



# North Shore District Newsletter

August 2020 • Volume 6 Issue 8

## Scouting Calendar

*Given changing guidance on social distancing measures, all events are tentative pending health and safety recommendations.*

Council virtual programs:

[Cub Scout Camp-in-a-box](#)

[Cub Scout Adventure Boxes](#)

[Lost Pines Virtual Merit Badge Program continues](#)

[#ScoutingAtHome activities](#)

August Council camps remain closed for August

6 District Committee Meeting

7-8,15 Shotgun training postponed

10 Scout shop resumes normal hours

13 District OA and Roundtable

14-16 Mega Training Weekend postponed

15 Climbing recertification postponed

15 [STEM Adv Weekend registration opens](#)

20 [Hornaday fall registration opens](#)

*Council camp events for September & October are tentative pending individual event approval*

September

5 OA Lodge Leadership Development

5-7 Scout office and shop closed

7 Labor Day

11-13 Powder Horn 2020 cancelled

25-27 Powder Horn 2020 cancelled

25-27 STEM Adventure Weekend

October

2-4 OA Fall Assembly

9-11 Wood Badge weekend 1

16-18 Fall Camporee

16-18 Hornaday weekend (virtual)

24 Cub Scout Spook-o-ree

31 Council Volunteer Awards

November

7-8 Wood Badge weekend 2

26-29 Scout office and shop closed

**BSA information regarding COVID-19**

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/>

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

**Council COVID-19 updates**

<https://www.bsacac.org/activities/coronavirus/>

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## Contact Information

**North Shore District** • [home page](#)

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## Letter from the District Chair

Dear North Shore Scouters,

The District is looking for a new storage unit location to house the District supplies for Day Camp, Camporees, etc.

If anyone has a line on an inexpensive location or a scout friendly company we would love to hear from you. Currently our storage unit is in Round Rock and we will be moving to a new in-District location in December.

Please contact Kevin Clark, District Chair, if you have any suggestions.

Yours in Scouting

Kevin F. Clark  
District Chair, North Shore District  
Cell 512-771-5845  
kfclark1962@yahoo.com



## It is Popcorn Season!

Please email [NorthShorePopcornCAC@gmail.com](mailto:NorthShorePopcornCAC@gmail.com) if you are not on the Google Group or are not registered for Popcorn but need to.

Order deadline is August 8th for Council - Your North Shore team asks that you have something started as an order by the 6th so that we can review and help in any way. It also reduces our calls out to you if you said you were going to order and we do not see it.

This year, you can also order Popcorn Signs! Each unit that orders popcorn will be getting 2 signs from the District. Additional signs may be purchased from Council - 1 for \$7, 3 for \$18 and 5 for \$25. Look for a link from Melanie and we will also send it out to the Google Group!



Popcorn will be ready for Pick up on the 28th of August at Ward Logistics. This year will be a little different - Vehicle occupants will not be able to get out of their vehicle. You must bring enough room to take all your popcorn, all occupants must be wearing masks and you will sign electronically for Popcorn. We recommend that you pull to the front of Ward Logistics to count before leaving the area. If you are short, let us know ASAP so that we can get it fixed before you leave!

We have 3-4 locations pending final approval as of right now. The Team is working to secure more. If you have not replied to the [North Shore Survey](#), please do so ASAP so that we can get you your take order forms and understand how we can support your sale.

We know that this year is challenging and we are here to support you! Remember your Scouts can sell Popcorn and America's Hero donations through Online Direct! Look for the free shipping and reduced shipping promotions! Some units are already over 5K in sales to be able to fund their ideal year of Scouting!

