



The Varsity Letter



GREAT SALT LAKE COUNCIL, BSA

Council No. 590, Salt Lake City, Utah

December 2002

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On Belay course benefits both youth & adult leaders

Registrations are now being accepted for both youth and adult participants who want to see a Varsity Scout team in action. The On Belay course is a working laboratory where coaches learn to work with boys and boys learn to work with adults. This is a great opportunity to learn Varsity Scouting in a camping setting. It also gives coaches and boys ideas that they can take back to their teams that they can use to jumpstart their program.

On Belay teaches that a young man is capable of planning and running a program which meets the aims and methods of Scouting. It teaches young men to aspire to higher values and rely upon a coach and his committee as a resource to accomplish the activities they have planned.

The camp will run July 28 through August 2, 2003, at East Fork of the Bear Scout Reservation. Registration is \$155 per person, which includes the cost of project materials, instruction supplies, handouts, food, cap, T-shirt, and insurance. A \$10 discount applies when the fee is paid before July 14. An additional 10 percent discount per person is available for teams when at least two leaders and six boys register together. For information and a registration form, see the On Belay web page, <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/onbelay/index.htm>.

Three Wood Badge courses offered by council in 2003

Wood Badge, traditionally the zenith of training for volunteer BSA leaders, has a new form. Wood Badge for the 21st Century—a single training program for Cub Scout, Boy

Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, council and district leaders, and professionals—has replaced both the Boy Scout Leader Wood Badge and Cub Scout Trainer Wood Badge programs previously offered.

The new, more contemporary course offers more emphasis on leadership and "people" skills, and focuses less on Scout craft or Cub Scout training skills. Proficiency developed from the new Wood Badge training will help a volunteer leader do a better job in any BSA program or at any level of involvement.

Wood Badge consists of two parts. The first part reflects unit meetings while the second part of the course uses a unit camping activity as its delivery method. As a result of attending Wood Badge, participants will be able to:

(1) View Scouting globally, as a family of inter-related, values-based programs that provide age-appropriate activities for youth.

(2) Recognize the contemporary leadership concepts utilized in corporate America and leading government organizations that are relevant to our values-based movement.

(3) Revitalize your commitment by sharing in an overall inspirational experience that helps provide Scouting with the leadership it needs to accomplish its mission on an on-going basis.

(4) Apply the skills you will learn from your participation as a member of a successful working team.

The themes that will encapsulate the course content are:

- Living the values
- Bringing the Vision to Life
- Models of Success
- Tools of the Trade
- Leading to Make a Difference

Three different courses are offered in the Great Salt Lake Council this year.

Course #1 (Spring Weekend Course)

Where: Camp Tracy, Millcreek Canyon, Salt

Lake City, UT

When: March 28-29; April 10-12; & April 24-26

Cost: \$190.00

Course Director: Paul Aldous

Course #2 (Summer Week-long Course)

Where: Travis Training Center, East Fork of the Bear Boy Scout Camp

When: August 3-9

Cost: \$190.00

Course Director: Bryan Thelin

Course #3 (Fall Weekend Course)

Where: Camp Tracy, Millcreek Canyon, Salt Lake City, UT

When: Aug 22-23; Aug. 28-30, & Sept. 4-6

Cost: \$190.00

Course Director: Sherrill Chapman

For more information call 801-582-3663 and ask for the Camp Desk, send e-mail to woodbadge@gslc-bsa.org, or visit the web site: <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/woodbadge/index.htm>.

VS Basic Training classes offered

Every Varsity Scout coach's time is valuable, and scheduled training dates are not always convenient. As we learn of planned training dates the information will be posted on the web site (<http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/training/>). Check back often so that you can have that opportunity for the training that will help you in becoming the greatest Varsity coach ever.

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
13	TBA	1/11/2003	8:00 a.m.
13	TBA	3/13/2003	6:30 p.m.
13	TBA	5/10/2003	8:00 a.m.
GSLC	Big Event	6/19-21/03	TBA
GSLC	On Belay	7/28-8/2/03	TBA
13	TBA	9/13/2003	8:00 a.m.
GSLC	Univ. of Scouting	12/6/2003	TBA

District news roundup

Several events for Varsity Scouts and leaders are planned by local districts throughout the Great Salt Lake Council over the next few months. Many of the following events are included in the published 2002-2003 council calendar, available at the service center and Scout shops. District vice chairmen are encouraged to submit information about upcoming Varsity activities to the editor for inclusion in the *Varsity Letter*.

