



# SCISSORTAIL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

August 2025

*“Providing world class scouting experiences through supporting adult leaders.”*

- I. SCISSORTAIL SPOTLIGHT: TROOPS 201/6201 GO BIG IN WASHINGTON, DC ..... 2**
- II. ROUNDTABLE ..... 3**
- III. POPCORN FUNDRAISING ..... 3**
- IV. ADULT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ..... 4**
  - A. CUB LEADER BLITZ SPOTLIGHT ..... 5**
- V. SCISSORTAIL SERIES MERIT BADGE CLASSES ..... 5**
- VI. COUNCIL AND DISTRICT EVENTS ..... 6**
- VII. EAGLES – CONGRATS! ..... 7**
- VIII. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES! ..... 7**
- IX. SAFETY MINUTE – SAFE SWIM DEFENSE ..... 8**
- X. FOLLOW SCISSORTAIL ..... 9**

E-mail [ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com](mailto:ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com) to share your feedback, suggestions, questions, and scouting stories

## I. SCISSORTAIL SPOTLIGHT: Troops 201/6201 Go BIG in Washington, DC



Several years ago, Troop 201 Scoutmaster, Daniel Schoonover, urged his adult leaders and youth to start “thinking BIG” about scouting destinations. This vision was first realized in 2024 with a spring-break trip to national parks Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Mountains, and White Sands. This year, linked troops 201 (boys) and 6201 (girls) went even bigger with a two-week end-of-school-year trip to Washington, DC, Philadelphia, PA, and Baltimore, MD. A whopping 23 adults and 24 scouts attended the excursion affectionately dubbed: “The DC Trip.”

Scouts visited in whole or in part the following DC destinations: National Archives, Holocaust Museum, White House, US Capital, Supreme Court, Arlington Cemetery, Library of Congress, Air & Space Museum, Shenandoah National Park, National Gallery of Art, Smith Museum of Natural History, National Museum of African American History, DC Zoo. In Philly they visited Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, and the Rocky steps. In Baltimore scouts visited the Aquarium and Harbor.



In addition, scouts worked on the following merit badges before and during the trip: Citizenship in the Community / Nation / Society, and American Heritage/Cultures.

Such an ambitious trip took “thrifty” to a new level. The average cost billed to attendees was a **mere \$400!** How? Costs were minimized due to significant amounts of meticulous planning by adult

leaders that began more than 6 months before the event. The attendees stayed at churches and scout camps on the way to and from DC. While in DC they stayed in a church run hostel two blocks from the Capital with a commercial kitchen that was used to cook meals and prepare sack lunches. Attendees wore their uniforms as well as red shirts and blue shirts with DC logos custom made by the troops.



In addition to being thrifty, the troops allocated \$2,300 of their annual budget to the trip, which was supplemented by a \$1,000 grant from [Purple Wave](#) (Thanks!). The DC trip was even covered in a news story done by News 9 Washington, DC Bureau Chief, Alex Cameron! See a recording here: [DC TRIP NEWS 9 STORY!](#) **Congratulations to Troops 201 and 6201 for truly going BIG in 2025 and making Oklahoma scouting proud!**



## II. Roundtable

Come join us for the Scissortail District Monthly Roundtable for an evening of fun, fellowship, and information! Roundtable meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. It offers a new scouting topic each month and is a terrific opportunity for **ALL scouters** to enjoy fellowship while getting valuable information.

In July, the special guest speaker was Ladd Kettren, who gave tips and information about Cub and Troop fall recruitment. The next meeting is Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the at the Gaylord Scout Center in OKC. Topics include upcoming training opportunities, the Scissortail Merit Badge Series, updates on Fall Camporee, a recognitions corner, and a safety minute. Our special guest speaker will be **District Commissioner Eric Wickstrom**, who will present a special session on fun, games, songs, skits, and other great ideas on bringing a spark to your meetings!



Month	Topic	Speaker
August	Spicing Up Meetings - Tips and Tricks (great for <b>YOUTH</b> leaders!)	Eric Wickstrom
September	Outdoor Programing - Hike, Camp, Backpack Destinations	Bill Hensley
October	Special Needs Scouts - Ideas, Tips, Resources	Angie Nolte
December*4th	Holiday Roundtable – Planning Major Scout Trips	TBD

If you are not able to attend in person, join Roundtable via **Zoom**:



[Launch Meeting – Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 873 5993 3416

Passcode: STRT!

A treasure trove of past roundtable presentation materials can be found on Ask Baden Powell [HERE](#).

