

2018 LEADERS' GUIDE



**BEAR CREEK
SUMMER CAMP**



Bear Creek

2018

Dear Scouter,

Welcome to the Bear Creek 2018 Leader's Guide. We continue with Project Oso this summer, a five year plan of camp improvements. This summer's Project Oso improvements include a new climbing wall and the addition of radio merit badge. We are also remodeling our oldest shower/restroom facility. Future projects may include electricity to campsites and added COPE elements.

This Guide contains important information about Bear Creek. Most of your questions about summer camp will be answered and all necessary forms are included in our Leader's Guide. Please, have each Scout review the requirements for his Merit Badges prior to arriving at camp. Please note, it is now a National BSA requirement that adults staying in camp must be registered members of the BSA, even for only one night.

We are assembling our staff for the camping season. Dedicated, motivated and experienced staff members are the key to providing the kind of program you deserve. Our goal is to make your visit an educational and memorable experience your troop will never forget.

On behalf of our staff, I would like to thank you for committing a part of your summer to the Scouts in your troop. We are working very hard to make this the best camping season ever. Share this Guide with parents of your Scouts and plan your summer experience. We look forward to seeing you at Bear Creek.

Yours in Scouting,
Ken Lamb
Camp Director

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WHY SUMMER CAMP?

The primary feature in Scouting is outdoor activities, which develop personal values and character. You can't take the outing out of Scouting. Summer camp is an experience all young men will remember for the rest of their lives. This adventure provides many opportunities individual troops cannot offer. The variety in the program, abundant facilities, and equipment are beyond the scope of troop activities. We provide dining facilities, trading posts, a large selection of merit badge offerings and a Ranger program (for new Scouts) that encourage advancement and promote a sense of self-pride often lacking in our young men. No two Scouts are alike. We will assist you in developing a program that suits your individual needs.

STAFF

Our staff is selected for their enthusiasm and knowledge. We reinforce that knowledge with regular training sessions prior to the camping season and create a sense of team spirit that is carried over to the Scouts visiting our camp. We are not successful unless you are satisfied with our program. We make every effort to provide the quality-learning environment you expect at Bear Creek. If you have Scouts interested in joining our staff, contact me at Ken.Lamb@Scouting.org or visit the council webpage to apply online.

NATIONAL CAMP STANDARDS

We are inspected each year by a team that represents the Boy Scouts of America. Our camp meets or exceeds all standards and regulations. We are also inspected regularly by the Texas Health Department. We feature a Health Lodge staffed by a qualified professional for routine health checks and problems. Strict health and safety standards are maintained at all times.



New For This Summer!!!

- We are adding a three lane climbing wall in the lower valley. This will be used by climbing merit badge and will be open to all scouts each evening.
- Amateur radio operators will offer radio merit badge each week. Times will be announced as we know them for each week.



FOOD

All meals are provided by professional cooks and served (cafeteria style) by our youth staff. Well-planned meals provide a balanced diet and seconds are usually available. If you have a scout with special dietary needs, please call the dining hall, 830-238-4084. On the Rickenbacker side, troops bring and prepare their own food. We provide refrigeration.

CAMP PROGRAM

The Ranger program is for Scouts who have yet to reach the rank of First Class. This course is a great way for your new Scouts to get that advancement jump-start they need.

Merit Badge opportunities afford Scouts a wide variety of learning environments. We are constantly adding new merit badge classes to encourage young men to broaden their horizons. We recommend the more challenging merit badges be reserved for older Scouts. All classes are planned as educational and fun events rather than just classroom study.

Older Scout Programs

We offer several high adventure opportunities at Bear Creek. Mountain biking allows all participants to see the scenic Texas Hill Country from a different perspective. Many of the trails and roadways traveled are not available to non-scouts. COPE is always popular with older scouts. Climbing merit badge provides older Scouts with an experience unique to our camp. And this year, we add cowboy action.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR CAMP:

1. Know each scout's advancement status before coming to camp.
2. Determine which scouts will participate in the High Adventure program.
3. Work on pre-requisites before coming to camp.
4. Set a goal for each scout. Challenge him to do his best.
5. Enter your Scouts information into the online registration system at least a few weeks before camp.
6. Collect physicals early.
7. Alert the camp to special needs such as diet, disabilities or medications at your earliest convenience. For dietary questions call 830-238-4084. For medical concerns call 830-238-5093.

LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All adults attending camp and staying overnight with a troop must comply with the following:

- 1. Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.**
- 2. Complete Youth Protection Training in person training and bring a copy of the card.**
- 3. Complete Health Form- Part A, B & C.**

Troops should bring copies of the Health Form and YPT card, turn them in at check in. We cannot return these YPT cards at the end of the week. Please retain a copy of the original health form and YPT for future council events.



