



# Program Planning Kick-off & Training

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**“Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”**

**“That depends  
a good deal on  
where you  
want to get to.”**





**“I don't much  
care where - ”**

**“Then it  
doesn’t matter  
which way you  
go.”**





# What do we learn from Alice?

**We need to know:**

**Where are we trying to go?**

**&**

**What are we trying to accomplish?**

**We need to:**

**“Begin with the End in Mind” – Stephen R. Covey**

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# Why is this important to your unit?

Where do we lose Scouting families engagement?

What part of our program causes families to leave?

We generally lose families because of:

1. Poor Den Meetings
2. Weak Unit Funding plan
3. Weak Unit Program Plan

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# Why is this important to your unit?

Where do we keep Scouting families?

What parts of our program keeps families engaged?

1. **Camp Attendance (Day Camp, Summer Camp)**
2. **Large & Fun District Events**
3. **Large & Fun Council Events**
4. **Large & Fun Unit Events**
  1. *Pinewood Derby*
  2. *Fishing Trip*
  3. *Camping, etc.*

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## It comes down to this:

New & existing families want to know the answer to these 2 questions:

1 – What are we going to do?

2 – How much is it going to cost?

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# Annual Program Planning





# Annual Program Planning Meeting

## An Annual Unit Meeting

**To:**            **Schedule Key Activities and Events**  
                     **Create a Calendar**  
                     **Develop a Finance Plan**

**Then:**        **Shared with families in form of a Calendar**

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# The Results

## Scouts Receive a Mountain-top Scouting Experience!

- More Scouts & Families
- More Funding
- Higher Scout Retention
- Higher Participation
- More Volunteers

You can tell prospective families:

What they will do & how much it will cost!

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2022-2023

# Unit Program & Finance Planning Guidebook



**Tool to  
Help you  
Succeed!**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
GREATER ALABAMA COUNCIL

## Use This Guidebook as a Tool

The first pages of this guidebook provide training, program opportunities, and best practices. The calendar pages (blue) are left bank by design to allow you to fill in the dates, events, and activities that are specific to your unit's plans.

The right side of the calendar pages have three sections. The top section (red) shows Council events and programs. The middle section shows typical events or activities that a unit may plan during that month. The Bottom section (green) shows District events and programs.

Use the map on page 2 to identify your District. Your unit is welcome to participate in events, programs, and trainings being held other districts.

We have added program labels to help you identify events based on program type.

-  Cub Scout Event
-  Scouts BSA Event
-  Venturing Event
-  Exploring Event



# Program Planning Training Video



## May Program Planning

**Training Videos available at:**

<https://1bsa.org/unit-program-planning-and-finance/>



# Funding Your Program

## Unit Annual Program Planning Budget

Unit Annual Program Planning Budget		
Revenue		
\$ -	Registration Fee's	
\$ -	Other Dues	
\$ -	Camp-Card Fundraiser	
\$ -	Popcorn Fundraiser	
\$ -	Other Fundraiser	
\$ -	<b>Total Revenue</b>	
\$ -	<b>Total Expenses (from budget below)</b>	
\$ -	<b>Balance</b>	
Month	Activities and Events	Budget
September		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ -
October		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -

my.scouting.org



My.scouting.org is a portal for adults and leaders providing access to their account data, online training, and more. It is run separately by the national Boy Scouts of America organization, and not by our local council.