**Training** - For up-to-date opportunities, visit the [North Shore District webpage training link](#)

- **North Shore District Roundtable - Adults**



# ROUNDTABLE

See You Second Thursday Every Month  
**SYSTEM**

	Cub Scout Webelos Leaders	Cub Scout Pack & Den Program	Scouts BSA
Thursday, August 13, 2020	Give us your feedback, suggestions, and thoughts about topics. What do you want us to cover at the upcoming Roundtables?		
	<b>Webelos to Scout transition</b> Understanding the differences between Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA is a critical step in each youth's future success in Scouting. Join us as we discuss how to look for troops (in the era of COVID) and what questions you and your scout should ask. Learn all about program differences in structure, leadership, advancement, camping, activities, and parental involvement.	<b>CAC Adventure Boxes</b> COVID-19's impact means more uncertainty in all aspects of your life, especially the Scouting part. The Cub Scout Adventure Boxes can help your Scouts achieve their Scouting goals by earning their rank and electives, even in today's pandemic conditions. Capitol Area Council will join us at Roundtable to share the details and answer your questions.	<b>Developing An Outdoor Program for Scouting Patrols</b> Open discussion: Developing an outdoor program for scouting patrols during the global pandemic. The camping and outdoor program is an essential element of the BSA. Let's discuss and share ideas on how to revitalize the Outdoor program? How can we deliver a safe outdoor adventure that youth and adults expect?

**Who:** Roundtable is for ALL Cub Scout and Scouts BSA volunteers

**What:** North Shore District Roundtable

**When:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** <https://Dell.zoom.us/j/93211390121?pwd=L0YxVINPTEd3bmZkVVdTRVRJbWhCUT09>

Meeting ID: 9311390121 Password: CACNSDRT

- **NYLT - Youth**

*Next courses are Winter 2020 (Dec 27-Jan 1), Spring Break 2021, and Summer 2021 (two weeks in June).*

National Youth Leadership Training. Requires scout to be first class, at least 13 years old, have completed Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), and have a recommendation from their Scoutmaster/Crew Advisor/Skipper. See the [council website](#) to learn more about CAC NYLT held 4 times per year at Green Dickson.



- **Powder Horn - Adults and older Youth**

*Postponed to September 2021.*

Learn all about advanced skills and activities for older youth with expert consultants who demonstrate the skills and explain where resources, equipment, facilities, guides, instructors, and certifications can be obtained. See the [Texas Powder Horn brochure](#) and the council page [here](#).



- **Wood Badge - Adults**

[October 9-11 & November 7-8, 2020](#)

Want to have the most Scouting fun ever? Ask anyone with beads about it! Wood Badge is the premiere Scouter training program. You don't want to miss this amazing opportunity for skills, fun, self-improvement, networking, and camaraderie.



## Service

### • Project Ideas

Our district chair for service projects is Nathan Hayden <[nathanhayden@gmail.com](mailto:nathanhayden@gmail.com)>. He has dozens of project opportunities for all levels. Contact him to find your next pack, troop, crew, ship, or Eagle project.



### • Eagle Project Opportunities

Interested in doing an Eagle project at Jones Brothers Park in Jonestown, Texas? Here some potential project areas:

- Beautification of our Canyonland Trail
- Weed barrier and ground cover (decomposed granite)
- Remove non-native plants
- Add distance markers
- Extension of the Trail up to Shady Park
- Flag retirement area at Jonestown Veterans Memorial Park

Or visit the Jonestown parks and let us know what you have in mind.



Please contact Parks and Recreation Director, Carol Gyergyo if interested.

[cgyergyo@jonestown.org](mailto:cgyergyo@jonestown.org)

(512) 267-3243 option #4

<https://www.jonestown.org/parksrec>

## Council Fall Recruitment Training

This is an unprecedented time, but the Capitol Area Council is committed to providing the youth in our communities an opportunity to join Scouting. This training will be conducted over ZOOM. Watch for an email with the details to join this zoom meeting!