## III. Popcorn Fundraising



Scouting adventures can be expensive. The annual fall popcorn sales drive is an excellent way to offset costs, both for scouting units and for individual youth, while also giving youth some real-world experience in finance and sales. The information below will be helpful to ensure a successful popcorn season for all scouters.

For unit registration, site reservation, leader guide, and more see the LFC popcorn site: [HERE](#)

E-mail [ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com](mailto:ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com) to share your feedback, suggestions, questions, and scouting stories

**Popcorn Commission to Units** - Online Orders 30%, Traditional Orders 32% (All Storefront, Wagon Sales and Take Orders). Units selling +20% over previous year will earn an additional +3% (32% + 3% = 35%)

Popcorn Sales Calendar	
25-Jul	Show N Sell Orders Due
August 13 -14	Show N Sell Order Distribution
22-Aug	Storefront Sale Begins
26-Sep	Last Day for Returns - Full Cases Only
3-Oct	Re-Stock Order 1
10-Oct	Re-Stock Order 2
17-Oct	Re-Stock Order 3
24-Oct	Re-Stock Order 4
31-Oct	Take Orders Due
11-Nov	Take Order Distribution
5-Dec	All Balances Due by 5:00 PM

#### Additional Resources:

- Popcorn products and prices [2025 Order Form](#)
- Trails End Scout and Parent [Guide](#)
- 2025 Scout [Rewards](#)
- What's New for [2025 Popcorn Sales](#)

#### Popcorn Points of Contact:

**Maggie Miller**, Council Popcorn Chair [lfcpopcornkernel@gmail.com](mailto:lfcpopcornkernel@gmail.com)  
**Blake Jones**, Popcorn Staff Advisor [Blake.Jones@scouting.org](mailto:Blake.Jones@scouting.org)  
**Erica Fairclough**, Scissortail District Kernel (405) 595-6508

**Get Realtime Popcorn Updates on the [SCISSORTAIL POPCORN BAND APP](#)**



## IV. Adult Training Opportunities

Month	Day	Training Event
Aug	23	IOLS III Training
Aug	31	Golf Merit Badge
Sept	5	Woodbadge, Fall WB-2144, Session 1
Sept	13	Automotive Maintenance and Traffic Safety Merit Badges
Sept	27	Woodbadge, Fall WB-2144, Session 2
Oct	4	Baloo Training III
Oct	8 to 9	October Skies - Space Exploration - Session 1
Oct	15	October Skies - Space Exploration Merit Badge - Rocket Launch!
Nov	8	IOLS IV Training
Nov	15	<a href="#">Cub Leader Blitz Training</a>



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## A. CUB Leader Blitz Spotlight



A NEW one-day training course for Cub Leaders is coming **November 15<sup>th</sup>**! The Cub Leader Blitz training event is designed to supercharge your skills, get you position trained, and spark new ideas for your den, pack, and program! Whether you are brand new to Cub Scouting or a seasoned leader, Blitz is your one-stop shop for in-person training, tips, and networking with fellow Cub Scout leaders.

Expect information-packed sessions to prepare you to lead with confidence. You'll connect with fellow leaders and walk away with tools to make your program stronger, more exciting, and easier to lead.

**Don't miss the Blitz** — where Cub Scout Leaders level up, link arms, and lead with confidence!

Click [HERE](#) for registration and information.

## V. Scissortail Series Merit Badge Classes



In July Scissortail District hosted the weather badge. This August's badges include Signs, Signals, and Codes, Electronics, and Disc Golf. On deck for September are the Automotive Maintenance and Traffic Safety badges, which will be taught together. Space Exploration will be offered in October.

Merit Badge Schedule



**Scissortail Series Merit Badge Sessions: 20**

**Scissortail Series merit badges completed in 2025: 259**

**Scouts waitlisted: 111**

**Scouts "in queue" for future badges: 88**

For a list of the Summer 2025 merit badge offerings see Ask Baden Powell [HERE](#) or use the QR code. Be on the lookout as the **Fall Schedule** is coming soon!

