HAUNTED TRAILS

Drive-Thru…If You Dare!
Haunted Trails Goes Mobile

PAGE 4
A NEW WAY TO RECHARTER...ON YOUR SCHEDULE

We know your family has many options when it comes to where you invest your time and we're glad you're a part of our Scouting family. Scouting provides a safe and fun atmosphere where a kid can be a kid all while preparing them to become an even better adult. Scouting is not only an investment in your child, but it's also building a better Kansas City!

While our world today may be full of uncertainties, one thing that will remain constant is the fun and adventure of Scouting. Now, as we enter the fall and begin our annual recharter process, we want to make it easier for our families to continue their Scouting journey.

That's why we're offering two convenient ways to recharter this fall — the traditional way and the new ScoutPay.

Using our new ScoutPay option, families can pay for their yearly Scouting membership individually and on their schedule. ScoutPay is available now and families can choose a single one-time payment or spread out payments over two, three, or even four months. [September–December]. Current ScoutPay enrollment covers your yearly council/national BSA membership for October 2020 – October 2021.

Be sure to talk with your unit leadership about the method that's preferred for your Scouting unit. Financial assistance (up to 50% off) will also be available to families that qualify. Contact your district professional for scholarship opportunities and application instructions.

For more information on ScoutPay or to begin your unit's recharter process, visit www.hoac-bsa.org/internet-rechartering.
GET OUTSIDE AND GET CAMPING! PACK UP THE SLEEPING BAGS AND TENT AND EMBARK ON A MINI VACATION WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY AT ONE OF OUR CUB SCOUT FAMILY CAMPOUTS.

Featuring endless activities including archery, STEM programs, backyard games and more, these overnight adventures are designed to introduce Cub Scouts to the great outdoors and highlight what Scouting is all about in a small group setting. Cub Scouts and their families will be spaced in specific program pods to allow for distancing.

With five dates to choose from in locations across the metro, you’re sure to find a campout that is close to home. Each overnight includes all meals, a patch, an evening snack, and all program activities.

Escape the ordinary, make your reservations, and learn how we’re putting safety first at www.hoac-bsa.org/cub-family-campout.

5 CAMPOUTS TO CHOOSE FROM
- September 26-27 | Camp Naish, Bonner Springs, KS
- October 10-11 | Lowry City Corn Maze, Lowry City, MO
- October 16-17 | Smithville Lake, Smithville, MO
- October 17-18 | Camp Naish, Bonner Springs, KS
- October 23-24 | American Legion Farm, Blue Springs, MO

SAFETY FORMS
We’re also prioritizing safety when it comes to any outdoor experience. In order to ensure the safest camp atmosphere as possible, all participants will be required to complete an activity screening form that includes a pre-camp 7 day temperature check as well as the BSA’s health and medical record (Parts A & B).

RECRUIT A FRIEND
Scouting is more fun with friends. Recruit a buddy to join to earn our fall recruiter patch.

1. Make sure your unit pin is up-to-date on BeAScout.org.
2. Hold your in-person or online recruitment event.
3. Schedule a 2nd chance recruitment within 4 weeks of your original event.
4. Schedule an in-person or digital “Back to the Pack” meeting.
5. Encourage new families to attend Cub Scout Family Campouts.
6. Follow up with families who haven’t signed-up yet.

Access our updated library of recruitment resources that include custom videos, social media images, e-flyers and more at www.hoac-bsa.org/pack-recruitment-resources.

RECRUITMENT CHECKLIST & RESOURCES
Recruitment season is here and without a doubt, your recruitment events are going to look a lot different. But that doesn’t mean you can’t find new and unique ways to invite families to join the fun of Scouting.

Whether it’s a traditional “at-school” joining night or a virtual recruitment event, we’ve got you covered with a number of new digital resources you can start using right now!

1. Utilize our proven digital marketing tactics to get the word out:
   - Request a custom digital flyer
   - Request a custom video
   - Request a geofenced Facebook event
   - Post on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor)

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Ready to recruit? Check out this recruitment checklist & resources.

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Ready for action that’s out of this world? Join Cub Scouts for adventures that go above and beyond anything you’ve done before. JOIN TODAY AT BEASCOUT.ORG

Fall Edition 2020
Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America
**Saturday, October 24 | Camp Naish**

Scare-up the fun this October with a safe twist on Halloween. Haunted Trails is back and better than ever with a spooky new mobile drive-thru option.

