

2026 Burke Lake District Merit Badge Jamboree

The 2nd annual Burke Lake District Merit Badge Jamboree will take place on Saturday, February 7 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (8304 Old Keene Mill Rd.) There are two blocks of classes: 9-12 and 1-4, with a lunch break in between. Check-in will open at 8 am.

Scouts must arrive with blue cards for each merit badge class, and those blue cards **MUST** be signed by a unit leader and filled out with Scout information in advance.

The registration cost of \$35 includes lunch: a hot dog, cheeseburger, or hamburger; chips; cookie; and drink. Additional snacks will be available for purchase.

We have prioritized offering merit badges that can be completed at the Merit Badge Jamboree. Most classes do, however, require some work outside of class. This work is noted in the course listing as “pre-requisites,” though the work can certainly be completed after the Merit Badge Jamboree if necessary. Merit badge counselors will provide their contact information to follow up with students and complete any partials.

Syllabus of Classes:

American Business & American Labor (2 merit badges, 1 session)

Counselor: Larry Rodriguez

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites:

AB-5. Choose a business and research how it applies to each of the primary areas of business (accounting, finance, economics, marketing, and management). Share what you have learned with your counselor.

AB-6. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Choose one of the primary areas of business and identify three career opportunities. Select one and research the education, training, and experience required for this career. Discuss this with your counselor and explain why this interests you.

(b) Select a business leader and interview this individual to learn more about his or her company and career path. Discuss the role ethics plays in making business decisions. Share what you have learned with your counselor.

AL-2. With your counselor's and parent or guardian's approval and permission, visit the office or attend a meeting of a local union, a central labor council, or an employee organization, or contact one of these organizations via the internet. Then do the following:

(a) Find out what the organization does.

(b) Share the list of issues and concerns you made for requirement 1. Ask the people you communicate with which issues are of greatest interest or concern to them and why.

(c) Draw a diagram showing how the organization is structured, from the local to the national level, if applicable.

AL-5. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Develop a time line of significant events in the history of the American labor movement from the 1770s to the present.

(b) Prepare an exhibit, a scrapbook, or a computer presentation, such as a slide show, illustrating three major achievements of the American labor movement and how those achievements affect American workers.

(c) With your counselor's and parent or guardian's approval and permission, watch a movie that addresses organized labor in the United States. Afterward, discuss the movie with your counselor and explain what you learned.

(d) Read a biography (with your counselor's approval) of someone who has made a contribution to the American labor movement. Explain what contribution this person has made to the American labor movement.

Art

Counselor: Norbert Barrion

Session: Morning (9-12)

Pre-requisites: Requirement #6

6. With your parent or guardian's permission and your counselor's approval, visit a museum, art exhibit, art gallery, artists' co-op, or artist's workshop. Find out about the art displayed or created there. Discuss what you learn with your counselor.

Aviation

Counselor: Mike Nostrand

Session: All Day (9-12 & 1-4, requires both)

Pre-requisites: Download and read the Aviation Merit Badge pamphlet:

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/Merit_Badge_ReqandRes/Pamphlets/Aviation.pdf?

1) Do ONE of the following:

a) Visit an airport. After the visit, [write a] report on how the facilities are used, how runways are numbered, and how runways are determined to be "active."

b) Visit a Federal Aviation Administration facility: Airport Traffic Control Tower (ATCT), Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON), Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), or Flight Standards District Office (FSDO). [Write a] Report on the operation and your impressions of the facility.

c) Visit a military aviation facility. Learn how that facility supports defense and/or civilian activities. [Write a] Report on the operation and your impressions of the facility.

d) Visit an aviation museum or attend an air show. [Write a] Report on your impressions of the museum or show, and what you learned from the experience.

2) Do the following:

a) Identify an Exploring Post and/or Civil Air Patrol facility in your area. Learn about their activities and membership requirements [added: and write a report about what you learned].

Citizenship in the Community

Counselor: Tejas Patel

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: To finish the merit badge, Scouts will need to complete requirements #3, 5, 7, and 8 outside of class. Requirement #7 will need to be completed after the class.