RANGER PROGRAM

Our Ranger program is an exciting introduction to scouting for all who have not completed the requirements for First Class rank. We encourage all Scouts to learn basic skills in an environment of fun and cooperation. Teamwork is emphasized along with team spirit. We encourage all leaders to get involved in this program.

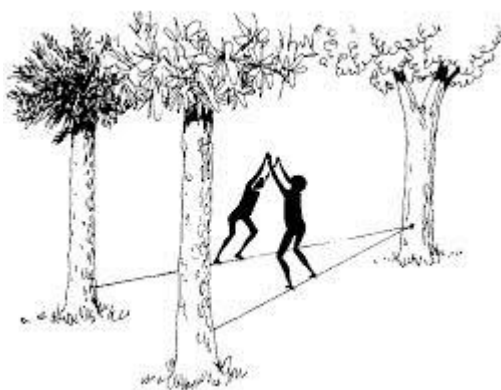
The Ranger program is an all day adventure lasting from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., with a break for lunch. Along with completing a large number of rank advancement requirements, our Rangers are given the opportunity to complete the swimming merit badge and may choose between art, leatherwork, pottery or first aid.

Ranger Outpost on Thursday evening takes the Rangers to the rustic portion of the camp and allows our staff an opportunity to share campfire stories while the Rangers earn their Firem'n Chit card. Participants will need a flashlight, ground cloth, sleeping bag, water bottle, and a small backpack for their hike and overnight stay. The Rangers will return to your Troops campsite before breakfast on Friday morning.

The requirements a Ranger will get with perfect attendance throughout the week will be included in the packet you receive after the Friday night campfire. We encourage you to test their skills from what they've learned, however we are willing to sign their books upon your request. If your Ranger completed the swimming merit badge they also completed the rank requirements associated with swimming.

Climbing Merit Badge

A certified instructor trained at National Camp School teaches this course and all other instructors are climbing and rappelling trained. This one half day class is available to all boys that have reached their 13th birthday. Bear Creek has natural cliffs and outcrops that offer different levels of challenges for all Scouts. Participants will learn climbing safety and techniques in a classroom environment before donning a harness and hooking into a belay line. Our goal is to provide a sense of success and confidence for all participants. The objective is not solely in completing the climb but in mastering the technique and safe practices learned during the course. Gloves, climbing harness, safety helmet, carabineers and climbing rope will be provided. There is a \$25 charge for this program.



C.O.P.E.

Bear Creek offers COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) during the morning hours each day. This one half day class is available to all boys that have reached their 13th birthday. We charge a \$25.00 equipment usage fee and space is limited, so register early. A bandana is presented to all that complete the course. Candidates should be thinking of their COPE names. They will be asked to select a nickname that holds significance for them. All Scouts that register for COPE will be able to participate in other programs in the afternoon.



Hunter Safety

This course is offered to all scouts and leaders on Tuesday 7:00 – 11:00 p.m. and Wednesday at 8:00. Hunter Safety is required for obtaining a hunting license if not born before 1972. There is a state mandated fee of \$15.00 for this class. **Bring this fee and your social security number to the class.** Your home address will also be needed. Both nights are required.

Mountain Biking

Enjoy the beautiful Texas Hill Country from vantage points few have ever visited. After an introduction to bicycle safety and maintenance, Scouts will travel the hills and valleys of Bear Creek and other nearby bike trails. This class will last for two hours per day and can satisfy some of the Cycling merit badge requirements. This class is physically challenging and restricted to Scouts thirteen years of age and older. Scouts are welcome to bring their own bikes or use the camps. There is a \$25.00 bike fee to use our bikes for this program.

Shotgun

This is an opportunity for all scouts to learn to properly handle and use shotguns. They will begin with a gun safety class, which includes lessons in cleaning and storing shotguns. Aiming techniques will be emphasized along with “leading” the target object. Safety glasses and ear protection will be provided. Scouts taking this merit badge should be prepared to spend about \$30 earning this badge. Tickets will be 3 shots for a dollar at the trading post. All instructors are Camp School trained and very knowledgeable. This class is very popular and is limited Scouts who are at least 13 years old.

Cowboy Action

This program offers a fun, safe introduction to cowboy action shooting with pistols, rifles, and shotguns. While attending camp this summer, scouts over the age of 14 can take part in a special shooting experience with opportunities to shoot .22 caliber pistols, .22 caliber lever action rifles, and 12 or 20 gauge shotguns at reactive targets. There is a special permission form parents must sign before a scout participates. This form will be available on the council website..



