



The Varsity Letter



GREAT SALT LAKE COUNCIL, BSA
Council No. 590, Salt Lake City, Utah

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Varsity classes plentiful at University of Scouting

Several courses built around the Varsity Scout program are offered at this year's University of Scouting, to be held Saturday, December 4, at Murray High School (5440 South State Street).

Among the offerings in the Dan Beard College of High Adventure are the following courses: Varsity Scout Leader Basic Training; Varsity Handbook and Advancement; Building a Weekly Program; Working With and Understanding Varsity Age Boys; Primitive Fire Building (Embers Award); Mountain Man Skills; Advanced Backpacking; Orientation for Safe Climbing; Kayak Construction; Mountain Biking; Wilderness Survival and Wilderness First Aid.

Other popular classes include Dutch oven cooking (beginning and gourmet) and Utensil-less Cooking. A four-hour Boy Scout Basic Training session in Spanish is also offered. Printed catalogs are available at the council service center and at all scout shops. An electronic version is available through the council web site,

<http://www.gslc-bsa.org/training/uofscout.cfm>.

The registration fee is \$12 per person for those registered by November 30. Thereafter, the fee will be \$15 per person. Lunch is available for \$6. The fee must be paid by November 30. Registration forms are included in the catalog or may be down-loaded from the web site. Class size is limited. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so early registration is advised. Scouters may register for up to six hours of courses. Five hours are required to earn the Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree. On-site check-in and registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Classes run from 8:30 a.m. until 2:20 p.m. Bachelor's and Master's Degrees with the

accompanying bolo tie or council strip (student's choice) will be handed out at 2:30 p.m. in the registration area.

Turkey Shoot winners listed

The annual Varsity Turkey Shoot took place October 16 at the Lee Kay Center for Hunter Education and Public Shooting in West Valley.

The competition attracted 330 shooters representing 66 Varsity teams and Venture crews.

Team 7587 in District 26 captured top team honors with a high team score of 90 and best team average of 18. Participants include Braiden Chou (20 hits, 11 longest streak of broken pigeons), Brandon Orr (20 hits, 11 streak), Jason Beck (19 hits, 8 streak), Alex Simmons (19 hits, 6 streak), and Nathan Kenner (12 hits, 4 streak).

Two shooters hit 24 pigeons each with the longest streak of broken pigeons making the difference between gold (24) and silver medals (16). Tyler Morley (Team 6218, District 2) took first, Kyle Austin (Team 7378, District 10) was the runner up, and Kody Meyer (Team 7621, District 11) finished third. The team trophy and individual medal awards were presented at the October council Varsity roundtable.

Essentially a trap shoot, the Turkey Shoot is a shotgun game in which shooters fire at targets flying directly away from them. Participants competed as individuals and teams for frozen turkeys and other prizes.

Thanks to Norbest® Turkey and the Lee Kay Center for making this a fun activity for all who participated.



VS Basic Training classes offered

The Varsity Scout basic training class is designed for all adult and youth team leaders. Those who can benefit from the basic training include adult coaches, assistant coaches, program advisers, and committee members, and youth team captains, co-captains, and program managers.

The *Varsity Scout Guidebook* (WW34827A) is the class textbook. Please bring your personal copy with you to the training.

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 become the greatest Varsity Scout leader ever.

Dist.	Location	Date	Time
17	1380 W 6785 S	11/13	8:00 a.m.
26	9880 S 3100 E	11/13	8:00 a.m.
GSLC	University of Scouting	12/4	8:30 a.m.

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 2004-2005 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*.

A web site for each district in the Great Salt Lake Council is included in the district section of the council web site. The URL is <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/districts/index.cfm>.

District 13 (Granger)

Leadership development and training are the topics for the November 4 round table meeting.

Because several members of the district Varsity committee moved last year, there are a number of vacancies. Anyone interested in serving on the district committee during the coming year should contact Tyler Terry, district executive, Steve Honsvick, district vice chairman, or another member of the committee.

