

# September 2011

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*LABOR DAY -  
Office Closed*

OA LEC

POPCORN SALE  
BEGINS

EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE

OA CONCLAVE

COMMISSIONER  
TRAINING

OA CONCLAVE

COUNCIL  
COMMISSIONER

## OCTOBER 2011

# NATIONAL SCOUTING WEB LINKS

[www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

This is the home page for the National Council and offers many, many more resources.

[www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org)

This is a new portal made possible by the National Council for members to access resources like E-learning (online training), Rechartering, Internet Advancement.

[www.Scouting.org/highadventure/philmont](http://www.Scouting.org/highadventure/philmont)

This is the home page for the Philmont Scout Ranch located in Raton, New Mexico. Learn more about the outbound treks and the Philmont Training Center.

[www.boyslife.org](http://www.boyslife.org)

Boys' Life is the magazine for all boys. The Boys' Life Web site has information about the current issue, games to play, projects to download, and more.

[www.Scouting.org/healthandsafety](http://www.Scouting.org/healthandsafety)

The Boy Scouts of America has nearly a century of experience conducting high-adventure outdoor activities in a manner that is safe for all participants. The following resources and information are provided to enable adult leaders and youth to help us maintain our impeccable safety record.

[www.nesa.org](http://www.nesa.org)

The National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) is a fellowship of men who have achieved the Eagle Scout rank and who desire using their efforts and influence toward forming the kind of young men America needs for leadership.

[www.ntier.org](http://www.ntier.org)

The Northern Tier offers many adventures. Come to the Northern Tier for an unforgettable experience in the world famous northwoods "Canoe Country" near Ely, Minnesota.

[www.Scoutingmagazine.org](http://www.Scoutingmagazine.org)

A web site companion to the magazine received by every registered leader.

### COLUMBIA RIVER

- 6 Commissioners
- 6 District Committee
- 7-9 Fall Camporee
- 13 Roundtable

### EASTERN OREGON

- 6 District Committee
- 6 Roundtable
- 6 OA
- 20 Roundtable

### OREGON TRAIL

- 6 Commissioners
- 6 District Committee
- 13 Roundtable
- 14-16 Fall Camporee
- 22 District Training

### PIONEER

- 4 OA
- 5 District Committee
- 5 Commissioners
- 13 Roundtable

### RATTLESNAKE RIDGE

- 6 Commissioners
- 6 District Committee
- 13 Roundtable
- 21-23 Fall Camporee

### WHITE BLUFFS

- 6 District Committee
- 13 OA
- 13 Roundtable
- 20 Commissioners

### BLUE MOUNTAIN COUNCIL

- 4 Training Committee  
Day Camp Meeting
- 8 Mid Columbia Duck Race
- 11 Endowment Committee  
OA LEC
- 19 Advancement  
Committee  
Executive Committee/Board
- 22 POPCORN SALE ENDS
- 26 Staff Meeting
- 27 Council Commissioner

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>SEPTEMBER 2011</b> <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>NOVEMBER 2011</b> <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					1
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16  FALL CAMPOREE - OT	17	18	19  EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	20	21  FALL CAMPOREE RATTLESNAKE RIDGE	22  POPCORN SALE ENDS
23  FALL CAMPOREE - RR	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31			COUNCIL COMMISSIONER		

## **YOUR COUNCIL**

Your council is the Blue Mountain Council. Your council currently serves more than 5,000 youth in twelve counties in Southeast Washington and Northeast Oregon. A council is responsible for carrying out four functions: membership, finance, program, and unit service. More than 2,600 adult volunteers, assisted by 6 professional Scouters, carry out these important priorities in every corner of the Blue Mountain Council. Your council provides service at three volunteer service centers located in Kennewick, Walla Walla, and La Grande. Each center provides volunteers with assistance, information and other support.