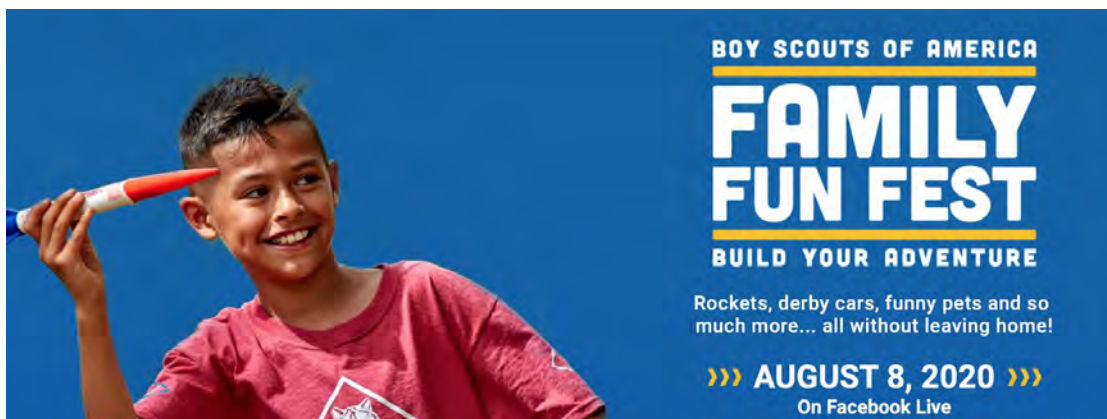
**Date:** Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Location:** Your couch!



## Family Fun Fest <https://www.scouting.org/familyfunfest/>



# Order of the Arrow North Shore Chapter



## Dues, dues, dues

Our North Shore District paid membership has dropped in half due to the cancellation of events where we would normally collect dues. Please help support the opportunities for future events and retain your membership by calling the council and paying dues over the phone. They will also offer you an opportunity to send your dues by check (made out to Capitol Area Council) mailed to:

BSA Tonkawa 99 Lodge  
12500 North IH 35  
Austin, Texas 78753

If you have any questions about your dues status, feel free to reach out to our chapter advisor, David Nelson, at nelsods@gmail.com.

## Chapter Elections

Our chapter elections are planned for the August meeting. For any members, please consider an office to serve the district. Available positions will be Chapter Chief, Vice Chief of Programs, Vice Chief of Ceremonies, Vice Chief of Elections, and Scribe.

## Next Ordeal Opportunity: October 2-4, 2020

As currently scheduled, the next ordeal opportunity will be at the Fall Assembly in October.

## Upcoming Schedule

Date/Time	Event	Location
Aug 9, 2 PM	Lodge Exec Council (LEC)	Virtual
Aug 13, 7 PM	Chapter Meeting / Elections	Virtual
Sep 5, 10 AM-5 PM	Lodge Leadership Development (all elected officers should attend)	Virtual
Sep 10, 7 PM	Chapter Meeting	Virtual
Oct 2-4	Fall Assembly + LEC	LPSR (tentative)
Oct 8, 7 PM	Chapter Meeting	Virtual
Nov 7	LEC	Virtual
Nov 12, 7 PM	Chapter Meeting	TBD
Nov 14	One Day of Service	TBD
Dec 10, 7 PM	Chapter Meeting	TBD
Dec 12-13	Winter Vigil	TBD

## OA Elections

To schedule an election, click on election request at <https://sites.google.com/site/oatonkawanorthshore>. Please specify whether the unit is meeting in person or virtually.

## Join the North Shore OA Group Chat

Most North Shore OA communications are handled by chat on group.me. You may request to join the chat group by requesting it here: [https://groupme.com/join\\_group/27939390/v77ECm](https://groupme.com/join_group/27939390/v77ECm)

# North Shore Eagle Scouts

The North Shore District is proud to introduce our newest Eagle Scout! Congratulations, Aaron



July 17, 2020 - Aaron Radlof - Troop 201



## *End of extra 3-month Eagle extensions for COVID-19 as of July 1*

National has updated the COVID-19 policy allowing councils to approve an extra 3-month time extension to complete Eagle requirements. The FAQ is located at: <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

**UPDATE 6/25/2020:** *For any extension granted under this temporary authority on or before June 30, 2020, councils may grant an additional extension of up to 3 months upon receiving another request. Councils should remind Scouts/Venturers/Sea Scouts receiving extensions who need the time to complete their Eagle/Summit/Quartermaster Service Projects to consider making changes to the Projects, including possibly changing Projects, so they can be completed by the new deadline.*

The above temporary authority for extension applies only to Scouts who requested and were granted a COVID-19 extension on or before June 30, 2020. It does not matter when the Scout's 18th birthday was, just the date that the original extension was granted by the council.