VS Fast-Start adult leader training is offered immediately before (6:20 p.m.) and after (8:10 p.m.) each monthly roundtable. To make other arrangements, contact Glen Fairclough, district Varsity training coordinator, or check out the Varsity Fast Start video at the service center.

The next scheduled date for basic training is January 22 at the Granger South LDS Stake Center, 4586 West Volta Avenue (3960 South). Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with instruction scheduled to start at 8:30 a.m. Future training dates are April 9 and July 16.

Stay abreast of district events, current news, and meetings via the district's web site. The URL is <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/d13/>.

District 17 (White Buffalo)

West Jordan Utah River Zone will host a basic training class on Saturday, November 13, at the LDS meetinghouse at 1380 West 6785 South. Registration commences at 8:00 a.m. with training starting at 8:30 a.m.

District 20 (Summit)

A Varsity sponsored Turkey Shoot at the Kamas Valley Gun Club is scheduled Saturday, November 20. The three-hour event begins at 10:00 a.m. All are invited. For information, contact John Bollwinkle, 435-901-2052.

District 23 (Granite Trail)

Members of the district Varsity staff include: Bryant Furness (vice chairman), Thayne Burnette (assistant vice chairman), Ryan McPhee (secretary), Gerry Trujillo (TBA), Gavin Barrows (round table commissioner), Alan Anderson (TBA), and Chris Lundquist (assistant roundtable commissioner).

Themes for upcoming Varsity roundtable meetings: Winter camping (November), service ideas (December), Varsity awards and advancement for the youth (January), TBA (February) bicycling (March), Varsity awards for adults (April), orienteering compass and global positioning system (May), and backpacking (June).

District 26 (Silver Mesa)

Sandy Utah Granite View Zone will host a basic training class on Saturday, November 13, at the LDS meetinghouse at 1380 West 6785 South. Registration commences at 8:00 a.m. with training starting at 8:30 a.m.

Council Vice President's Message

Reflection is a valuable tool

By Bry Davis

To the Varsity Coach

November is a time for reflection. In Varsity Scouting there is a great tool we use to help instill character values in our Scouts. We call it 'Reflection'. Our council and district committees have recently taught how to hold a Reflection. The process of reflection is also found in the *Varsity Scout Guide Book* on page 128. Those teams which practice using this valuable tool will have greater success instilling the aims of scouting. Reflections help in solving problems. The character of each scout is developed and molded and strengthened. The team is strengthened and everyone has more fun.

My message this month is to our many wonderful Varsity Coaches. As adult leaders, we are charged with development of character of our boys. The process of the reflection has merit. Consider reviewing and holding a personal reflection. Here are some of the questions that need your answers. The ground rules are simple. Take some personal time and write out your answer and goals. Only you will see the results.

- What am I doing as a Varsity Coach for my team?
- Why am I doing it?
- How do I prepare for team meetings, team member conferences, and training sessions?
- What are the boys learning?
- Are the activities and meetings well attended?
- What is working well?
- What is needed to improve?
- Who are my best leaders?
- What leadership skills do they practice?
- Are there some boys not participating? Who are they?
- In my planning, what do I see the team doing?
- What can I do best that would be of worth to the team?

As you may see these questions are about self evaluation--what is happening, why, and how to improve. Coaches, you are the example. It is a fact that your Varsity team scouts are watching you and you are in a position of great influence. Your efforts in planning, training, and improving your team can and will have untold effects on the future of your boys and the future of America. Use the process of reflection in the team setting and in your personal life to help develop character that follows the Scout Oath and Law. Thanks be to God for the Varsity Coaches in our

Council.

Council news

Council roundtable report

A new youth Varsity Scout committee made up of two Varsity Scouts from each district is being formed in the Great Salt Lake Council. District vice chairmen should submit nominations to Duane Sjoberg.

Each district is challenged to have at least one Varsity Scout earn the Denali Award during the next year.