ADULT TRAINING and ENTERTAINMENT

Adult Leaders will enjoy a comprehensive inventory of Scout Training tapes and courses throughout the week. Daily classes are offered in the Commissioner's pavilion. Scoutmaster's Dinner is a special treat each Thursday night. Adult leaders are always invited to stop by the Commissioner's Area and take a break during the program day.

Adult Training includes: -

- *Hunters Safety-Tuesday and Wednesday nights
- *American Red Cross 1st Aid & CPR
- *Youth Protection Training on Monday
- * Wilderness First Aid

Cobbler cook off

The commissioners will host a cobbler cook off for leaders each week. These cobblers will be the dessert at Thursday night's scoutmaster dinner. We'll provide the following ingredients, you bring the rest.

Chocolate or yellow cake mix	Sugar	Cinnamon	Butter or oil
Peaches, apples, or cherries	Brown sugar	Foil	Common spices

GENERAL INFORMATION

Drugs – Drug laws will be strictly enforced according to the criminal code of the State of Texas. Alcohol is strictly forbidden on all camp properties.

Merit Badge Records – Bear Creek will provide all leaders with a comprehensive record of accomplishments for your Scouts on Friday evening after campfire. We do not provide "Blue Cards". The Alamo Area Council record department will receive all Merit Badge and Advancement information in a "soft copy" format.

Firearms – Firearms and ammunition are available at the camp for use ONLY at the rifle and shotgun ranges. No other firearms are permitted on camp property during the summer camping season. Do not bring your personal firearms or bows.

Immunization – All immunizations listed on the medical forms must be administered by a Physician prior to attending summer camp. These immunizations include measles, mumps and rubella. It is BSA Rules and Regulations that a Tetanus shot year is listed where appropriate.

Troop Leaders – All adults staying with a troop must be registered with the BSA. Each Troop must have two registered adult leaders in camp at all times. One leader must be at least 21 years old and the other must be at least 18 years of age. The Boy Scouts of America requires “two deep leadership” for the safety of your Scouts. **All Leaders must bring a copy of their youth protection training certificate and a completed health form** We recommend a ratio of 8 scouts or less per leader.

Flags – Troops should bring U.S., troop and patrol flags to be posted in your campsite. Camping is done using the patrol method. All campsites are graded daily by the Commissioner staff for neatness, symbolic display of flags and troop spirit.

Vehicles in camp – Vehicles may be allowed in the campsites to deliver camping equipment only if staff assistance is unavailable. Special permission may be allowed for physically challenged Leaders to keep a vehicle in camp for transportation to essential locations...not sightseeing. All leaders, without special permits, must move vehicles to the parking lot for the duration of their visit.

No one should ride on fenders or in the bed of trucks. This is strictly prohibited by BSA policy. Seatbelts must be worn at all times. The camp speed limit is 15 miles per hour or less. Violators will be asked to leave the camp immediately.

DINING HALL OPERATIONS

The dining hall serves all meals cafeteria style with the exception of Wednesday night’s Troop cookout (note below). The kitchen and dining hall staff work to ensure hot meals and good service. The kitchen directors will be glad to assist in any way they can to provide special meal requirements.

Please call 830-238-4084 one week prior to your arrival with any special dietary needs.

Parents and visitors are permitted to eat in the dining hall with their Scout and his Troop on Friday night. Meals may be purchased at the door for \$5.00 per person.

*** Wednesday Night Foil Dinners** – The evening meal will be cooked, by your Scouts, in your campsite. The Dining hall staff will provide all ingredients for foil dinners and dessert (including foil). You are invited to bring a Dutch oven if you choose.

Dinner items will be:

Foil

Hamburger meat

Potato

Dessert items will be:

Peaches

Cake mix

Butter

Carrot
Onion
Cabbage

Sugar
Cinnamon

If a burn ban is in effect, this meal will be replaced by a meal at the dining hall.

GENERAL CAMP FACILITIES

The buildings and developed areas of the Friedrich Camp provide 19 Troop sites, a central Dining Hall, Health Lodge, Trading Post, Computer lab, Astronomy lab, Environmental Center, Rifle range, Shotgun / Skeet range, Shower and bathroom facilities, Archery range, complete waterfront areas, Swimming Pool, Commissioner's pavilion, Leaders lounge, volleyball court, OA ceremonial amphitheater, parking lot, Forge, numerous learning centers, Ranger's Quarters, Quartermasters storage facility and Camp Administration building. All Friedrich campsites are provided with platform tenting and pavilions.