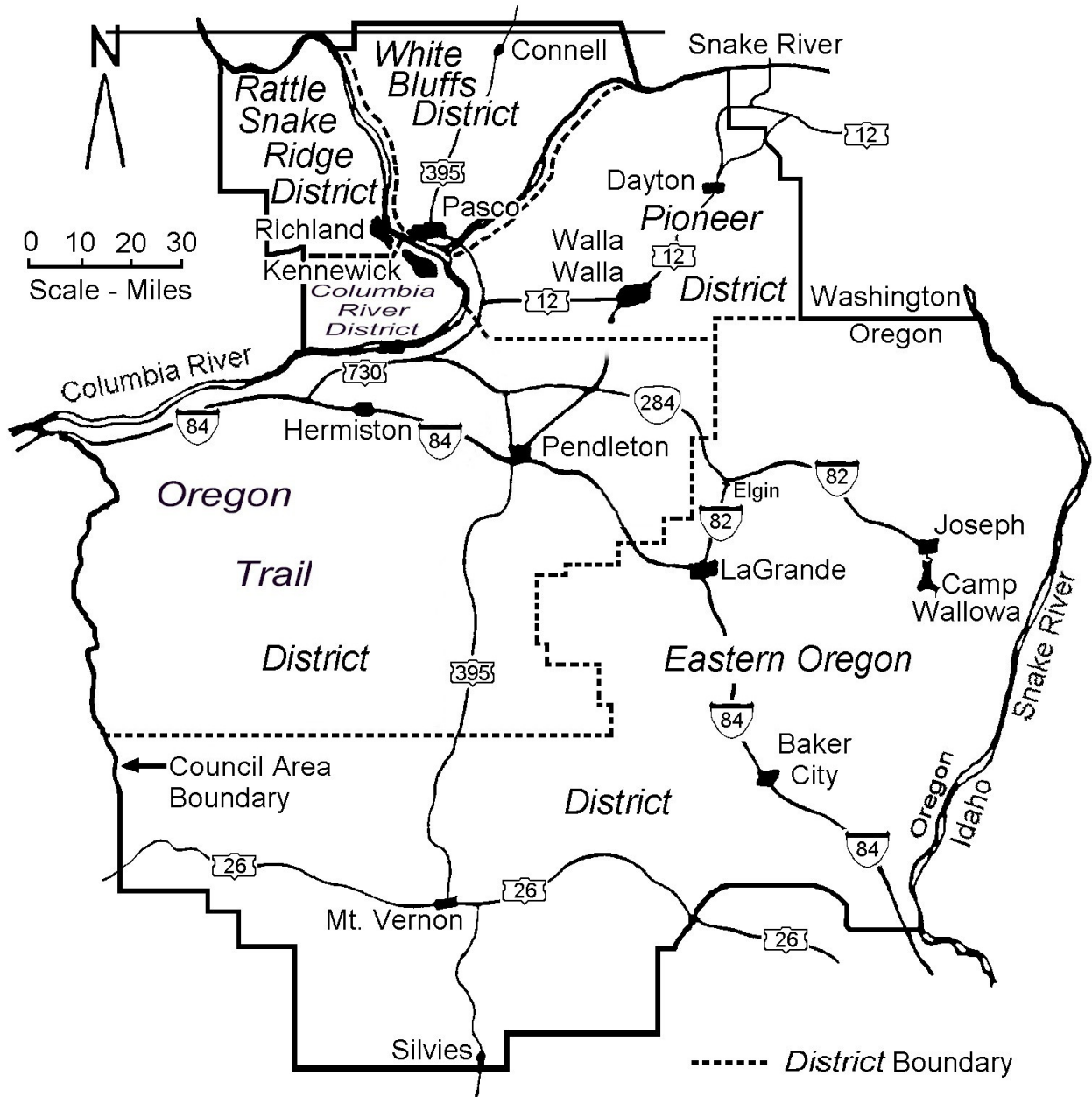
## **YOUR DISTRICT**

A district is a geographic service area within the council. Blue Mountain Council is organized into 6 geographic districts as shown on the map. Each district is led by a volunteer district chairperson, who manages the operations of the district with the assistance of one or two district executives or paraprofessionals. Many additional volunteers manage the important functions of unit service, program, finance, and membership within the district. The district holds a monthly 'Roundtable' meeting for all adult volunteers to share information, provide ongoing training, and offer a support system of knowledgeable adults. These roundtable meetings are commonly on the second Thursday of each month; exact dates can be found in these calendar pages. The district also offers periodic adult training on topics such as Youth Protection, This is Scouting, Position Specific training, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and Youth Leader Training for youth leaders. Training is a vital component of a successful Scouting experience. Every registered adult should complete training for their position as soon as possible after accepting the position.