- (3+3 months) Any scout receiving one 3-month extension prior to July 1 may apply for another 3.
- (3 months only) All others may ask for the regular 3-month extension through Council if need be.
- Scouts should submit a new or revised Form 512-077 to Keri Smeaton to file for an extension.
- If the Scout has already turned 18, he/she must be registered as an adult in the Unit Participant (UP) position for the extension to be entered into the Scout's records.

Some Scouts have been waiting for COVID-19 distancing restrictions to be lifted to continue their Eagle project. They cannot wait any longer.

BSA expects Scouts to complete their projects and any other Eagle rank requirements by the end of their extension, 3 or 3+3 months, whichever applies.

It is normal for Scouts to encounter difficulties with their Eagle projects and to make modifications to account for these difficulties. The COVID-19 restrictions are yet another roadblock that Scouts will encounter. Re-scoping or re-planning will be necessary.

Please counsel your Scouts and adult leaders to encourage these modifications. As long as the project satisfies the planning and leadership requirements of an Eagle project, modifications to projects should be encouraged.





## Cub Scout Adventure Boxes

When your Pack looks toward the Fall do you wonder:

- How are you going to keep your Scouts active and advancing?
- How will you recruit new Scouts if there's no program happening in your den?
- How do you overcome supply shortages for the materials you need to complete advancement requirements?

We want to make your life a little easier and keep your Cub Scouts earning Adventures and moving ahead through the program. <https://www.bsacac.org/activities/cub-scout-activities/adventure-boxes/>

### ADVENTURE BOXES What are they?



Everything to earn your  
Cub Scout's rank



Everything to earn your Cub  
Scout's rank electives

- Rank-specific curated program
- Two boxes offered for each Cub Scout rank (Lion in development)
  - Box 1: All activities needed to complete all requirements and elective for rank
  - Box 2: All activities needed to complete most rank electives
- Combination of activities, short videos, worksheets
- Self-directed activities
- Materials needed to complete the adventures
- Videos are on our council's YouTube channel (private playlists)
- CyberChip is included for each box

# WE OWN ADVENTURE



# Photos #NSDBSA #NorthShoreScouts

Scouting continues! Please post and share all your activities and send them to the newsletter.



## Camp Good News, June 28 - July 3, 2020 by Jaxson Robinson, Troop 258 Historian

Despite the cancelation of Scouts BSA summer camps due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Troops 258 and 358 decided to create their own instead of waiting until next year. "Camp Good News" was held locally at Good News United Methodist Church in Leander, TX. The camp was attended by Scouts from Troops 258 and 358. Around 35 Scouts attended the camp. Scouts had the choice to attend online, in person or both. In-person classes were held in the morning and evening when it was cool outside. Online sessions were held during the middle of the day. During the in-person classes, everyone practiced social distancing by wearing masks and staying at least 6 feet apart. Temperature checks were performed as Scouts arrived to make sure no one was running a fever. Despite social distancing, everyone enjoyed being together after several months of online Troop meetings.