District 2 (Stone Creek)

Stone Creek District's ice climbing activity is scheduled Saturday, January 11. For details contact Brian Bone, 292-1103, bbone@earthlink.net.

District 4 (City Creek)

Varsity Scout Fast-Start training is offered following roundtable each month. For information, contact Mark Maxfield, mark.maxfield@utahhomes.com, 583-4503

District 10 (Westview)

Varsity Scouts will compete in a biathlon at Rockport Reservoir January 17-18. The event is being held in conjunction with the district's Klondike Derby.

Varsity Scout Fast-Start training is offered 30-minutes prior to the monthly roundtable. For information, contact Dave Walker at 969-8753.

District 12 (Olde English Fort)

A biathlon competition is scheduled January 17-18. For information, contact Mitch Haycock.

District 13 (Granger)

Dave Isom, district executive, will conduct the annual youth protection training session at the December 5 roundtable. The training is a requirement for both the quality leader and quality unit awards.

Varsity Scout Basic adult leader training is scheduled in January, March, May, and September 2003. Locations will be announced later. Zone commissioners can schedule training through Dale Walker, district training coordinator.

VS Fast-Start adult leader training is offered 30 minutes prior to the monthly roundtable in March and September 2003. To make other arrangements, please contact Glen Fairclough or check out the Varsity Fast Start video at the council service center.

The district merit badge pow wow is planned March 1. For details, contact Steve Honsvick, honzieclaus@yahoo.com, 966-6570.

New district committee members include Jerry Warner (High Adventure and Sports), Armin Fuchs (Service), Scott Peatross (Roundtable Commissioner), and Thayne Stanley (Advancement).

District 15 (Golden Eagle)

Varsity Scouts will compete in a biathlon at Rockport Reservoir January 10-11.

A three-week merit badge pow wow is planned February 1, 8, and 15. A district basketball tournament is scheduled March 15. For information, contact Jim Crane, cranejh@juno.com, at 569-2180.

District 17 (White Buffalo)

A three-week merit badge pow wow is planned February 8, 15, and 23. For details, contact Hal Myers, hal.myers@fairchildsemi.com, 264-0981.

District 20 (Summit)

A two-week merit badge pow wow is planned January 4 and 11. For details, contact Rone Casper, ronecasper@yahoo.com, 435-645-7078.

District 21 (Red Butte)

The monthly roundtable has been moved to a new location, 470 Wasatch Drive, in the new red brick building just south of the old location. Varsity leaders are invited to meet with the Scouts.

District 23 (Granite Trail)

Granite Trail District's annual three-on-three basketball tournament is scheduled Thursday, January 16. For details, contact Bryant Furness, bryant@utah-inter.net, 266-8053.

District web sites online

A web site for each district in the Great Salt Lake Council is included in the recently revamped district section of the council web site, which debuted in mid-October. The URL for the expanded district index page is <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/districts/index.cfm>.

Council roundtable report

Roundtable promotion and district activities were the focus of the skills presentation segment of the November roundtable.

Jim Crane, Golden Eagle District vice chairman, outlined the challenges he faces as a new district vice chairman. He intends to involve the zone commissioners as members of the Varsity committee in his district. Acting as squad

leaders, the zone commissioners can help make telephone call reminders. Mark Maxfield, City Creek District, recommends hands-on activities every month. Find out what coaches want to do and get them involved. Food and association with other leaders are other ways to keep people coming regularly.

Steve Honsvick, Granger District vice chairman, discussed district activities. Ideas included skills and hobbies, tournaments, and career day. Districts can also stage a turkey shoot to help better prepare teams for the annual council shoot. District mountain man rendezvous camps can include instruction in primitive fire building and leatherwork, and competition using black powder rifles, shotguns, and tomahawks and knives.

Individual and team awards were presented to winners of the annual turkey shoot. Dave Kunz, the council program adviser, made the presentations.

Planned additions to the Varsity Scout section of the Great Salt Lake Council web site (www.gslc-bsa.org) should make it easier to get information about the Varsity program, events, and district roundtables. Two rosters, one listing each member of the council committee and another naming district vice chairmen, will be posted soon. Included will be e-mail links to contact each individual.