## **YOUR UNIT**

Each youth member and adult mentor belongs to a unit. The unit may be a Cub Scout Pack, Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Team, Venturing Crew, or Sea Scout Ship. Each unit offers Scouting fun to youth of a similar age and interests. Each unit has adult volunteer leadership and an adult committee to organize the basic functions of the unit. Each unit operates under a charter issued to their Chartering Organization, an organization such as a church or service club, that works in conjunction with the district and council to offer Scouting programs to youth in the local community. Each unit belongs to a district which provides the unit with information, advice, assistance, and other support. Each unit's charter is renewed annually (now in October) to update individual memberships, contact information, renew Boys' Life magazine subscriptions, and renew the chartering organization's agreement to offer Scouting to the community.

# BLUE MOUNTAIN COUNCIL



## District Area Map

# Planning a Great Year of Scouting

*Time invested in planning is well spent. Planning saves time, prevents last minute conflicts, and ensures a safe and successful program for Scouts. Planning ahead makes the role of an adult volunteer more pleasant and rewarding.*

## THE THREE MEETING PLAN

*Schedule three planning meetings, or plan an hour each for three upcoming unit committee meetings to discuss the coming year's program. Invite all parents. Begin by reviewing all materials in this packet. Make copies of any material that will be useful to other leaders or parents.*

### 1 Gather ideas for activities and plan a monthly calendar.

At the first meeting, have everyone list the activities they would like to experience with their Scouts. This is the time to think BIG and gather great ideas that will keep Scouts excited about the Scouting program! Estimate costs for each activity or assign individuals to research costs.

### 2 List all costs and plan a budget.

At the second meeting, review activities and costs, and finalize a monthly event list. Once a list of activities and costs has been developed, it will be easy to calculate an annual budget. Consider including annual registration fees, Boys' Life subscriptions, and perhaps even a portion (or all) of camp fees for each Scout that can be covered by the unit if they participate in fundraisers and other unit events.

## Planning a Great Year of Scouting

Fundraising should be discussed when developing a budget.

Consider council fundraisers such as the annual **Popcorn Sale** (autumn). This sale is risk free (no product left over), and returns over 30% profit to the unit. Discussion of what each Scout will need to do (participate in fundraisers, for example) in order to qualify for camp fees is important.

### 3 Share the plan with parents and build excitement.

Be sure to promote your third meeting well, so that all parents attend, as this is the meeting where parents get excited about plans and may become more motivated. Arrive prepared with a calendar and budget for each family. Plan to discuss what a great year the unit has ahead, how each family will benefit (great activities, fees including Boys' Life fees, and a portion of camp fees covered), as well as what commitments will be needed (fundraising participation goal level). Be prepared for a **Recruiting Night**. Hand each new family a **calendar of activities** and a **unit budget plan**. New families will be more comfortable about joining a unit that is organized and has communicated exactly what their family commitments of time and fundraising will be. Existing families will also appreciate this critical information as they plan family calendars.