Rifle, Archery and Shotgun facilities have been designed and certified by BSA standards. The camp furnishes .22 caliber rifles for use on the rifle range, 20 gauge shotguns for use on the Skeet range and recurve bows for use on the Archery range. Swimming is restricted to prescribed areas along the waterfront and in the Swimming Pool during posted hours of operation. "Free swim" is available to everyone during scheduled hours when lifeguards are provided. Additional items such as trash bags, toilet paper, twine, brooms, water hoses and fire buckets may be checked out by contacting the Quartermasters. The Camp Trading Posts offer a variety of Scout items such as socks, hats, shirts, merit badge books, handicraft provisions, toothpaste, candy, sodas, ice cream and a wide assortment of souvenirs.

The Rickenbacher Camp provides six primitive campsites and modern restrooms at the Conference Center. Troops camping here bring and prepare their own food. Refrigeration is provided.

Tents

Upon arriving at camp, troops camping on the Fred. side will find tents with platforms already set in their campsite. Rickenbacher campers may check out tents from the Quartermaster. Please take care of our tents. Your troop guide will inventory each tent with the troop leadership. Units will be charged \$10.00 plus \$2.00 per inch for each rip that occurs. Tents that are deemed unrepairable by the Camp Director or the Ranger will be charged to the troop \$275.00 for replacement.

SCOUT COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Parents always want to know where their son is and how to reach him. We encourage sending mail but ask parents not to call except in the case of emergency. In an attempt to discourage homesickness, we ask that you tell your son to not call home. Our experience shows that a homesick scout doesn't improve if he calls home. The camp phone must be reserved for those individuals on camp business.

To send a letter to your Scout, please address mail to:

**Scout's Name, Troop #
Bear Creek Scout Reservation
125 Bear Creek Scout Road West
Hunt, TX 78024**

Camp Phones

Camp phones are for emergency and camp business only. The number is 830-238-4560, if no answer; call the Health Lodge at 830-238-5093.

MEDICAL FORMS AND PHYSICAL

Each scout and leader must submit a completed medical form upon arrival at camp. There will be no exceptions regardless of amount or degree of activity. An official copy of BSA medical form for youth and adults can be found on the last page of this guide. It is now the same form for all BSA activities.

Special Hint: Bring a photocopy of the original medical health form and leave the original at home!

Anyone arriving without a doctor's examination will be required to secure such at his / her own expense before he / she will be checked into camp.

Please be sure that the parents have signed the medical forms and accompanying notes when appropriate (see above). Religious exceptions are allowed.

Off Camp Medical Care

Occasionally, Scouts or leaders may require treatment at a local doctor's office or hospital. Medical expenses incurred by Scouts and adult leaders while in camp will be billed to the home of the person receiving treatment. **Please make sure insurance information is completed on the medical forms Attach a copy of insurance cards to the form.** If the family does not have appropriate insurance coverage, they may turn the bill over to the Troop to be paid by the Troop's insurance.

SWIM TEST

All Scouts and leaders must take the Boy Scout swim test before entering any swimming area. As soon as your Troop Guide leads you to your campsite, your boys should prepare to take the swim test. Upon arrival at the waterfront, your Troop will be issued “Buddy Tags”. All Scouts and leaders will be classified according to their swimming ability on the following scale:

1. Non-swimmer: One who does not swim at all.
2. Beginner: One who can jump into water, over his head, and swim a minimum of 50 feet using any stroke, with at least one sharp turn, but has not met the Swimmer requirements.
3. Swimmer: One who can jump into water, over his head, level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner using the trudgen, crawl, sidestroke, or breast stroke (with proper breath control). Then the person being tested should be able to swim 25 additional yards using the elementary backstroke and be able to float on his back with a minimum of movement.

Troops may conduct swim tests prior to camp. These should be done using the safe swim defense plan. Bring two copies of the results and a copy of the card of the lifeguard conducting the tests.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR TROOP

All registrations are done online at www.alamoareabsa.org. For assistance, contact Linda Dieguez at (210) 740-9370, at the Alamo Area Council office in San Antonio, Texas. A \$150.00 per Troop deposit is required to reserve a slot. The site accepts all major credit cards and also accepts checks.

Campsites are assigned based on troop size.

REFUND POLICY:

Site deposits are non-refundable.