District committee members are invited to attend the monthly council Varsity roundtable on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Roundtable is held at Murray High School, 5440 South State. The meeting is held in the Spartan Express Room (no. 112) near the vending machines and the commons food court area on the first floor (<http://www.gslc-bsa.org/training/documents/map.pdf>). Parking is available on the south side of the school and Scouters may enter the school from the south side. Members will receive training which they can then pass on to the coaches and other leaders at the district roundtable the following month.

District vice chairmen were reminded that members of the council committee are available to visit district roundtable meetings and help make presentations on any subject. The committee can even arrange to bring a climbing wall.

Leadership development training was the topic presented at the October roundtable.

The methods of Scouting will be reviewed during the coming year. Each month a different method will be featured. Dates and themes, as well as the event of the month, for upcoming council roundtables follow:

Nov. 17, 2004: Association with adults, biathlon

Dec. 2004: No roundtable during December; attend University of Scouting

Jan. 19, 2005: Personal growth, Scouting for Food drive

Feb. 16, 2005: Uniform, Scout-O-Rama

March 16, 2005: Advancement

April 20, 2005: Outdoors

May 18, 2005: Ideals (Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan), The Big Event, Operation On Target

No roundtable meetings are scheduled in June and July. Planning for October 2005-May 2006 will occur in August 2005.

On Belay course slated

Registrations are now being accepted for both youth and adult participants who want to see a Varsity Scout team in action. 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 course will run July 25-30, 2005, 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 16. An additional 10 percent discount per person is available for teams when at least two leaders and six boys register together. For information, see the On Belay web page, <http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/onbelay/index.htm>. Registration forms are also available at district roundtable meetings and at any Scout Shop, or downloaded from the web.

Wood Badge courses set

Registration is under way for Wood Badge for the 21st Century--a single training program for Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, council and district volunteer leaders and professionals.

Three weekend courses are offered at Camp Tracy in Millcreek Canyon in 2005. The spring course will be held at Camp Tracy in April (14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23), the summer course runs August 25, 26, & 27, and September 8, 9, & 10, and the fall course is scheduled October 13, 14, 15, 27, 28, & 29.

Cost for the course is \$190.00. For more information call 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>. Registration forms are available at district roundtable meetings, at any Scout Shop, or downloaded from the council web site.

Primitive biathlon planned

A mountain man biathlon organized by the Great Salt Lake Council is scheduled Saturday, February 5, at historic Fort Buenaventura in Ogden. Competition begins Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Teams may register upon check-in at the event. The cost is \$5.00 per participant.

Rather than utilizing the Olympic-style target

rifles and cross-country skis of the modern-day biathlon, the Varsity Scout rendezvous theme will be invoked at this rather unique event as participants traverse a marked trail on snowshoes (weather permitting) and utilize primitive muzzle loading black powder rifles.

Participation in the biathlon satisfies the Varsity Letter award requirement to participate in a high adventure/sports activity (<http://www.gslc-bsa.org/varsity/Advancement/index.htm>, see requirement 2).

Organizers are planning team building activities, tug of war, a winterized soccer match, and a snowshoe races (weather permitting). Optional overnight camping at the fort will also be available.

Historic Fort Buenaventura (<http://ogdencv.b.org/fortb.html>) is located at 2450 South 'A' Street, near the old baseball park west of Ogden. Take exit 347 off I-15 in Ogden.

2004-'05 Varsity calendar

On Belay 2004 course 90-day reunion, Camp Tracy, Wednesday, 10 November

Biathlon, Fort Buenaventura, Saturday, February 5, 2005

Scouting for Food Drive, Saturday, March 26, 2005

Scout-O-Rama, Saturday, May 7, 2005

Big Event, East Fork of the Bear, Thursday-Saturday, June 16-18, 2005

Operation On-Target, Saturday, July 16, 2005

On Belay youth and adult leader training, East Fork of the Bear Scout Reservation, July 25-30, 2005

The Varsity Letter

Submissions are welcome. E-mail your suggestions the editor at vinfo@gslc-bsa.org. The copy deadline is the third Wednesday of each month.

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

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/index.htm>.