## NOVEMBER 2011

### COLUMBIA RIVER

- 3 District Committee
- 10 Roundtable
- 17 Charter Turn In

### EASTERN OREGON

- 3 District Committee
- 3 Roundtable
- 17 Roundtable

### OREGON TRAIL

- 3 Commissioners
- 3 District Committee
- 10 Roundtable

### PIONEER

- 1 OA
- 2 District Committee
- 2 Commissioners
- 10 Roundtable

### RATTLESNAKE RIDGE

- 3 Commissioners
- 3 District Committee
- 10 Roundtable

### WHITE BLUFFS

- 1 District Committee
- 10 OA
- 10 Roundtable
- 17 Commissioners

### BLUE MOUNTAIN COUNCIL

- 1 Training Committee
- Day Camp Meeting
- 10 OA LEC
- POPCORN DELIVERY
- 12 POPCORN PICK UP
- 16 Advancement Committee
- Executive Committee/Board
- 22 Council Commissioner
- 23 Staff Meeting
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed**
- 30 LDS Relationships

# November 2011

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# Paying For It All...

*Program planning is critical, but at some point the question might come up... "How do we pay for all of this?" Information on planning the unit's budget is available through your district executive, and a budget planning worksheet was included with this calendar when distributed. For additional copies of the Budget Worksheet (No. 28-4268) contact the Scouting Service Center or your district executive.*

## SUPPORTING YOUR COUNCIL

The council's annual budget is supported in many ways, including private donations, corporate donations, gifts-in-kind, and product sales. Funds generated are directed to support Scouting through council camps, properties, Volunteer Service Centers, and employees. Eighty-five percent of all dollars raised on behalf of the council go directly to program support...supporting unit efforts to provide Scouting to youth in communities. Remaining dollars support camping property maintenance and other essential functions. Here are a few ways to help the council:

## POPCORN SALE

Each year the council coordinates a popcorn fundraiser for units interested in raising funds. This sale is a terrific way for units to earn funds while supporting the council. Units make a base commission of 30% but if meeting other criteria of the sale can increase that rate significantly. Unlike other unit fundraisers, Scouts may wear their uniforms while participating in council product sales. All can benefit from this risk-free sale (unsold product can be returned if done so by a designated deadline, a feature not available with most other fundraisers).

## FRIENDS OF SCOUTING DRIVE (F.O.S.)

The district executive and a volunteer team work with units to contact Scouting families for support of local council operations. This is a voluntary effort to finance services in training, activities, camps, utilities, and other council expenses. In recognition of a unit's support, fees for facilities, camps, and activities can be substantially discounted. Publications such as this Program Planning Calendar and the services of your district executive are made possible because of the continued support of the Friends of Scouting campaign. Please make participation in this program a part of unit programs.

## HERITAGE SOCIETY

In an effort to encourage support for the Endowment Trust Fund, the council has established the Scouting Heritage Society. Men and women who believe in Scouting are encouraged to invest in the future. These individuals will be acknowledged as lifetime members of the Scouting Heritage Society. For more information on the Scouting Heritage Society, please ask for the Finance Department when calling the Council Service Center.

## DECEMBER 2011

### COLUMBIA RIVER

- 1 District Committee
- 1 District Elections
- 8 Roundtable
- 15 Charter Final Deadline

### EASTERN OREGON

- 1 District Committee
- 1 Roundtable
- 1 OA
- 15 Roundtable
- 26-27 Merit Badge Pow Wow

### OREGON TRAIL

- 1 Commissioners
- 1 District Committee
- 8 Roundtable

### PIONEER

- 3 Winter Camp Training
- 6 OA
- 7 District Com
- 15 Commissioners

### RATTLESNAKE RIDGE

- 1 Commissioners
- 1 District Committee
- 8 Roundtable

### WHITE BLUFFS

- 1 District Committee
- 8 OA
- 8 Roundtable
- 15 Commissioners

### BLUE MOUNTAIN COUNCIL

- 3 WINTER CAMP TRAINING
- 6 Day Camp Meeting  
Training Committee
- 8 OA LEC
- 10 POPCORN PIZZA PARTY
- 21 Advancement  
Executive Committee/Board
- 23-26 Christmas Holiday – Office Closed**
- 28 Staff Meeting
- 29 Council Commissioner

# December 2011

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		CHRISTMAS BREAK - Office Closed	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CHRISTMAS BREAK - Office Closed				COUNCIL COMMISSIONER		NEW YEARS EVE