A night that is sure to be filled with tricks and treats, Haunted Trails is the perfect way for the whole family to celebrate Halloween in a safe and contactless way from the comfort of your own car.

Open to everyone, not just Scouts, embark on a spooky drive-thru tour of Camp Naish where there will be scares, surprises, and a whole lot of fun along the way.

The cost is only $20 per vehicle and includes the official patch and pre-packaged spooky snacks.

So dress up in your costume, pack up the ghouls and goblins and head to Camp Naish on October 24!

Haunted drive-thru tours are available every 15 minutes from 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Pre-reservations are required. Make sure to book your reservation online today at www.hoac-bsa.org/haunted-trails.

### How it Works:
- Pre-register your vehicle at [www.hoac-bsa.org/haunted-trails](http://www.hoac-bsa.org/haunted-trails)
- Select your haunted tour time and number of passengers.
- On October 24 at your pre-selected time, enter at the Cub World entrance and present your digital receipt for entry.
- Pick-up your pre-packaged spooky snack and patch.
- Follow our "pace car" through the Haunted Trails and exit at the main Camp Naish entrance.

**BOOK YOUR HAUNTED TOUR**
[www.hoac-bsa.org/haunted-trails](http://www.hoac-bsa.org/haunted-trails)
Our 2020 popcorn sale is in full swing and our Scouts are finding new and creative ways to sell in Kansas City and beyond. Selling popcorn teaches Scouts a valuable life lesson of earning your own way and more than 70% of the proceeds stay right here in Kansas City and help pay for Scouting adventures like going to Summer camp.

**Trails End App**
Take your 2020 sale to the next level with the new and improved Trails End App. The Trails End App allows you to report real-time sales, track inventory, and accept credit card payments with no fee. Create a personalized page that allows you to sell to family and friends via email and social media without leaving home. Even better, we're now offering FREE shipping for orders $30 or more!

**50 States Club**
We are taking our popcorn sales national with our new 50 States Club. This exclusive club is for Scouts who sell popcorn in all 50 states online. Use our interactive map to help track sales and make sure to share on social media! To sweeten the deal, we've also thrown in a bonus $250 gift card to the first 5 Scouts who complete the 50 States Challenge. Download our map and 50 States Club resources at www.hoac-bsa.org/popcorn.

**Chiefs Challenge**
It's no surprise that this year's top seller so far is our new Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl Champions tin. Now, we're helping Scouts up their sales game by getting them to the game. The Scout who sells the most Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl Champions tins by November 1 will receive 2 FREE tickets to a mutually agreed upon Chiefs home game this season! To qualify, enter your total Chiefs popcorn tin sales on our registration form by November 1 at www.hoac-bsa.org/popcorn. Good luck and go Chiefs!

Resources and more at [www.hoac-bsa.org/popcorn](http://www.hoac-bsa.org/popcorn)
2021 Summer Camp Draw

Summer 2020 has come and gone and it was truly unique in every sense of the word. It was challenging, yet extraordinary, and will be remembered for a lifetime for Scouts, leaders and staff alike.

But the adventure continues as we look forward to the 2021 camping season. The draw to determine the 2021 camp placement for all Scouts BSA troops camping at Naish and Bartle begins this November. And like this summer, will also be unique.

Safety continues to be our number one priority and to allow for proper spacing we are requesting that only one leader per unit attend the upcoming draw. Masks will be required for all attendees and units must have their recharter paperwork submitted in order to participate in the draw. All Scoutmasters and committee chairs will receive a letter with additional information in the coming weeks including their specific draw date.

The draw is based on the number of Scouts and full-time leaders your troop camped in either 2019 or 2020 (whichever is greater) and will be camping in 2021. The troop representative must be present to place their “ticket” in the draw and be prepared to pay the required deposit of $75 per Scout and full-time leader. Troops will be placed in camp, session and campsite in the order of the draw, as space is available.

Contact our Camping Department with questions at 816.942.9333

Naish Scout Reservation

ONLINE ONLY
Begins November 2020
www.hoac-bsa.org/naish

Bartle Scout Reservation

11.16.20 | Council Service Center
6:30 pm - Linked Units

11.17.20 | Council Service Center
10:00 am - Units that camped 70 Scouts and full-time leaders

11.17.20 | Council Service Center
6:30 pm - Units that camped 40-69 Scouts and full-time leaders

11.18.20 | Council Service Center
6:30 pm - Units that camped 20-39 Scouts and full-time leaders

11.19.20 | Council Service Center
6:30 pm - Units that camped 19 or less Scouts and full-time leaders
District Realignment

Updated District Boundaries & Names

As we look towards the future of Scouting in the Heart of America Council, it's crucial that we continue to evolve, adapt and review the way Scouting is delivered across the nineteen counties we serve. Above all, our council is committed to creating the best possible Scouting experience for our youth, volunteers and staff.

