

Difficult Run District
National Capital Area Council

Great American 250 2026 Fall Camporee

September 25-27, 2026

Camp Highroad - Middleburg, VA



8/11/2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Difficult Run District is hosting a Great American 250 Camporee over the weekend of Friday, September 25 to Sunday, September 27, 2026, at Camp Highroad near Middleburg, VA.

The Camporee is an exciting district-wide event promoting Scout skills and celebrating American history. Sons of the American Revolution re-enactors will join our camp with flag ceremonies, storytelling, and demonstrations throughout the day on Saturday. Program stations will challenge Scouts with themed activities to include pioneering skills as part of camp life, navigation as an essential skill throughout history, archery in early American history, team games from the Revolutionary War era, and an activity celebrating early aviation in America. We will also have a cooking competition: "What Would George Washington Eat?" (links to recipe ideas can be found later in this document).

The Camporee is meant to be used by troops as a fun way of kicking off their outdoor program for the 2026-2027 program year. All Scouts BSA troops are welcome to participate in the event and to invite and register their feeder Arrow of Light dens.

Contact Information: If you have general questions or concerns, contact: Scott Raso at sraso1@yahoo.com

Registration: The registration fee is \$35 per participant (Scouts and adults). This fee includes program supplies, awards, and event patches. Pre-registration via the NCAC Black Pug system is required. Register at: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-116985>. If your troop will be participating in the Camporee, please begin the registration process as soon as possible. Even if you will not have a final participant count until close to the event, it will be helpful for event organizers to know sooner rather than later which units are participating. Pre-registration will close at midnight on September 22, 2026. Please have one adult and one youth leader check-in at Camporee HQ to complete your unit's registration and turn in your Unit Roster immediately upon arrival Friday evening, and absolutely no later than 8:30 p.m. Friday. Please use the official Unit Roster form found at the back of this guide.

Program Participation: Each unit must submit a roster at time of check-in listing each patrol's name and the members' names. Each patrol is expected to participate in each station throughout the day at their assigned times. Each patrol will be issued a schedule with times and locations at the time of check-in. Patrols will receive more information at check-in.

AOL Dens: AOL dens may participate in the Camporee with a troop. If a den is interested in participating with a troop, it should be in contact with that troop and register for the Camporee with the troop. If a troop has a feeder pack, it should reach out to that pack to see about AOL interest in participating in the Camporee.



Staff are needed for Saturday! Our camporees are successful because of the many adults that help on staff. We are looking for volunteers to help with this event, including:

- Individuals and teams to run individual activities
- Help with event setup and facilities
- Promotion

Adults interested in helping on staff should contact Scott Raso at sraso1@yahoo.com

Meals: Units will provide all their own meals.

Camping: Campsites will be assigned based on the number of pre-registered participants. Units will be directed to their campsite at check-in at Camporee HQ. Camping will be set

up Jamboree-style, so plan to be close to your neighbor. Please inform us of any special needs. If the ground is dry, each unit may park ONE trailer near its campsite for the weekend. These trailers should be in place on Friday night before lights out and stay in place until checkout Sunday morning. Please exercise caution if driving in the camping area.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

—*Thomas Jefferson, Declaration of Independence, 1776*

Vehicles and Parking: Only vehicles and trailers carrying unit gear will be allowed to go into the campsite area to unload, weather permitting. Vehicles carrying personal gear must remain in the parking area, and personal gear in them should be carried to the campsite. All vehicles must be parked in the parking area. The speed limit will be 10 MPH (unless a lower speed is posted).

Patrols: The Camporee will include patrol-based competitions. Troops will preferably have patrols of approximately 6-9 members. These will preferably be existing "normal" patrols but can be merged smaller patrols if necessary. Depending on how many patrols we have registered, we may make allowances for larger patrols. You should include AOL Scouts you have invited to camp with your troop. However, the planned activities are aimed at Scouts BSA-aged Scouts, so a patrol should not consist solely or primarily of AOL Scouts.

Small Troops: If your troop is interested in participating in the Camporee but does not have enough interested Scouts to field a viable patrol, it may be possible to make arrangements for your Scouts to attend the Camporee with another troop in the district. If this is of interest, please contact Scott Raso at sraso1@yahoo.com to see if arrangements can be made.

