

J.N. WEBSTER SCOUT RESERVATION

2026 TRADE-O-REE

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

March 7, 2026

Course Prerequisites & Information

- **Please wear Class A Uniform to event**
- Lunch will be from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM at St Phillips Parish Hall down the road from camp – JNW will have shuttle buses to and from camp to lunch and show.
- Bring a notebook and a pen/pencil.
- Complete required prerequisites, bring supporting documentation such as pictures, signed notes, documents, etc. Scouts will receive partials if prerequisites are not completed.
- Any questions before or on the day of the event, please contact Mike Ruty @ Cell: 860-558-8888 or mwr90@aol.com

PREREQUISITES

AMERICAN HERITAGE – <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/american-heritage/>

Requirement # 5: Do ONE of the following:

- (a) Watch two motion pictures (with the approval and permission of your counselor and parent or guardian) that are set in some period of American history. Describe to your counselor how accurate each film is with regard to the historical events depicted and also with regard to the way the characters are portrayed.
- (b) Read a biography (with your counselor's approval) of someone who has made a contribution to America's heritage. Tell some things you admire about this individual and some things you do not admire. Explain why you think this person has made a positive or a negative contribution to America's heritage.
- (c) Listen to recordings of popular songs from various periods of American history. Share five of these songs with your counselor, and describe how each song reflects the way people felt about the period in which it was popular. If a recording is not available, have a copy of the lyrics available.

AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/american-indian-culture/>

Requirement # 5: Do ONE of the following:

- (a) Visit a museum either in-person or virtually to see American Indian exhibitions and collections. Discuss with your counselor what you observed or learned from two exhibitions and identify 10 artifacts by tribe or nation, their shape, size, and use.
- (b) Attend a contemporary American Indian gathering. Discuss with your counselor proper etiquette for attending as well as what you learned and observed during your visit.

CITIZENSHIP IN THE NATION - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/citizenship-in-the-nation/>

Requirement #7 - Do TWO of the following:

- Visit a place that is listed as a National Historic Landmark or that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Tell your counselor what you learned about the landmark or site and what you found interesting about it.
- Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell your counselor what you learned about the capitol, its function, and its history.
- Tour a federal facility. Explain to your counselor what you saw there and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.

d. Choose a national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other resources, find out more about the monument. Tell your counselor what you learned, and explain why the monument is important to this country's citizens.

Requirement #5 - Watch the national evening news five days in a row OR read the front page of a major daily newspaper five days in a row. Discuss the national issues with counselor. Choose one of the issues and explain how it affects you and your family.

Requirement #8 - Name your representatives in the United States Congress. Write to your representative in Congress explaining your views on a national issue. Show your correspondence, along with any response you receive, to your counselor.

COLLECTIONS - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/collections/>

Scouts should bring their collection to class if possible or pictures of the collection

PULP & PAPER - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/pulp-and-paper/>

Scouts should bring:

- Some unique paper products that you can find around the house to share.
- Scrap paper that we can recycle into new paper. (Printer paper, mailings, envelopes, etc.) Colored paper will tint the paper. We'll have tubs of varying colors going.
- Some stiff cardboard or plastic for transporting your damp paper home to dry.

SCOUTING HERITAGE - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/scouting-heritage/>

Follow the complete instructions for these requirements found in the link above; be prepared to discuss and share:

Requirement #5: Learn about the history of your scouting unit.

Requirement #6: Take a picture of your collection or bring it to the class.

Requirement #8: Interview 3 people older than 40 involved in scouting. (different people from requirement #5)

STAMP COLLECTING - <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/stamp-collecting/>

All stamps, supplies, and support items for the Merit Badge will be provided.

Requirement # 4a: Demonstrate the use of one standard catalog for several different stamp issues.

During our in-person session, we will use catalogs to determine the value of some stamps.

In preparation for this, the Scouts should watch this YouTube video on Stamp

Catalog: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBpdVtL6tQU> It will make our conversation a little easier.

Additionally, here is a website that has additional information about some of the use of the stamp

catalogs. <https://www.amosadvantage.com/stamp-guides/understanding-the-scott-catalogue-listings>

Requirement # 7a: Design a Stamp. Scouts design a stamp for a country (U.S. or other country).

The correct currency must be shown and the design must highlight some aspect of the history, culture, or geography of that country. This should also be brought to the program, where the Scout will be asked to explain the design and share some information about the country.

For a U.S. Stamp, the design should include: USA or United States; a denomination of .58 cents or the word "Forever" which is predominantly used for U.S. Stamps covering the first-class rate; and the year (2024). Highly recommend that the Scout design a U.S. Stamp.

Here is the link to a form to use for documenting their Stamp Design:

https://sossi.org/badges/7a_Preview_Design_Stamp.pdf

Scouts need to bring this with them to the Merit Badge session. Forms will also be available at the merit badge session.