Over the past few months a team of volunteers and staff have been reviewing the alignment of our districts and the optimal path forward when it comes to delivering our programs in the most effective way possible. Coupled with challenges created by the ongoing pandemic, our task force determined that it is no longer feasible to maintain staffing levels and district boundaries at their current levels.

After careful review and input from our volunteers and staff, we have made the strategic decision to realign and combine some of our Scouting districts. The decision was made out of necessity to ensure that Scouting continues to thrive with outstanding programming and exceptional unit service across Kansas City.

While the number communities we serve remains unchanged, the new realignment is effective now and has reduced the number of Heart of America Council districts from 15 to 10.

REALIGNMENT OVERVIEW:

- Kaw and Shawnee Trails merge to form new Kaw District
- High Trail and Pioneer Trails merge to form new Three Trails District
- Golden Eagle, Northern Lights and northern Big Muddy merge to form new North Star District
- Pelathe and western Twin Rivers merge to form new Pelathe District
- Soaring Eagle and eastern Twin Rivers merge to form new Soaring Eagle District
- Blue Elk and southern Big Muddy merge to form new Blue Elk District
- Lone Bear District adds Higginsville, Waverly and Concordia

UNCHANGED DISTRICTS:

- Iron Horse District
- Spirit Trail District
- Frontier District

While some district names and boundaries may change, the quality of our local programs will remain. Thank you for your dedication to Scouting in the Heart of America Council. To access the new map, along with professional staff contacts, visit www.hoac-bsa.org/districts.

Be prepared. It’s not just a slogan.

Being prepared means being ready for anything and in these unique times, Scouting is more important than ever.

This is when Scouting shines. Scouts are ready for anything because being prepared is part of our DNA.

Thank you to our Scouting families, volunteers and Board of Directors for keeping Kansas City Scouting strong.

Learn More | hoac-bsa.org
With caring, focused precision, The Heart of America Council takes pride in helping kids transform into great adults. For more than 100 years, programs have had the single focus of teaching strong character, teaching morals, and teaching leadership skills. The numbers locally are impressive. In 2019 alone, 833 Scouts reached the incredible milestone of becoming Eagle Scouts and nearly 4,000 Scouts earned badges ranging from Citizenship to Environmental Science to Personal Management. “The evidence is quite clear; we are preparing these kids for a wonderful future,” says Tetrick.

Learn as a Family, Grow as a Family
Ruben and Laura Flores both had experience with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts respectively growing up. Now they’ve immersed all four of their children into the BSA program. At 17, their oldest son, Brian, just achieved Eagle Scout status. The Flores’ say the program works on a number of levels. It’s a family affair—with both parents on board and participating in a variety of roles, such as den leader, cubmaster and assistant scoutmaster. “Scouts really works best when the entire family is involved. Scouts see their parents contributing to the unit and community and the parents see other leaders pour time and wisdom into their kids,” says Ruben Flores, who is both a former marine and former LAPD officer. “As time goes by, the Scouts become lifelong friends with each other, and the parents become close friends with one another. Laura and I call it our Scouting family. We know we can call them on a minute’s notice if they are needed. We know this because we’ve done this, and we’ve been there for others.”
Both the Flores family and Armstrong agree, being in Scouts sets kids up for lifelong success. Programs engage Scouts in a litany of unique, adaptable activities they might not find anywhere else—from robotics to camping to engineering. “These are life skills you won't find anywhere else,” says Armstrong. “We help connect the dots—a secondary form of education. Sure, Scouting is an opportunity to introduce kids to the outdoor adventures that we're known for—but we also partner with businesses and with parents to help educate.” Tetrnick agrees wholeheartedly. “Scouts in this region don’t have to look far to see a myriad of opportunities to learn and experience,” he says.