E-mail [ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com](mailto:ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com) to share your feedback, suggestions, questions, and scouting stories

## VI. Council and District Events



Month	Day	Event
Aug	21	Scissortail District Eagle Boards of Review
Aug	28	Scissortail District Roundtable
Aug	30	OU Football Ushering
Sept	6	OU Football Ushering
Sept	11	Scissortail District Committee Meeting
Sept	12	Fall Family Camp - JNSR
Sept	18	Scissortail District Eagle Boards of Review
Sept	20	OU Football Ushering
Sept	25	Scissortail District Roundtable
<b>Sept</b>	<b>27</b>	<a href="#">Scissortail District Cub Scout-Out</a>
Oct	4	OU Football Ushering
Oct	10	Fall Family Adventures at CGT - Session 1
Oct	10	Ma-Nu Lodge Fall Festival
Oct	16	Scissortail District Eagle Boards of Review
Oct	17	Fall Family Adventures at CGT - Session 2
Oct	23	Scissortail District Roundtable
Oct	24	Fall Family Adventures at CGT - Session 3
<b>Oct</b>	<b>24 to 26</b>	<a href="#">Fall Camporee</a>
Oct	25	OU Football Ushering
Oct	31	Fall Family Adventures at CGT - Session 4
<b>Nov</b>	<b>1</b>	<a href="#">Scouting For Food</a>
Nov	1	Vigil Weekend - Ma-Nu Lodge
Nov	7	Fall Encampment 2025
<b>Nov</b>	<b>8</b>	<a href="#">Scouting For Food</a>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Cub Winter Day</b>

Additional resources for

### CUB SCOUT-OUT!

(Replacing Webelos Woods and Octoberfest)

[Registration](#)



Additional resources for

### FALL CAMPOREE!

[Camporee Flyer](#)

[Camporee Cultures List](#)

[Registration](#)



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## VII. EAGLES – Congrats!



May	June	July
GW	Kaitlyn F	Elijah W
Isaac G	Douglas T	
Liam D	Lance T	
Michael C		
Jack K		
Michelle F		

Upcoming Scissortail Eagle Boards of Review	
Month	Day
Aug	21
Sept	18
Nov	20
Dec	18

## VIII. Volunteer Opportunities!

*"Many hands make small work!"* Help Scissortail District soar by getting involved. Your skills and abilities are needed for the below opportunities. E-mail [ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com](mailto:ScissortailInformationCentral@gmail.com) to let us know you are interested in applying.

Opportunity	Volunteer Type
Scissortail District Newsletter Editor	Adult
Scissortail District Committee Membership Chair	Adult
Scissortail District Committee Finance Chair	Adult
General Assistance at Cub Troop-O-Ree, or Camporee	Youth/Adult



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## IX. Safety Minute – Safe Swim Defense

Summertime is THE time to hit the water, whether you are swimming, or floating on a canoe or kayak. While fun, water activities do come with risks that all scouting leaders should be aware of, along with the training to address problems that can arise. The primary resource for aquatics safety and guidelines at the unit level is [Aquatics Supervision](#) and the [Aquatics Supervision Leader's Guide](#), which covers aquatics safety and leadership for both troop and cub units.



**Safe Swim Defense** 

Per the Guide, all swimming and activity afloat must be supervised by mature and conscientious adults, age 21 or older, who:

**Safety Afloat** 

- understand and knowingly accept responsibility for the well-being and safety of youth members in their care,
- are experienced in the particular activity,
- are confident in their ability to respond appropriately in an emergency, and
- are trained and committed to the nine points of Scouting America's Safety Afloat and/ or the eight points of Safe Swim Defense.



Likewise, all aquatics program activities must comply with Scouting America's **Safe Swim Defense** and **Safety Afloat** standards, discussed at length in the [Aquatics Supervision Leader's Guide](#). Both adults and older youth seeking to lead aquatics activities should become certified in one or both of these as applicable at [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org). In addition to online resources, unit leaders can also obtain optional hands-on training through the Swimming and Water Rescue course and the Paddle Craft Safety course. These courses are highly recommended for unit leaders whenever a unit swims at a location without professional lifeguards or undertake a boating expedition without a trained guide.

The highest level of aquatics training and recognition is Scouting America Aquatics Instructor. The training prepares adults for leadership roles in year-round council aquatics programs and summer camps. Scouting America camp standards require that aquatics directors at camps are 21 years of age or older, have current lifeguard, CPR, and first aid training, and have current Aquatics Instructor training. However, Aquatics Instructor training is available to those age 18 or older.



For more information on how you as a Scouting America Leader can ensure aquatics safety and promote aquatics safety awareness and advancement in your unit, refer to the full [Aquatics Supervision: A Leader's Guide to Youth Swimming and Boating Activities](#).

See also: [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)

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## X. FOLLOW SCISSORTAIL

# SEE US ON THE WEB, FACEBOOK, AND THE BAND

[ScissortailScoutingRocks.TV](http://ScissortailScoutingRocks.TV)



Scissortail Band



Scissortail  
Popcorn Band



Council and  
District Events



Ask Baden Powell  
All Things Scouting!



Scissortail District Map



## Join A Meeting by Zoom!

[Launch Meeting – Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 873 5993 3416

Passcode: STRT!

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