

Buckskin 2017

Dear Scoutmaster,

Training of our youth leaders is important in helping the individual Scout and the Troop grow. The Heart of Virginia Council, Boy Scouts of America, has developed a week long training experience that has proven very valuable in the training of your junior leaders. It is called "Buckskin" and your Troop is invited to participate.

To attend, a Scout must be at least Star rank, 14 years of age, and currently holding a leadership position in the Troop. He should be either a Senior Patrol Leader, or a Scout you feel is destined for one of these leadership positions (he may attend on your recommendation). Since the course will be conducted in a camp setting, it is important that the Scout have skills in hiking, camping, and cooking. "Buckskin" will stress two areas of benefit to your Troop: 1) Scoutcraft skills and how they can be passed on to the other members of the Troop and patrols; and 2) the skills of leadership that will make your junior leaders more effective in their job.

The course is scheduled for **July 30th through August 5th, 2017** at Camp T. Brady Saunders in Goochland County. The cost is \$310, per Scout, and includes all meals, program and materials.

You were emailed the information sheet on "Buckskin" a couple of days ago. Enclosed is a reservation form. You can also register your Scouts online. Go to www.HOVC.org and go to August in the Council calendar. Each Troop may register 3 Scouts. So that we can do a good job of advanced planning it is important that your Troop reservation be in the Council Service Center, with a \$150 deposit, per Scout, no later than **May 5th, 2017**. The remainder of the fees are due by **July 3, 2017**. In the past, this course has filled up quickly; I encourage you to take action as soon as possible in order to be certain of a place for your Scouts.

There will be a required Scoutmaster's meeting on **Thursday, June 8th, 2017, at 7:00 PM**, to discuss the many aspects of this training course. The meeting will be held at the Scout Service Center. In order for your Troop's Scouts to participate in this course you must attend this meeting. This is a great opportunity for the Troops of our Council. I know the program will make a positive difference in the lives of the Scouts who participate and greatly enhance your Troop program.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me at hastills@hanovercounty.gov or Robin Rush at robin.rush@scouting.org or 204-2644.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Harold

Harold Stills, Jr.

Buckskin Scoutmaster