To ensure the council can provide the best service to the Scouts and to make better investments into the lives of our youth the Alamo Area Council has adopted the following refund policy:

- Paid registration fees are refundable up to eight (8) days prior to the start of an event, less a 10% supply fee, upon written request with a copy of the receipt of payment.
- From the seventh (7) day up to 24 hours prior to the start of an event fees are 50% refundable, upon written request with a copy of receipt of payment.
- From 24 hours prior to the start of an event and up to seven days after the event, refunds will only be issued in the event of a valid medical emergency, summer school or military assignment. Proper documentation must be provided.

- Scouts are allowed to coordinate with other scouts to fill the position being vacated. Please notify Council of the change and we will update the roster, as required. (With the exception of events with Wait Lists).
- Transfers to another session within the same event and same year (ex. Bear Creek Session 1 to BC Session 4) are allowed but *funds cannot be transferred to another event or another year.*

Refund requests must be in writing, include the scout's name, and the reason for requesting a refund. Calling or e-mailing a change in your troop's planned attendance numbers is not a refund request.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE SUNDAY

Check in time is **1:30 p.m.** Troops will arrive at the Administration Building parking lot where a staff member will direct the Troop to their assigned campsite. The Troop's Staff Guide, who will await you in your campsite, will inform leaders of the check-in procedure. The Troop Guide will lead your Scouts to their campsite and facilitate setting up your camp, while adult leaders remove any empty vehicles to the parking area.

Requirements for check-in:

- All check-in is completed at the Environmental Pavilion after your troop has received their campsite assignment.
- No payments will be accepted at camp for registration fees or program fees, all must be paid prior to arrival, either through the Tentaroo system or at the Council Office.
- Medical Forms
- **Copies of Leaders youth protection training cards**
- **Health form-Parts A, B & C (Current form required)**
- Four (4) copies of Troop Roster

Special Notes for Session 3 and 4.

Sessions 3 and 4 will be Monday start sessions. Troops planning to arrive on Monday should check in beginning at 8:00AM. We will do regular check in items at this time. Troops completing their swim checks prior to camp may arrive as late as 10:30. Lunch will be at 12:30 with the regular schedule resuming from there. Troops wishing to arrive on Sunday may still do so, with check in starting at 1:30.

WHEN YOU DEPART SATURDAY

Each Troop is expected to return all camp provided items to the Quartermaster. These items include tools, flags, water jugs, etc., that may have been used during the week in your campsite or for service projects. Any items missing will be accounted for before a Troop is allowed to check out. A campsite inspection will be made to insure no waste articles are left for the next occupants

to clean up. Each Troop is responsible for reviewing the computer generated Merit Badge completion list prior to departing camp. The time to resolve questions is when counselors are available and participants are present to discuss discrepancies. We do not expect to modify our records at a later date.

What Each Scout Should Bring

Clothing

Scout Uniform
Jacket
Rain gear
Hat
Rugged pants
Underwear
T-shirts
Socks
Hiking boots & walking shoes
Swim suit
Long Pants

Camping Gear

Sleeping bag

Cot

Ground cloth
Backpack
Flashlight with extra batteries
Personal 1st Aid kit
Drinking cup
Pocket Knife

Merit Badge Item

Scout Handbook
Writing Items (pen, pencil and paper)
Prerequisites done before camp

Toiletries

Toothbrush & toothpaste
Bath Towels & washcloth
Toilet Paper
Soap for body & clothes
Deodorant
Comb
Shaving gear (?)

Suggested Extras

Sunglasses
Camera & film
Compass
Spending money
Book of Faith

Items to Leave At Home

Sheath knives
Fireworks
Radios, CD Players
Skateboards & scooters
Valuables
Electronic games
Pets

Troop Items

Scout & Leader Medical Forms
Troop Flag
Rope & Twine
Dutch Oven & Utensils
Patrol Flags
Water Cooler for campsite

First Aid Kit
American Flag
Troop Library
Foot Locker for Valuables
Flagging Tape

2018 Merit Badges

<u>AQUATICS:</u> Canoeing **Lifesaving Rowing **Swimming Kayaking	<u>SHOOTING SPORTS:</u> Archery* Rifle* Shotgun*	<u>FIELD SPORTS:</u> Orienteering Fishing Fly Fishing **Personal Fitness Geocaching
<u>ECOLOGY:</u> Astronomy ** Environmental Sci. Fish & Wildlife Mgt. Forestry Geology Nature Reptile & Amphibian Soil & Water Cons. Space Exploration* Weather Bird Study Mammals	<u>HANDICRAFTS:</u> Art * Basketry* Leatherwork * Movie Making Pottery* Woodcarving * Cinematography	<u>SKILLS:</u> ** Camping **Emergency Prep. **First Aid Pioneering Wilderness Survival Cooking
<u>COPE:</u> Climbing BMX	<u>American Heritage:</u> Radio Communications Citizenship in the World Citizenship in the Nation Indian Lore Metal Working	