Campfire Program (Saturday Evening)

- All units are encouraged to prepare a skit or song for the campfire program.
- All skits/songs must be approved by the Camporee staff. Please be prepared to provide the staff with your idea at the Friday night leader meeting.



- Please keep skits and songs in Scout-appropriate good taste. They should not include acts of violence, poking fun at a person or group of people, or questionable subject matter.

Note: Be prepared with at least 2 ideas. If multiple groups desire to do the same skit or song, it may be necessary to use an alternate.

Recognition: Awards will be given to the patrols that score the highest in completing their activities while maintaining teamwork and Scout Spirit (*i.e.* performing well throughout the day while adhering to the principles of the Scout Oath & Law). The best-performing patrol will receive the event top award. Each participant will also receive an event patch. Awards will be given out at the Saturday campfire program and patches at check-in.

Leaders Meeting: There will be an adult leader and SPL meeting and cracker barrel on Friday, September 25th at 9:00 p.m. Please make sure your unit is represented at this meeting.

Unit fires: All fires must be up above the ground. Bring a portable fire pit if you plan to have a fire in your campsite or a charcoal table if you plan to use charcoal for cooking. Units should plan to cook meals on propane camp stoves.

“The essence of America – that which really unites us – is not ethnicity or nationality or religion – it is an idea – and what an idea it is: that you can come from humble circumstances and do great things.”

– *Dr. Condoleezza Rice, United States Secretary of State from 2005 to 2009*

Water: Potable water is available on site close to the camping area. Please bring jugs to carry and store your water.

Trash: Units are responsible for removing all trash from the campsite. Don’t leave any wood, ashes or charcoal. Please, Leave No Trace. Pack it in, Pack it out! Camp Highroad dumpsters are NOT to be used.

Pets and Animals: Animals are not permitted except for registered service animals.

First Aid: Our Health and Safety Officer will be available during the event. Units may take care of minor injuries. Unit leaders are responsible for having a current BSA Health and Medical Record for each participant.

Health, Safety, and Behavior: Leaders and parents are responsible for the health, safety, and behavior of all Scouts in their care. Please provide sufficient leadership so Scouts are supervised. If a situation warrants, individuals will be asked to leave the Camporee. Units are responsible for complying with all Scouting America youth protection requirements. Units must always have at least 2-deep leadership present at the Camporee. All adults staying overnight must be currently registered with Scouting America.



Uniforms: The BSA Field Uniform (Class A) should be worn for campfire on Saturday evening.

Check Out: All units must CHECK OUT at Camporee HQ prior to leaving the camporee site. Check out is Sunday morning between 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM. When your unit is ready to check out, the youth leader should come to the Camporee HQ to request that one of the camporee staff check your campsite.

“America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, imagination, and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.”
– *Harry S. Truman, 33rd U.S. president who lived from 1884 to 1972*

Program Stations

Our program stations celebrate the following periods of American History

- **1776 – 1865: Foundations, Frontier Skills, and Early American Innovation**
- **1866 – 1945: Industry, Innovation, and Communication**
- **1946 – Present: Leadership, Technology, and Modern Innovation**

Station 1: Camp Life at the Fort - Pioneering Activity (1776-1865), organized by Troop 1887

Scouts will safely “Cross the Delaware” over a monkey bridge, use a trebuchet to launch a projectile for distance and accuracy, and apply lashing skills to construct a camp gadget.

Station 2: Navigating Through History (1776-1865), organized by Troop 1313

Inspired by key events in our nation’s history in which navigation was essential, this station will challenge Scouts to demonstrate map reading and orienteering skills to unlock coded messages.

Station 3: Defend the Fort - Archery Challenge; (1776-1865)

Scouts will be scored based on accuracy on target, and patrols will be ranked based on the average score from each patrol.

Station 4: Team Games from the Revolutionary War Era - Early Cricket (circa 1776-1865), organized by Troop 99

Cricket was being played in North America by at least the beginning of the 18th century. By the American Revolution, the game was so popular that the troops at Valley Forge played matches; it has been recorded that George Washington himself played early American cricket. Patrols will form teams and compete in this fun early American pastime.