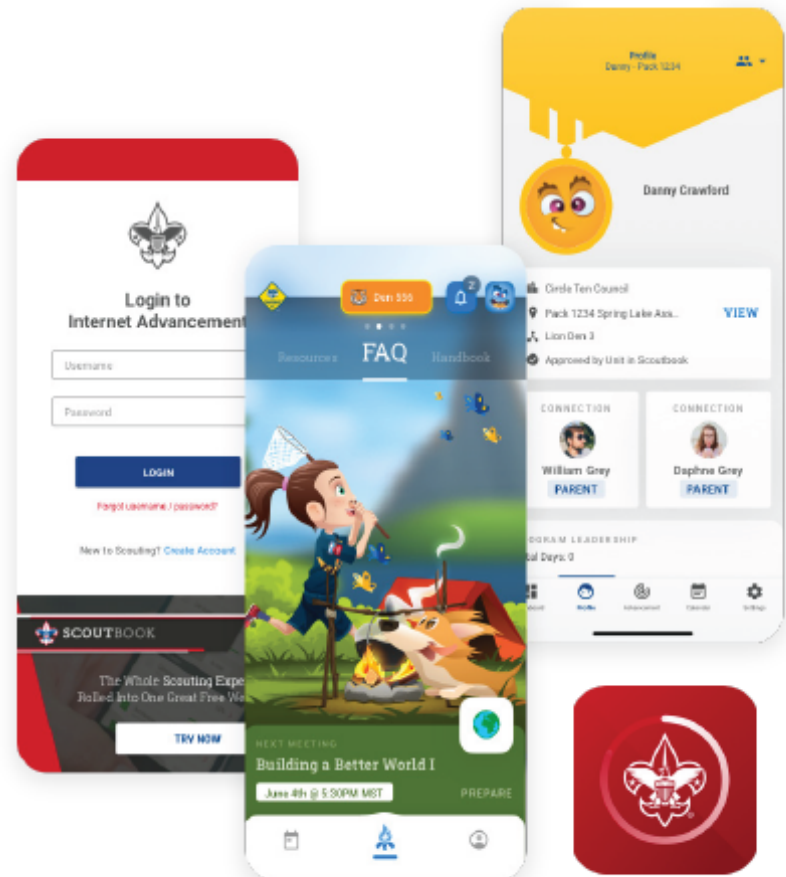
Through my.scouting members of the Unit Key 3 can:

- Update your unit's beascout.org pin
- Accept online and transfer applications for youth and adults
- Change the position roles of your registered adult leaders

## Scoutbook

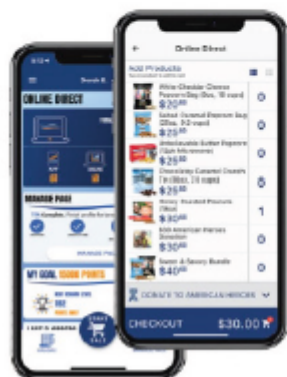
Scoutbook is the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) free official tool for advancement record-keeping and reporting. Its primary purpose is to help Scouts, parents, and registered leaders track and report advancement records. It can also help Scout units track who needs to take or retake Youth Protection Training, plan events, and send messages to their members.

- Tracks advancement
- Activity, service, & camping logs
- Quick PO's for Scout Shop advancement purchases
- Unit calendar with event sign-up tool
- Email & txtng tool
- Payment log (Scout accounts)
- Merit badges & counselors
- Unit roster with Scout and leader contact information
- Manage your den's, patrols, & youth leadership roles
- This is the BSA's database.





# POPCORN SALE



## WHY SELL POPCORN?

- Increase your unit and council income.
- Pay for your entire Scouting program.
- Scouts learn life lessons by “earning their own way”.
- The prize program motivates Scouts.
- Exciting incentives for Scouts who sell.
- Sell online to friends and family out of town.
- App allows all Scouts to accept Credit Cards.
- NEW! All Show-n-sell locations will be secured by Trails-End and available for sign-up directly from the app!