Committee leaders announced in September that the district committee with the best roundtable attendance percentage through May would receive a group award. The prize, a customized BSA team flag, was unveiled at the October meeting. An award for the best individual attendance will also be presented.

Varsity Scout Program Feature Reports:

Advancement: Lars Smith encouraged both youth and adults to complete the requirements to earn the Varsity Letter. Youth who have received the Varsity Letter can earn the Denali Award. Smith reminds coaches that the district advancement committee should conduct the board of review for all Denali award candidates. Adult leaders can also qualify for the quality leader award, leader training award, and coaches key award. The requirements for youth awards are available at <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/Advancement/index.htm> while those for adult awards may be found at <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/Awards/index.htm>.

Personal Development: Don Sims and Scott Peatross encouraged each district to have one team set up a booth which demonstrates Varsity Scouting at the annual Scout-O-Rama at the Utah State Fairpark, May 3. District vice chairmen were able to sign up for a theme at November's council roundtable. Peatross also pointed out opportunities for Varsity Scout teams to camp over, new prizes for SOR ticket sales, and five new patches for 2003.

Service: Dick Hill said that assistance from Varsity Scout age boys is needed with the annual Scouting for Food drive, March 29. Older boys are better able to lift heavy boxes filled with canned goods, Hill explained. Organizers hope for a record-setting drive to help the Utah Food Bank.

Special Programs and Events: Varsity age boys will play a larger role in planning and carrying out this year's Big Event, June 19-21, at East Fork of the Bear. Youth interested in serving on the council planning committee should contact Ernie Steffensen, ksteffensen@hotmail.com.

Cabin facilities at the East Fork Scout Reservation are available to Varsity Scout teams for such off-season activities as snow shoeing and snowmobiling. Registrations may be made through the camp desk.

Training: The 2003 On Belay youth and adult leadership training course is filling up quickly, Martin Christensen reported. Registration is also under way for the three scheduled Wood Badge courses sponsored by the Great Salt Lake Council.

Roundtable calendar set

District committee members are invited to attend the monthly council Varsity roundtable on the third Wednesday of each month at the Camp Tracy lodge in Millcreek Canyon. Members will receive training which they can then pass on to the coaches and other leaders at the district roundtable the following month.

Dates and themes for upcoming council roundtables follow:

December 18, 2002: Scout-O-Rama; Christmas food fair; potluck. Lone Peak District (no. 27) and Eagle Peaks District (no. 28).

January 15, 2003, High adventure activities; summer camp/activities for Varsity Scouts. Deseret Peak District (no. 11) and East

Millcreek District (no. 22).

February 19, 2003, Junior Leader Training (coach/captain responsibilities); On Belay. Farmington Bay District (no. 1) and Silver Mesa District (no. 26).

March 19, 2003, Service projects (focus on Scouting for Food). City Creek District (no. 4) and Summit District (no. 20).

April 16, 2003, Big Event (youth). Westview District (no. 10) and White Buffalo District (no. 17).

May 21, 2003, Cooking (Dutch oven, utensil-less). Pony Express District (no. 14) and Wasatch Peaks District (no. 18).

No roundtable meetings are scheduled in June and July. Planning for October 2003-May 2004 will occur in August.

Varsity calendar

Biathlon, Saturday, February 22, 2003

Scouting for Food, Saturday, March 29, 2003

Scout-O-Rama, Saturday, May 3, 2003

Big Event, East Fork of the Bear, Thursday-Saturday, June 19-21, 2003

Operation On-Target, Saturday, July 19, 2003

On Belay youth and adult leader training, East Fork of the Bear Scout Reservation, Monday-Saturday, July 28-August 2, 2003

Jamboree On The Air, October 17-18, 2003

Turkey Shoot, Saturday, October 25, 2003

Newsletter available via e-mail

If you would like to receive the *Varsity Letter* electronically via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to vinfo@gslc-bsa.org.

The Varsity Letter

Submissions are welcome. E-mail your suggestions or schedule of basic training classes and upcoming events or other calendar items to the editor at vinfo@gslc-bsa.org. The copy deadline is the third Wednesday of each month.

Previous issues of the *Varsity Letter* are available online via the Great Salt Lake Council Varsity Scout World Wide Web site at <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/vletter>.