Station 5: Winging It – Early Aviation Workshop (1866-Present), organized by Troop 1983

Inspired by the Wright brothers' era, Scouts will construct model flyers using basic materials, and enter their creation in tests of distance, accuracy, and carrying an increasing payload.

Station 6: Impact of The Americans with Disabilities Act - Obstacle Course (1946-Present), organized by Troop 1128

The Americans with Disabilities Act is a landmark 1990 civil rights law prohibiting discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including employment, transportation, and public accommodations. Scouts will guide fellow patrol members assigned simulated disabilities (*e.g.*, mobility, hearing, sight or other limitations) through a challenging obstacle course.

"Always remember you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

– **Harriet Tubman**, 1820 to 1913, abolitionist who escaped slavery and helped hundreds more find freedom as a conductor on the Underground Railroad

Campwide Activities

All-Day Spy Challenge (1776-1865) by request of His Excellency, General George Washington, organized by Troop 99

In this Cause of Liberty, knowledge of the enemy's strength, numbers, and movements is worth more than a company of riflemen. General Washington will charge his trusted Scout patrols to slip quietly into the woods and procure useful intelligence regarding an opposing encampment.

Reenactor Displays/Activities: Sons of the American Revolution re-enactors will join our camp with flag ceremonies, storytelling, and demonstrations throughout the day on Saturday.

Troop cooking competition: George Washington's Favorites

What: A fun, history-inspired cooking contest in which each patrol will prepare a dish based on George Washington's favorite foods.

When & Where: Saturday, 6:30 PM, judging at Camporee HQ. All cooking must be done in your campsite.

Purpose: Showcase cooking skills, teamwork, and share a taste of history with the camporee community!

Websites with period recipe ideas:

<https://www.mountvernon.org/inn/recipes>

<https://www.tastinghistory.com/recipes/category/18th+Century>

<https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/discover/resource-hub/recipes/>

<https://history-in-the-making.com/category/18th-century/>



"Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

– ***John F. Kennedy***, 35th U.S. president who lived from 1917 to 1963



UNIT ROSTER

Great American 250

2026 Fall Camporee

THIS FORM TO BE TURNED IN AT TIME OF CHECK-IN AT EVENT

Unit Type _____ Unit Number _____ Adult Leader _____
 Cell # _____

Patrol Name	Patrol Name	Patrol Name	Patrol Name
_____	_____	_____	_____

Mobile Phone#	Mobile Phone#	Mobile Phone#	Mobile Phone#
_____	_____	_____	_____

Members	Members	Members	Members
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Adult Leaders/Parents

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2026 Fall Camporee

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>Friday, September 25</u>		
6:00 – 8:30 PM	Arrival, Setup/Check-in	Camporee HQ
8:30-9:00 PM	Camporee Staff Meeting	Camporee HQ
9:00-9:45 PM	Cracker Barrel Leader Meeting for Staff, SPLs, & Adult Leaders	Camporee HQ
11:00 PM	Taps/Lights Out	
<u>Saturday, September 26</u>		
7:00 AM	Reveille	
7:00 – 8:30AM	Breakfast	Campsites
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Flag Raising & Opening Ceremony	Flag Pole
9:15 – 12:15 PM	Morning programs	Program Areas
12:15 – 1:15 PM	Lunch	Campsites
1:15 – 4:15 PM	Afternoon programs	Program Areas
4:15 – 4:30PM	Flag Lowering	Flagpole
4:30 – 8:00 PM	Dinner & Camp Time	Campsites
	***** 6:30pm Cooking Competition judging at HQ *****	
8:00 – 9:00 PM	Campfire/Awards	Campfire Area
9:15 – 9:45 PM	Cracker Barrel Leader Meeting For Staff, SPLs, & Adult Leaders	Camporee HQ
11:00 PM	Taps/Lights Out	
<u>Sunday, September 27</u>		
7:00 AM	Reveille	
7:00 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast	Unit Campsite
8:00 – 10:00 AM	Check-out	Camporee HQ
10:00 AM	Camporee Concludes	

"The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionably integrity."

– *Dwight D. Eisenhower*, 34th U.S. president who lived from 1890 to 1969