OTHER PROGRAMS AT BEAR CREEK

BSA Lifeguard (all day)
Hunter Safety
Totin' Chip

Mile Swim
Nature Hike
Mountain Biking

Service Hours
Conservation Projects
Snorkeling BSA

HELPFUL HINTS FOR MERIT BADGES:

Many Merit Badges can be completed at Summer Camp; however, some cannot due to time requirements and special projects / visitations. Some Merit Badges require other pre-requisites or special skill levels. Please counsel your Scouts and use good judgment when selecting their Merit Badge courses for this summer. **We want happy campers!**

(A) Beginning Scouts

(B) Experienced Scouts, 2+ year campers

(C) Advanced, 3+ year campers

<u>Merit Badges</u>	<u>Prerequisites</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Archery (C)	Some experience with previous range time.	Scout must “qualify” by scoring a certain number of points to complete.
Art (A)	None	Fun easy MB for all ages.
Astronomy (B/C)	Requirement 6.2	This will involve night classes. Requirement 6.2 cannot be completed at camp.
Basketry (A)	None	Supply costs about \$12. Making baskets is fun but time consuming.
Bird Study (C)	Requirement 7	Time consuming but fun.
BMX (A,B,C)		Must be physically fit!
Camping (B)	Complete requirements 8c, 9a, and 9b.	With prerequisites done, this should be easy to earn at camp.
Canoeing (C)	Must pass BSA Swim Test and be classified a swimmer.	This class may be difficult for younger/smaller scouts.

Citizenship in the Nation (B/C)	Requirement 2.	Prepare for requirement 6 in advance.
Citizenship in the World (B/C)	Requirement 3 A & B	Come ready to discuss world events.
Climbing (C) 3 hrs.	Participants must be 13yo.	Bear Creek has some wonderful cliffs and climbs. \$25 fee.
Communications (C)	Complete Requirement 5 and 7. Prepare speeches beforehand.	Much time will be spent giving and critiquing speeches. Preparation must be done outside of class.
Cooking (C)	Complete requirements 6, and 7. Review menu planning.	Be prepared to spend extra time cooking and cleaning dishes. <u>See Note Below.</u>
Emergency Preparedness (B/C)	Complete requirements 1, 2c, 6c, and 8b-c	First Aid MB must be completed before starting this one.
Environmental Science (C)	Study the MB pamphlet	Much paperwork and outside observation. Scouts will need encouragement and supervision to complete this MB.
First Aid (B/C)	Review requirement 1 and bring a first-aid kit.	This is for mature scouts able to grasp the information. Must be able to perform CPR.
Fish and Wildlife Management (B/C)	Complete requirement 5.	Be prepared to write a paper.
Fishing (A/B/C)	Complete requirement 9	It is recommended that scouts bring their own poles or buy them from the trading post.
Fly Fishing (B)	Requirement 10	Bring poles if you have one. Camp has some.

Forestry (A/B/C)	None	Good experience for all ages.
Geocaching (B)	Requirement 7	Cannot be completed at camp.
Geology (B)		Outstanding opportunity for all scouts. Time consuming but interesting.
Indian Lore (B/C)	Review requirement 1.	Learn about the history and heritage of the Native American. Supply costs involved as well as time for projects. \$15 supply cost.
Insect Study (c)		For advancing scouts.
Leatherwork (A)	None	Supply costs \$15. Fairly easy MB for all ages.
Lifesaving (C)	Complete requirement 1. Swimming merit badge is a prerequisite.	Very difficult for younger/smaller scouts. Physical size and strength required.
Mammal Study (A)	Complete written work.	Great for young scouts.
Metalwork (B)	None	Register online early. This one fills fast.
Nature (A)	None	This MB is great for young scouts.
Orienteering (B/C)	Knowledgeable and proficient with a compass. Complete requirement 7.	The perfect opportunity to hone your skills with a map and compass. A difficult but worthwhile endeavor.