3. Do the following:

(a) Attend an in-person meeting of your city, town, or county council or school board, local court session; OR another state or local governmental meeting approved in advance by your counselor.

(b) Choose one of the issues discussed at the meeting where a difference of opinions was expressed, and explain to your counselor why you agree with one opinion more than you do another one.

5. With the approval of your counselor and a parent or guardian, watch a movie that shows how the actions of one individual or group of individuals can have a positive effect on a community. Discuss with your counselor what you learned from the movie about what it means to be a valuable and concerned member of the community.

7. Do the following:

(a) Identify three charitable organizations outside of Scouting that interest you and bring people in your community together to work for the good of your community.

(b) Pick ONE of the organizations you chose for requirement 7(a). Using a variety of resources (including newspapers, fliers and other literature, the internet, volunteers, and employees of the organization), find out more about this organization.

(c) With your counselor's and your parent or guardian's approval, contact the organization you chose for requirement 7(b), and find out what young people can do to help. While working on this merit badge, volunteer at least eight hours of your time for the organization. After your volunteer experience is over, discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

8. Develop a public presentation (such as a video, slide show, speech, digital presentation, or photo exhibit) about important and unique aspects of your community. Include information about the history, cultures, and ethnic groups of your community; its best features and popular places where people gather; and the challenges it faces. Stage your presentation in front of your counselor or a group, such as your patrol or a class at school.

Citizenship in the Nation

Counselor: Nick West

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Troy O'Donnell

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: Scouts need to come prepared to discuss their work on requirements #5, 6, 7, and 8.

5. Watch the national evening news for five days in a row or read the main stories in a national media organization (e.g., a newspaper or news website) for five days in a row.

Discuss the national issues that you learned about with your counselor. Choose one issue and explain how it affects you, your family, and community.

6. With your counselor's approval, choose a speech of national historical importance.

Explain:

(a) Who the author was

(b) What the historical context was

(c) What difficulties the nation faced that the author wished to discuss

(d) What the author said

(e) Why the speech is important to the nation's history

(f) Choose a sentence or two from the speech that has significant meaning to you, and tell your counselor why.

7. Do TWO of the following:

(a) 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.

(b) Tour your state capitol building or the U.S. Capitol. Tell your counselor what you learned about the capitol, its function, and the history.

(c) Tour a federal facility. Explain to your counselor what you saw and what you learned about its function in the local community and how it serves this nation.

(d) Choose a United States national monument that interests you. Using books, brochures, the internet (with your parent or guardian'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.

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.

Citizenship in the World

Counselor: Troy O'Donnell

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Nick West

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: Scouts need to come prepared to discuss all of the issues in this merit badge and ready to share their individual work on requirements #3, 4b, and 7.

3. Do the following:

(a) Pick a current world event. In relation to this current event, discuss with your counselor how a country's national interest and its relationship with other countries might affect areas such as its security, its economy, its values, and the health of its citizens.

(b) Select a foreign country and discuss with your counselor how its geography, natural resources, and climate influence its economy and its global partnerships with other countries.

4. Do TWO of the following:

(a) Explain international law and how it differs from national law. Explain the role of international law and how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.

(b) Using resources such as major daily newspapers, the internet (with your parent or guardian's permission), and news magazines, observe a current issue that involves international trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, tariffs, and free trade. Explain what you have learned. Include in your discussion an explanation of why countries must cooperate in order for world trade and global competition to thrive.

(c) Select TWO of the following organizations and describe their role in the world.

(1) United Nations and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

(2) International Court of Justice (The World Court)

(3) International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)

(4) World Organization of the Scout Movement

(5) World Health Organization (WHO)

(6) Amnesty International

(7) International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

(8) Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE)

7. Do TWO of the following (with your parent or guardian's permission) and share with your counselor what you have learned:

(a) Visit the website of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this website.

(b) Visit the website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.

(c) Visit with a student or Scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.

(d) Attend or participate in a World Organization of the Scouting Movement (WOSM) event such as the World Scout Jamboree, World Scout Moot, World Scout Congress, Jamboree

Over The Air, or Jamboree Over The Internet. Attendance at a national or regional Jamboree sponsored by a WOSM-National Scout Organization is also allowed.