## CALENDAR

Popcorn Kick-off: Saturday, July 16th  
*(9:30am at Birmingham Office with Zoom Option)*

1st Orders Due:	Thursday, Aug 5
Units hold Popcorn Kick-offs:	Aug 8-19
1st Order Unit Pickup:	Aug 18-19
2nd Orders Due:	Tuesday, Sept 6
2nd Order Unit Pickup:	Sept 15-16
3rd Order Due:	Tuesday, Oct 24
3rd Order Unit Pickup:	Nov 9-10

Final Payments Due: Friday, Nov 18  
**BIG SPIN PARTY** Saturday, Jan 21

## 2022 COUNCIL INCENTIVES

*These are in addition to the Amazon giftcard prizes.*

### Top 50 Sellers Club BIG SPIN Party!

Our top 50 selling Scouts will be invited to the BIG SPIN Party on Saturday morning, January 21st. Highlights of the BIG SPIN Party include:

- Food!
- “Top 50” Sellers Club T-shirt
- Recognition of top selling Scouts and Scout Units.
- Spin the PRIZE WHEEL to earn fabulous prizes!  
*(for every \$1,500 of product sold, a Scout will earn a spin. Examples: \$3,000 in popcorn = 2 spins and 2 prizes, \$4,500 = 3 spins and 3 prizes)*

## Membership Growth Resources

Inviting new families to join Scouting is the most important thing we can do. Every fall, a sign-up night is held at each elementary school across the nation. These sign-up nights are heavily advertised and are the main way that most families sign-up to participate in Scouting. The Unit New Member Coordinator is a member of the Unit committee that organizes these sign-up nights, inviting new families to join and ensuring they feel welcome.

Get trained at your Fall Membership Kick-off and receive all your free marketing materials!

<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Arrowhead:	July 7th	6:30pm	Wesley United Methodist Church. Decatur.
Cheaha:	July 21st	7:00pm	St. Mark United Methodist Church. Anniston.
Cherokee:	July 14th	7:00pm	Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church.
Choccolocco:	July 21st	7:00pm	St. Mark United Methodist Church. Anniston.
Etowah District:	June 16th	6:30pm	1718 W. Grand Ave. Gadsden.
Mountain Lake:	July 21st	7:00pm	Guntersville Scout Hut.
Mulberry:	July 14th	6:30pm	St. Andrews United Methodist Church. Cullman.
Sequoyah District:	June 14th	6:30pm	Scout Hut – 659 Wallace Ave. NE. Fort Payne.
Shelby District:	July 21st	7:00pm	Helena United Methodist Church.
Talakto:	July 22nd	6:30pm	1st United Methodist Church. Huntsville.
Three Rivers:	Aug 4th	6:30pm	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.
Vulcan:	July 7th	6:30pm	Southminster Presbyterian Church
Westmoreland:	July 21st	7:00pm	Camp Westmoreland.







# New Member Coordinator



The New Member Coordinator serves as welcoming ambassadors for the unit. Learning from the District Membership Committee they work with the unit committee in planning and implementing the Unit Membership Plan. This role replaces the roles of Unit Membership Chair and Parent Coordinator, which are no longer available.

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# Council & District Program Support

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## Scouts BSA Summer Camp at Camp Comer



### 2023 Dates

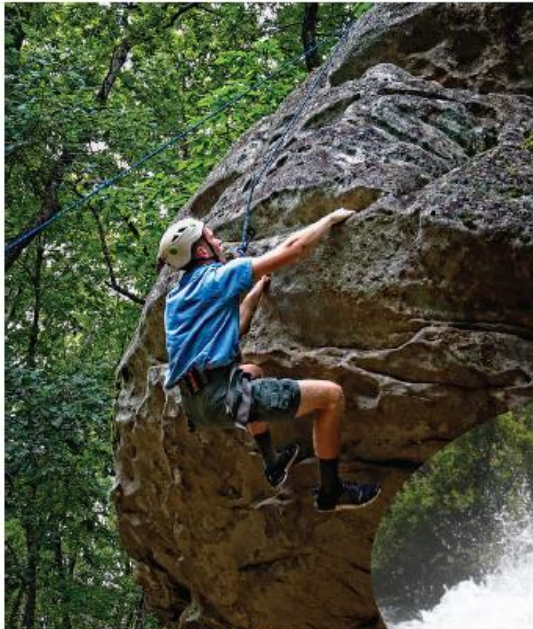
June 4th - 10th  
June 11th - 17th  
June 18th - 24th  
June 25th - July 1st  
July 2nd - July 8th  
July 9th - July 15th

### **Amazing Showers!**

Individual stalls with  
hot water,  
flushing toilets, &  
climate controlled!