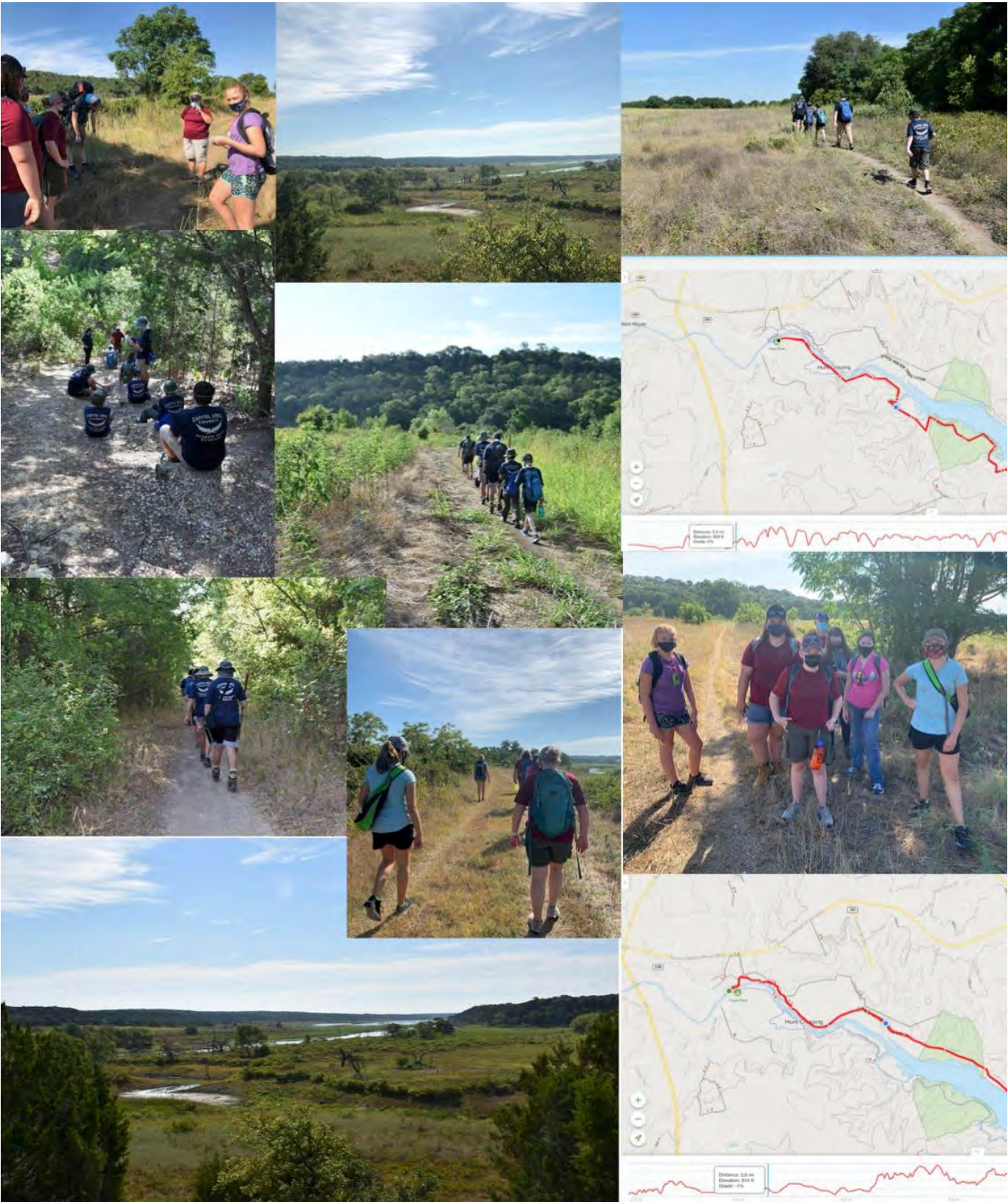
Scouts could choose from 15 different merit badges. Some of the choices were Soil and Water Conservation, Space Ex, Leatherwork, Camping, Photography, Genealogy, Citizenship in the Nation and Fingerprinting. In addition to merit badges, Scouts enjoyed throwing tomahawks and knives at our new Troop targets. Each day had a theme such as Hawaiian Day, Crazy Hat Day and Favorite T-shirt Day. On the final evening of camp, Scouts enjoyed snow cones, rocket launches and an awesome closing campfire program.





## Tejas Park Hike, August 1

Second class requirement 3b: Using a compass and map together, take a 5-mile hike (or 10 miles by bike) approved by your adult leader and your parent or guardian. Troops 258 & 358 split into three crews to hike five miles of the Good Loop Trail (north of the San Gabriel River) or Tejas Trail (south bank). The morning was warm, yet wonderful to #ScoutOutside.