Personal Fitness (B/C)	Requirement 8 will have to be done after camp.	Scouts will learn what it means to be physically healthy and how they can improve their physical health. It will take dedication to complete the 12-week exercise program they create for themselves.
Photography (A/B/C)	None	Learn that taking pictures can be fun and easy. Bring a camera and take your memories home.
Pioneering (B/C)	Scouts should already know the basic knots in requirement 3. Review requirement 4 and lashings for requirements 8-9.	Learn the challenging art of rope making and use. Splices can be difficult and time consuming. Great projects... great fun!
Pottery (A/B/C)	None	Scouts will learn the art of pottery and experience using a kiln on camp.
Radio (B)	Read the merit badge book.	This class will be taught by licensed amateur radio operators.
Reptile Study (A/B/C)	Requirement 8	Learn the truth about these cold-blooded creatures.
Rifle Shooting (C)	Previous experience is a plus.	Additional practice time may be necessary to qualify. Not intended for younger scouts.
Rowing (B/C)	Must pass the BSA Swim Test and be classified as a swimmer. Bring clothes for requirements 7.	This MB requires physical strength and coordination.

Shotgun Shooting (C)	Previous experience is a plus.	Read about additional requirements for Shotgun Shooting on page 6. Expect to spend up to \$30 for ammo and targets.
Soil and Water Conservation (A/B/C)	Read the MB pamphlet.	Fun for scouts of all ages. A real confidence builder.
Space Exploration (B/C)	None	When the class starts firing rockets off on Friday, everyone wishes they were in Space Expl. \$15 supply costs involved.
Swimming (A/B/C)	Must pass be classified as a swimmer? Bring long pants and long sleeved shirt for requirement 4.	A chance to get in the pool and make yourself a stronger swimmer.
Weather (A/B)	None	Interesting and challenging.
Wilderness Survival B/C) -Overnight Required.	Prepare for requirements 8 and 9. Read the MB pamphlet.	An exciting opportunity to test your survival skills on a wilderness outpost. Very challenging... only for older scouts.
Woodcarving (A/B/C)	Must have knife and Totin' Chip with them. Study MB pamphlet	\$12 supply cost involved. Hone your skills as a whittler.

Cooking Merit Badge will have its class size restricted.

Since cooking became eagle required, class size has been a real problem for us. Therefore, it will be limited to third year campers. Leaders are asked to help us with this by only allowing scouts that are close to earning eagle to take this class.

Merit Badge Registration

Starting May 15, leaders will be able to register scouts for merit badge classes and other programs. The scoutmaster should assign one adult to do this.

Registration is done online in the Tentaroo system. In March, a password will be sent to the e-mail address provided when your troop registered to attend camp. You may also pay fees using a credit card or check using this website.



AINA TOPA HUTSI LODGE OF THE ALAMO AREA COUNCIL, BSA

The Aina Topa Hutsi Lodge of the Order of the Arrow serves our council throughout the year, providing bridge ceremonies for Cub Scout Packs, setting up and putting away summer camp, and helping to maintain our two council camps at Bear Creek near Hunt, Texas and McGimsey Scout Park in San Antonio. We also do service projects for our community.

Our yearly activities include a Spring Fellowship at McGimsey, a Fall Fellowship at Bear Creek which includes a very impressive Vigil Call-Out Ceremony, our Winter Banquet in late January, ceremonies for the Induction of Candidates and Brotherhood Ceremonies at most all of our events.

Each Friday evening at summer camp, our Lodge ceremony team conducts a Call-Out ceremony for all Scouts and Scouters who have been duly elected this year as Candidates for membership in the Order of the Arrow. We have a spectacular setting which is backed by the Guadalupe River and a 120-foot cliff.

REGISTERING FOR THE CALL-OUT

Upon arrival at camp, units who had Unit Elections earlier this year may submit the names of those eligible to be called out to our Camp Chief during their unit's check-in. All names are subject to verification and additional names can be added up until Tuesday of your unit's week in camp.

Those elected to become members, called "Candidates," have a period of one year from the date of their *election* to complete their Induction or they must be re-elected to become a candidate again.

OUT-OF-COUNCIL UNITS

Units from outside the Alamo Area Council must provide a copy of their Unit Election Report or a letter from their home lodge which lists the names of those who have been elected from their unit this year. Only those with proper documentation will be called out.

FOLLOWING THE CALL-OUT

After the Call-Out ceremony, the Candidates will be led to a designated area. Those from the Alamo Area Council will be given information about their opportunities for induction into the Order. Those Candidates from other councils may return to their campsites and contact their home lodge when they return from summer camp.