**Safety First**

Tetrnick is quick to point out how the safety of Scouts is paramount in the organization—with established guidelines governing safe Scouting activities for millions of kids nationwide. “It’s something we take very, very seriously in the Heart of America Council,” he says. “The policies and guidelines that drive youth protection in Scouting are among the very best you’ll find in any youth organization anywhere. In fact, many other youth organizations pattern their programs after the BSA.” The national website offers detailed specifics about youth protection requirements for anyone interested in learning all the organization does to keep kids in a safe, productive environment.

Flores says when it comes to participating in Scouts as a family unit, it’s all pros and no cons. “For our family, we have grown closer to each other and some of my best memories are from Scouting events,” he says. Being involved in Scouts has helped his kids learn a frame of reference for what is moral and ethical and instilled the need for service to God, family and community, he says. “With the admittance of females into Scouts BSA, the days of the boys going camping has now become the entire family going camping. Scouting is also for the extended family and for friends of the family—and once you’re in the family, the level of your involvement is as much or as little as you desire.”

Bottom line? “Scouting makes kids better adults,” says Armstrong. “The life skills you learn and the leadership opportunities you experience in Scouting help prepare you for the life ahead—and that’s the real power of Scouting.”

SOARING ABOVE

Eagle Scout Earns Every Merit Badge

Sam Spiker, an Eagle Scout from Troop 357 out of Tonganoxie, earned every single merit badge earlier this year — 137 to be exact.

Sam earned his Eagle Scout in September of 2016. At the time he had completed 30 merit badges. He had already accomplished his goal of becoming an Eagle Scout, so he set another goal: Earn every single merit badge possible.

Four years, a global pandemic, and 107 merit badges later, Sam accomplished his goal on July 17 of this year. Inventing, Small Boat Sailing, Horsemanship, Robotics, and Nuclear Science are a few of the merit badges that provided not only a challenge, but an opportunity to learn something new.

“I was introduced to areas that I was not familiar with and may not have pursued on my own,” Sam said.

Time management became a skill that Sam had to learn when taking on this goal. Balancing school, extra-curricular activities, Scouting responsibilities would prove to be difficult, and that was before the pandemic. “There were issues associated with COVID-19 that were a challenge,” Sam said.

COVID-19 forced Sam to adapt during the last leg of his goal. Many of the camps and merit badge colleges that he was planning to attend were either delayed or cancelled entirely. He worked with Scout leaders to ensure that he was still on track to complete his goal despite the shutdown. Most of the merit badges that he earned since March were completed virtually.

With the help of his parents and encouragement from Scout leaders he was able to overcome the odds.

Scouts are required to earn 21 merit badges in order to earn their Eagle Scout. Many Scouts in the Heart of America Council do earn more, but less than one half of one percent of Scouts earn all the merit badges available.

VIRTUAL Cub Scout Leader Training

So, you’re a new Cub Scout Leader? Don’t worry... We’re here to help! We’re now offering FREE virtual training sessions to get you trained and to prepare you to be a successful leader in your pack.

Our virtual Cub Scout leader position-specific training courses bring together all of the basics of Cub Scout leadership into one course, with separate mini-modules focused on topics related to den leaders, Cubmasters, and pack committee members.

This free 3-part training session will complete the BSA requirement of a “Trained” leader for your position. Youth Protection should be completed prior to attending and participants must attend all 3 sessions to be fully trained.

Virtual Training Dates:

Wednesday, October 7 | 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday, October 14 | 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday, October 21 | 7pm-8:30pm

Interested? Register now at www.hoac-bsa.org/training.

Scouts BSA Courses: 8:00 am – Noon | Cub Scout Courses: 1pm – 5pm

Take your Scouting education to the next level in our outdoor classroom at University of Scouting on November 7 at Camp Naish. University of Scouting is a day of supplemental training for adult leaders that will educate, excite, and empower leaders in their Scouting role.

New in 2020, we’re providing a pre-selected course curriculum by program. Simply choose your program and let the learning begin. To register, select either the Cub Scout afternoon session or Scouts BSA morning session and we’ll take care of the rest! Cost is only $15!

ENROLL NOW | HOAC-BSA.ORG/UNIVERSITY-OF-SCOUTING
TAKE $10 OFF
YOUR PURCHASE OF $50 OR MORE

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**BLUE ELK**

**IRON HORSE**

**KAW**

**LONE BEAR**

**NORTHERN LIGHTS**

**PELATHE**

**SOARING EAGLE**

**SPIRIT TRAIL**

**SHAWNEE TRAILS**