(e) Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.

Coin Collecting

Counselor: Jeff Morrow

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Jeff Morrow

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: Requirements #4 and 7

4. Do the following and explain to your counselor the design features, designer name, designer initials, and where to find them for each item:

(a) Collect a one-cent coin from the year group: 1959-2008 (that is, dated between 1959 and 2008) and a one-cent coin from the year group 2010-present. Explain how and why the one-cent coins issued in 2009 were different from either of the other two year groups.

(b) Collect two five-cent coins, one from each of these year groups: 1959-2003 and 2006-present. Explain how and why the five-cent coins issued in 2004-2005 were different from either of the other two year groups.

(c) Collect a ten-cent coin from 1965-present.

(d) Collect a twenty-five-cent coin from 1965-1998, two examples from the 50-State Quarter® /territories Program 1999-2009, two designs from the America the Beautiful® program 2010-2021 and two designs from the American Woman Quarter® program (2022-2024). Explain the purpose of each of those programs.

(e) Collect a half dollar coin from 1965-present.

(f) Collect a dollar coin from the following design groups: Susan B. Anthony 1979-1981, 1999, Sacagawea 2000-2008, U.S. Presidents 2007-2016, 2020.

7. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different world coins from at least seven different countries. Identify the country, major design elements, and denomination of each.

(b) Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different world paper money from at least 7 different countries. Identify the country, major design elements, and denomination of each.

(c) Collect and identify for your counselor 20 different tokens and/or medals. Identify the issuer and use of each.

(d) Complete one of the following and report to your counselor what you experienced:

(1) Attend a coin show.

(2) Attend a coin club meeting.

(3) Tour a U.S. Mint facility or museum.

(4) Tour a virtual exhibit (with your parent or guardian's permission) approved by your counselor.

Emergency Preparedness

Counselor: Tejas Patel

Session: Morning (9-12)

Pre-requisites: Requirements #2 and 9.

2. Planning for Family Emergencies. Do the following:

(a) At a family meeting, discuss the situations on the chart you created for requirement 1(b) and make emergency plans for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home.

Discuss your family meeting and plans with your counselor.

(b) Develop and practice a plan of escape for your family in case of fire in your home. Draw a floor plan with escape routes and a map with a safe meeting place. Discuss your family's home escape plan with your counselor.

(c) Using a checklist in the Emergency Preparedness merit badge pamphlet or one approved by your counselor, prepare or inspect a family disaster kit for sheltering-in-place and for evacuation of your home. Review the needs and uses of the items in a kit with your counselor.

9. First Aid Merit Badge. Earn the First Aid merit badge.

Entrepreneurship & Salesmanship (2 merit badges, 1 session)

Counselor: Larry Rodriguez

Session: Morning (9-12)

Pre-requisites:

E-3. Identify and interview an individual who has started a business. Learn about this person's educational background, early work experiences, where the idea for the business came from, and what was involved in starting the business. Find out how the entrepreneur raised the capital (money) to start the business, examples of successes and challenges faced, and how the business is currently doing (if applicable). Discuss with your counselor what you have learned.

E-4. Think of as many ideas for a business as you can, and write them down. From your list, select three ideas you believe represent the best opportunities. Choose one of these and explain to your counselor why you selected it and why you feel it can be successful.

S-3. Write and present a sales plan for a product or service and a sales territory assigned by your counselor.

S-4. Make a sales presentation of a product or service assigned by your counselor.

S-5. Do ONE of the following and keep a record (cost sheet). Use the sales techniques you have learned, and share your experience with your counselor:

a. Help your unit raise funds through sales of merchandise or of tickets to a Scout event.

b. Sell your services such as lawn raking or mowing, pet watching, dog walking, snow shoveling, and car washing to your neighbors. Follow up after the service has been completed and determine the customer's satisfaction.

c. Earn money through retail selling.

S-6. Do ONE of the following:

a. Interview a salesperson and learn the following:

(1) What made the person choose sales as a profession?