CAMP SCHEDULE

Sunday

1:30 Arrive at camp, check in
5:30 Supper
7:30 Leader and SPL meeting at commissioner area
8:30 Flags in the valley
8:40 Campfire

Monday through Thursday

7:20 Flags followed by breakfast at dining hall
9:00 Merit badge session 1
9:15 Leaders meeting at commissioners area
10:00 Merit badge session 2
11:00 Merit badge session 3
12:20 Lunch
2:00 Merit badge session 4
3:00 Merit badge session 5
4:00 Merit badge session 6
5:20 Flags followed by supper at the dining hall
7:00 Evening programs
10:30 Lights out

Friday

7:20 Flags followed by breakfast at dining hall
9:00 Merit badge session 1
9:15 Leaders meeting at commissioners area
10:00 Merit badge session 2
11:00 Merit badge session 3
12:20 Lunch
2:00 Merit badge session 4
3:00 Merit badge session 5
4:00 Merit badge session 6
5:30 Supper
8:00 Flags in the valley
8:15 Campfire
9:00 OA Callout ceremony
10:30 Lights out

Saturday

7:20 Flags and breakfast
8:00 Check out begins

Other important times:

Monday, 6:45 PM – OA meeting at the Eco Pavilion.
Camp wide chapel service will be Wednesday at 7:00 PM.
Hunter safety meets Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

THE UNCLE DUDER HONOR TROOP AWARD

The Uncle Duder Honor Troop Award is an attractive Troop flag pennant that will be presented to all units meeting the Uncle Duder standards of good camping. The award is designed to encourage Troop participation in the wide range of activities available at Bear Creek and to provide troop and individual service opportunities. When a unit meets or exceeds the camp standards during it's week at camp it will be known as an "Uncle Duder Honor Troop" and awarded a flag pennant at the Friday night campfire.

Uncle Duder Honor Troop Award Requirements:

1. At least one adult from the unit must attend all required meetings. Additionally, the SPL, ASPL or designated youth must attend all required youth meetings.
2. The unit must maintain a clean and organized campsite. The site should be free of litter, gear stowed appropriately in tent and pavilion areas. The Troop members comply with all camp policies.
3. All vehicles must be removed from the campsite by 9:00 AM on Monday morning unless they display a medical pass issued by the Camp Medic or Director. Vehicles must remain in the designated parking areas until after the Friday night campfire or unless approved by the Camp Director.
4. All liquid fuels (charcoal lighter, etc.) must be properly stored in the campsite. (Commissioners will remove any liquid fuels not properly stored.) No fires are to be left unattended. 10
5. Participate in a Troop Service or Conservation Project, such as:
 - a. Raise or Lower the Camp Flags (Dining Hall).
 - b. Raise or Lower the Valley Flag.
 - c. Conservation project approved and supervised by the Ecology Director. It should take at least one
(1) hour and involve at least 75% of the unit and one troop leader.
 - d. Sweep the Dining Hall after a meal.
 - e. Pick up litter in a location identified by the Camp Commissioner or Camp Director.
 - f. Gather firewood for Friday night campfire – see Camp Quartermaster for details.
 - g. Other service project approved by the Camp Commissioner or Camp Director.
 - h. At least 75% of the unit attends Vespers Wednesday evening or Troop conducts a Vespers program in their campsite.
6. Troop members assist in maintaining a safe and clean restroom area by cleaning the bathing and toilet facilities. It is anticipated that Troops will clean the facility nearest their campsite and also the common use facilities in the Valley and Dining Hall. More than one Troop can be involved in cleaning a facility each day.

Scoring

The score for item one will be based on meeting sign-in sheets. Camp Commissioners will inspect campsites each day and record a score for items 2, 3, and 4. Scores for item 5 and 6 will be based on sign-up sheets located at the Commissioner's pavilion, inspection of facilities by Commissioners, and reports from the Ecology Director and Quartermaster.

The Troop must attain at least a score of 90 on their Troop and Campsite Evaluation for at least three days at camp.



We will offer American Red Cross 1st Aid / CPR Training on Tuesdays this summer! Cost will be \$40, Sign up on your troops Bear Creek registration page. Class sizes are limited. This will be followed by CPR for the professional rescuer Tuesday evening. CPR pro will be \$20. Scouts taking BSA Lifeguard will take this as part of their lifeguard class at no extra cost.



Followed by Wilderness First Aid on Wednesday and Thursday. Cost will be \$90. Class size is limited. Once again, sign up on your registration page in tentaroo.com.



Scouts and leaders not attending Bear Creek summer camp may participate in these classes by **special appointment** only. Contact the camp **director at least 24 hours before the class** at Ken.Lamb@Scouting.org.



We'll be waiting for you!

**Alamo Area Council
Boy Scouts of America
2226 N.W. Military Hwy.
San Antonio, TX 78213**

**Phone 210-341-8611
E-Mail: alamo@bsamail.org**

**Fax: 210-341-7641
www.AlamoAreaBSA.org**