Camp Comer, sitting high-atop Lookout Mountain in Northeast Alabama, is a unique and beautiful camp. With cooler summer temperatures, dark evening skies, and permanent year-round campsites, Comer is a wonderful Summer Camp or weekend camping trip destination! Located on the shoreline of beautiful lake Republic, and 88-acre, the waterfront includes separate boating and swimming areas as well as a motorboat dock. Camp offers all typical summer-camp Merit Badges plus: Bird Study, Astronomy, Medicine, Pottery, Sculpture, Robotics, Space Exploration, Fly Fishing, and more!



Sci-Tech Programs!  
Thunderbird Trail Hike!  
C.O.P.E Program & Course!  
50' Climbing Tower  
Chimney Climbing!  
Comer 5K Challenge!  
Fishing!  
World-class shooting facilities!



**Whitewater Rafting!**



### 2023 Dates

June 4th - 10th  
June 11th - 17th  
June 18th - 24th  
June 25th - July 1st  
July 2nd - July 8th



# CUB SCOUT FISHING DERBY

Attention all Cub Scouts and Families! Join us for fishing, fun, prizes, and a patch! Don't know how to fish? That's ok! We'll teach you! Poles, bait, and other fishing supplies will be furnished, or bring your own. Prizes for the Biggest Fish, Smallest Fish, & Ugliest Fish! Attend any or all of the dates below! (The Fishing Derby's replace Rocket Academy)

Cost: \$10.00 per Scout,  
\$5.00 for additional Scouts or siblings.  
Events start at 9am, and end at 12pm.

October 1:	Camp Jackson, Scottsboro
October 1:	Joe Wheeler State Park, Rogersville
October 1:	Joe Tucker Park, Helena
October 8:	Thorton Lakes, Hokes Bluff
October 8:	Camp Sequoyah, Delta
October 15:	Aldridge Gardens, Hoover



## Cub Haunted Weekend

Every Halloween ghosts and goblins are on the prowl at our council camps! This exciting overnight campout experience for Cub Scouts is packed with events and activities! Fun for the entire family!



Oct. 7-8 at Camp Comer  
Oct. 7-8 at Camp Westmoreland  
Oct. 8-9 at Camp Comer  
Oct. 14-15 at Camp Comer  
Oct. 15-16 at Camp Comer  
Oct. 21-22 at Camp Comer  
Oct. 22-23 at Camp Comer



Haunted Hayrides!  
BB Guns & Archery!  
Haunted Trails!  
Costume Contests!  
Haunted Houses!  
Campfire Programs!  
Face-painting!  
Games & Crafts!



# Scouting for Food



**Nov 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Door  
Hanger Distribution**

**Nov 12<sup>th</sup> – Food Pick-  
up and Drop Off**

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## Cub Scout Day Camp 2023

Chock-full of adventures, attend Day Camp! BB guns & Archery, STEM & Scout Crafts, Field Sports, Nature hikes and much more! Scouts will complete program adventures and work on advancement!



### Theme is Off to the Races!

Our Council offers 4 unique Day Camp Experiences, attend one camp or all of them! Early drop-off and late pick-up is available at each of these camps.

June 5 - 9 at Oak Mountain

June 12 - 16 in Jefferson County

June 19 - 23 in Huntsville

Regular Fee: \$125 / Early Bird Fee: \$95

Early Drop Off & Late Pick Up: \$30

Additionally, Westmoreland and Arrowhead Districts also offer great week-long day camps that are available for anyone to attend in June.