## Summit Bechtel Reserve by Mr. Pape, ASM Troops 271 & 219

On Saturday July 4 a crew of 7 Scouts, 2 newly minted adults (Scouts who just turned 18) and 2 more seasoned adults from Troop 271 headed to the airport to start their journey to Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia, the BSA's newest high adventure base. Yes, in the midst of COVID-19 we were on our way across the country to go participate in some amazing outdoor adventures. The Summit staff did a very thorough job of ensuring the safety of all who were on the property (more on that as we go through this article)! Summit has been called the X-Games of Scouting's high adventure bases and as you read about what we did you will quickly see why.



Prior to heading out Summit held multiple webinars to prepare us for the adventures ahead. As one might imagine there was a heavy focus on COVID-19 this year. They outlined the procedures that we'd all be following and also made it very clear that things could change at a moment's notice and asked that we be understanding and work with them. They did an AMAZING job!! The first thing we were required to do was daily health screenings/check-ins with our adult crew leader who would then compile the information to share with Summit. This daily routine included temperature checks, and a questionnaire of how we were feeling and a checklist of any symptoms. This had to be done for the 5 days prior to beginning our travel.



July 4<sup>th</sup> came and we were off, everyone in good health. After some airline mechanical delays we arrived in WV and drove to camp arriving about 10pm or so. While driving to camp and sitting at the gate doing our medical check-in work we got to watch fireworks all around us...remember, it was July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Due to travel time we were there a day early so Sunday when we awoke we had most of the day to ourselves and spent it getting settled and familiar with the property; things are quite spread out there. To illustrate that, we had a 45 minute walk each way to the dining hall for breakfast. For lunch we decided to drive and see a bit more of the property...the good news is that starting with dinner the dining hall close to us was open the rest of the week. We completed our check-in process, met our rover (that's what Summit calls them, they are like a ranger at Philmont). Fun fact, they call their staff Blueberries on account of the blue shirts they wear.

As with many things in our current situation, some of what you may expect to be typical at camp was very different. The opening ceremonies for example, we were all in our own campsite watching the event via a video conference type presentation. There were other events during the week like this as well including the closing ceremonies. It was different. It did allow them the creative latitude to do different things such as on-site skits in the different areas of the property (program areas) that could not be done at a traditional campfire so it was fun to see how they embraced the adversity and made it work for them. Monday morning started our program and we got the day going with Low Gear which is mountain biking...in the Appalachian mountains! Then the



afternoon was spent at the ropes course which is kind of like a high COPE course where you are 40 or so feet up in the trees traversing from tree platform to tree platform across a variety of challenging obstacles. To top off the day we all got to ride “The Big Zip”, the longest zipline in America at  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile long and reaching speeds of 40-60 mph.



Tuesday was shooting sports all day! The morning was guns...trap shooting with shotguns, .22 caliber pistols, .22 caliber rifles, .322 caliber rifles, then back to shotguns for sporting clays. The afternoon was archery with static targets, long distance static targets, 3-D archery, and something called Laport which is a lot like shooting clays with a shotgun...a machine launches foam targets into the air that you attempt to hit with an arrow.

Wednesday took us to Thrasher Mountain where we spent the morning in the skate park learning how to skateboard. This is the one activity I said for months that I'd sit out...well after getting there and listening to the staff and watching them I was so comfortable that they knew their stuff and could keep everyone safe I went for it and I'm so glad I did. This is a huge testament to the staff they have at the Summit!! No matter what program area they all were very knowledgeable, knew how to make participants feel at ease and comfortable enough to step out of comfort zones to do new things. GREAT JOB STAFF!!! The afternoon was spent on the BMX tracks learning how to run the different courses.

Thursday we headed off property to the New River Gorge for a morning of white water rafting. Yet another amazing experience! After returning to Summit, eating lunch, and a bit of rest we made our way to the far end of the property to give back. This was our half day of service and we were helping to build a new trail.



