unit operations. Whether it's a newly elected patrol leader or an experienced Scoutmaster, training ensures effective leadership.

Activities and Civic Services Chair: Coordinating events and activities is crucial. Beyond district-sponsored events, this role encourages units to organize their own activities and invites participation from neighboring units.

Finance Chair: Supporting planned scouting activities requires fundraising. The Finance Chair assists units in raising funds and collaborates with the Council to provide essential services.



Occoneechee Scout Reservation

Camp Durant serves as the primary summer camping facility for the Occoneechee Council. Located within the Occoneechee Scout Reservation, this 2,400-acre (9.7 km²) tract lies in northwestern Moore County, North Carolina. Interestingly, the property straddles the geographic division between the Piedmont and Sandhills regions of the state

Camp Durant is available year-round for Scouting usage.



Online Reservations are now available for all campsite, buildings, and facilities at Camp Durant.

<https://campdurant.com/reservations/>

Nestled in the heart of North Carolina Camp Durant offers an ideal setting for a wide range of gatherings. Whether you're planning a retreat, team-building event, or a family reunion, our versatile facilities cater to your needs.

Explore nature, bond with your group, and create lasting memories at Camp Durant!

Location:
4637 Old Carthage Road, Carthage NC 28327

FACILITIES INCLUDE

- ✦ Full-Service Dining Hall
- ✦ Rifle, Shotgun, & Archery Ranges
- ✦ Large Waterfront
- ✦ Four-Sided Climbing Tower
- ✦ Cope Elements
- ✦ Handicraft
- ✦ Nature Center Trail Network
- ✦ Fish Camp

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- ✦ Scout Unit Campouts
- ✦ Meeting Place
- ✦ Hiking
- ✦ Range & Target Sports
- ✦ COPE Course
- ✦ ATV Opportunities
- ✦ Summer Camp
- ✦ Winter Camping