June 5 - 9 is Westmoreland's Twilight Camp

June 8 - 10 is Mulberry's Day Camp

June 12- 16 is Arrowhead's Day Camp

## Cub Adventure Weekend

Calling all Cub Scouts! Get ready for a weekend of fun in the Jungle at Camp Comer! As a Jungle Explorer you will test your skills on daring explorations, activities, shooting sports, competitions, and more! Exciting activities for the entire family! Are you ready to conquer the jungle?

April 28th-30th 2023 at Camp Comer

Cost: \$65.00 per Cub and Partner,

\$85.00 for 2 Cubs and Partner

## Cub Camp

Cub Camp is a 3-day 2-night overnight camping experience for our Tigers, Wolves, and Bears! Held at beautiful Camp Comer, Scouts will participate in thrilling and adventures activities including shooting sports, swimming, boating, waterslides,



fishing, hiking, scout skills, and much more! The fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down. Evening programs, activities, campfires, and more! Meals are served in the Dining Hall 3 times a day with plenty of delicious options. Attend cub camp and make memories that will last a lifetime!

July 20th - 22nd 2023



## Webelos Resident Camp

4 Days and 3 nights of Scouting adventure! Webelos get a taste of Scouts BSA summer camp while completing Webelos Adventures! Programs may include: Aquanaut, Into-the-Woods, & Stronger-Faster-Higher. Scouts will have a BLAST as they canoe, swim, go climbing, take hikes, shoot bb-guns and archery, adventure games and more! Open to all youth who will be Webelos by June 1st.

July 16th - 19th 2023



# Wood Badge



## The BSA's Top Leader Training

Weekend 1: March 24-26  
Weekend 2: April 21-23

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**NYLT**



## **Winter Course:**

**January 14-16**

**February 18-20**

**@ Camp Comer**

## **Summer Course:**

**June 25-30**

**@ Camp Westmoreland**

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# Additional Council Events

- **Aug 26-28 – Scouts BSA Jones Cove Trek**
- **Nov 12 – Cub Scout Shot-out at Camp Sequoyah**
- **Dec 27 – Cub Scout Jolly Jamboree**
- **Dec 27-31 – Scouts BSA Winter Camp**
- **Mar 4 - University of Scouting**

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# Coosa Lodge OA Events

- Jan 6-8 – Section E-6 Indian Winter (Camp Thunder)
- Jan 28 – Lodge Winter Banquet & Training Day (TBD)
- Mar 17-19 – OA Spring Pow Wow (open to all)
- Apr 14-16 – Section E-6 Conclave (Camp Hobbs)
- May 5-7 (tent.) – Spring Induction Weekend (TBD)
- Rest of Lodge calendar to be posted soon

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# Key District Events

- **24 Sep – Talakto Fishing Derby (Madison County Lake)**
- **15 Oct – Leader Specific Training (location TBA)**
- **21 Jan – District Awards Banquet (Holy Spirit Catholic Church)**
- **31 Mar – 2 Apr – District Camporee and BALOO/IOLS  
(Westmoreland – tent.)**
- **15 Apr – Talakto Pinewood Derby (location TBD)**

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# Visit our Council Website

JOIN GIVE SHOP Search...

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
GREATER ALABAMA COUNCIL

About Programs Trainings Support Scouting Resources



## Adventure Awaits

Scouting has been shaping the youth of America for over 100 years.  
Discover everything Scouting has in store for you!

Get Started

Calendar Donate Online Properties

## Welcome to the Greater Alabama Council

Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, the Greater Alabama Council serves youth and adult volunteers in 20 counties in North & Central Alabama. We operate 5 camping properties, and have 2 offices. Our mission is to provide character development, citizenship training, and growth in physical, mental and spiritual fitness, to help create the next generation of leaders.

[Read More](#)

## Events & Announcements



### Day Camp!

Attention all CUB SCOUTS! Day Camp 2022 will be chock-full of all the adventures you



### Webelos Camp!

Attention all Webelos! Don't miss this amazing four day, three night adventure of



### Cub Resident Camp!

Save the Date for our newest summer adventure! July 21-23 at Camp Comer. Cub



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