Friday morning was spent up in the trees again, this time doing canopy tours. This is basically a series of ziplines that run through the treetops, many of which you cannot see where the zipline goes and just have to trust that it's safe. After lunch it was off to the Rocks program area for climbing, rappelling, and something they call the leap of faith. Side note, on our way there we encountered a black bear...no big deal, we left him alone and he went about his business of foraging for food (neat to watch). For the leap of faith you are attached to an auto-belay (a TruBlue) on a pulley suspended on a cable between two 40 foot tall towers...and that's all you are attached to is the TruBlue...then you run off the edge of the tower and freefall to the ground (safely of course). Yep, you heard that right...you just run off the edge of a 40 foot structure!! That night was the closing ceremony and bed.



Saturday we got up and took in the last of our time at Summit before heading to the airport to come home.

Oh wait, what about all that safety stuff I mentioned they had in place at the beginning of this article? I got so excited about the fun I forgot to talk about it.

Ok, so here's the quick run down on some of the procedures that were in place to keep everyone safe.

- I mentioned the 5 days of health check-ins prior to traveling.



- Then they did another screening at the gate before allowing us on to the property which consisted of all the same things we did the previous 5 days.
- While there we had temperature checks first thing every morning and were required to report any fever and remain in our campsite if anyone had fever. Same went for any symptoms or illness.
- While there we were to wear masks when unable to remain at least 6 feet from others...this was in effect throughout the entire property including program areas.



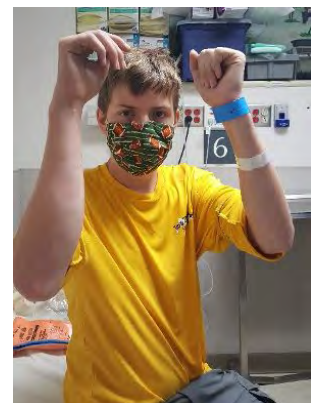
- One person per tent.
- For the hydration stations we had a designated person who would sanitize their hands as well as the water spigot handle and be the only person to turn water on/off for everyone to fill their water bottles, then sanitize their hands and the water spigot handle again; water bottles were to be held several inches below the spigot to ensure no accidental cross contamination due to touching the spigot.
- There was hand sanitizer everywhere! And everyone was required to use it regularly.
- All shared equipment in program areas was sanitized after use. If you take the gear off and turn in it and then decided you still wanted to participate you got new sanitized gear, nothing was ever reused without being sanitized.
- At the dining hall marks on the ground helped people remember spacing while in line. Meals were already boxed up in to-go containers so it was a grab and go serving line. Seating was limited to three people per table to keep distance between everyone.
- All restrooms and showers were sanitized at least three times per day.

I have no doubt I'm missing some things, though these were some of the big precautions taken to ensure safety.

How did all these precautions and procedures work out? It was really not difficult to follow them, and everyone was helping remind those who may forget...I mean after all, this is new to all of us. Summit did a follow up health review with the crew advisor two weeks after returning (16 days actually). I'm happy to report that everyone in our crew was fever free, had no symptoms, and all feeling well (except for a few sore muscles and feet).

Better still, after Summit staff followed up with all participants they reported back that nobody had experienced any symptoms nor any cases of COVID-19. **SUCCESS!!! An amazing trip and everyone there remained healthy!**

I do have to admit though, we did have one mishap on this trip. My son fell Thursday night during free time while doing some more skateboarding and broke his right arm. He claimed it did not really hurt (he did not even notice something was wrong for several minutes until he looked at his arm and it did not look right) and was a real trooper through the whole thing, even not getting back to camp until after 1am from the ER and having to sit out of Friday's activities. He said 'at least I got to do the activities I really wanted to.' So I'd still call this a successful trip!



I want to add to that broken arm story that all those things we do in Scouts really makes a difference! He said that when he realized what had happened he started to panic, heart started racing, etc. Then he remembered his training and thought to himself 'calm down, panicking will not help, breath, relax' and he remained calmer than those administering first aid. **The things we teach, and learn, in Scouts do make a difference!**