(2) What are the most important things to remember when talking to customers?

(3) How is the product or service sold?

(4) Include your own questions.

b. Interview a retail store owner and learn the following:

(1) How often is the owner approached by a sales representative?

(2) What good traits should a sales representative have? What habits should the sales representative avoid?

(3) What does the owner consider when deciding whether to establish an account with a sales representative?

(4) Include at least two of your own questions.

Geology

Counselor: Carol Brown

Session: Morning (9-12)

Pre-requisites:

4A(5). Visit a nearby stream. Find clues that show the direction of water flow, even if the water is missing. Record your observations in a notebook, and sketch those clues you observe. Discuss your observations with your counselor.

6. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Explore careers related to this merit badge. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. Your research methods may include—with your parent or guardian's permission—an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work. Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.

(b) Explore how you could use knowledge and skills from this merit badge to pursue a hobby or healthy lifestyle. Research any training needed, expenses, and organizations that promote or support it. Discuss with your counselor what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this.

Home Repairs

Counselors: Jon McDonald

Session: All Day (9-12 & 1-4, requires both)

& Michael Corcoran

Pre-requisites: Materials will be sent home with Scouts to complete requirement #5D after the MBJ.

Nuclear Science

Counselor: Jason Zeibel

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Jason Zeibel

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: Know what the periodic table is and know the three fundamental particles that make up atoms.

Public Speaking

Counselor: Peter Pate

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Peter Pate

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: Read requirements, prepare speeches, study parliamentary procedures.

1. Give a three- to five-minute introduction of yourself to an audience such as your troop, class at school, or some other group.
2. Prepare a three- to five-minute talk on a topic of your choice that incorporates body language and visual aids.
3. Give an impromptu talk of at least two minutes, either as part of a group discussion or before your counselor. Use a subject selected by your counselor that is interesting to you but that is not known to you in advance and for which you do not have time to prepare.
4. Select a topic of interest to your audience. Collect and organize information about the topic and prepare an outline. Write an eight- to 10-minute speech, practice it, then deliver it in a conversational way.
5. Show you know parliamentary procedure by leading a discussion or meeting according to accepted rules of order; or by answering questions on the rules of order.

Radio

Counselor: Mike Aimone

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Mike Aimone

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites: None

Scouting Heritage

Counselor: Ken Davis

Session: Morning (9-12)

Counselor: Ken Davis

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites:

5. Research the history of your unit, council, summer camp, or Order of the Arrow lodge. With the permission of a parent or guardian, your research methods may include an

internet or library search, interviews with Scout leaders, or visits to locations where you learn about your topic. Prepare an oral or written report, a presentation, or a video of your research and review it with your counselor.

6. Make a collection of some of your personal patches and other Scouting memorabilia. With their permission, you may include items borrowed from family members or friends who have been in Scouting in the past, or you may include photographs of these items. Show this collection to your counselor, and share what you have learned about items in the collection. (Note: There is no requirement regarding how large or small this collection must be.)

Weather

Counselor: Carol Brown

Session: Afternoon (1-4)

Pre-requisites:

10(a) Make one of the following instruments: wind vane, anemometer, rain gauge, hygrometer. Keep a daily weather log for one week using information from this instrument as well as from other sources such as local radio and television stations, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, and internet sources (with your parent or guardian's permission). Record the following information at the same time every day: wind direction and speed, temperature, precipitation, and types of clouds. Be sure to make a note of any morning dew or frost. In the log, also list the weather forecasts from radio or television at the same time each day and show how the weather really turned out.

11. Give a talk of at least five minutes to a group (such as your unit or a Cub Scout pack) explaining the outdoor safety rules in the event of lightning, flash floods, and tornadoes. Before your talk, share your outline with your counselor for approval.

12. Explore careers related to this merit badge. Research one career to learn about the training and education needed, costs, job prospects, salary, job duties, and career advancement. Your research methods may include—with your parent or guardian's permission—an internet or library search, an interview with a professional in the field, or a visit to a location where people in this career work. Discuss with your counselor both your findings and what about this profession might make it an interesting career.