

University of Scouting 2026



Saturday February 7, 2026
Gulfport High School
100 Perry St Gulfport MS 39507
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Registration available on Blackpug

Pine Burr Area Council

Strengthening leaders. Inspiring youth. Keeping the magic of Scouting alive

Event Information

The Pine Burr Area Council invites you to join us at the 2026 University of Scouting

Welcome to a day of discovery, fellowship, and Scouting enchantment. The University of Scouting brings together leaders from across our council to learn, share ideas, and grow together in service to youth. Thank you for investing your time and talents into Scouting. We're glad you're here!

Whether you are new to Scouting, or a well tenured veteran, there is always something new to learn, or be reminded of. At the end of the day, you will leave with new ideas, a fresh perspective, and practical information to take back to your units. From the selection of over forty subjects, you will have the opportunity to choose any six that interest you, and, if you choose, work toward your (non-academic) University of Scouting Degree Program.

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Details</u>
8:00-8:45 AM – Registration & Check-In 8:45-8:50 AM – Opening Ceremony 9:00-11:50 AM – Morning Course Sessions 12:00-12:50 PM – Lunch 1:00-3:50 PM – Afternoon Course Sessions 4:00-4:30 PM – Closing Ceremony & Diploma	Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026 Time: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Location: Gulfport High School 100 Perry Street Gulfport, MS 39507 What to Wear : Recommended Class A uniform

Register Online at Black Pug

Cost of attendance is \$15.00 per person; \$20 for walk-on registration
(Registration fee includes commemorative patch, handouts, graduation diploma and lunch)

Deadline to register – January 30, 2026

P.B.A.C. UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING DEGREE PROGRAM

In 2022 we introduced the **Pine Burr Area Council University of Scouting** (*non-academic*) degree program. Our intent is to encourage everyone to look at the bigger picture and include exposure to new areas of Scouting. It is offered as an opportunity to increase your knowledge resulting in a better overall program, and a more confident leader. Participants intending to work towards a degree are asked to designate their area of study from the following:

CCS College of **Cub Scouting**
COS College of **Scouts BSA**
CGS College of **General Studies**

Look for CCS, COS, or CGS to find subjects

University of Scouting – Associate Degree

Participants are eligible to earn their Associate Degree after attending their choice of **4** classes from any of the colleges but must include **2** classes from their chosen degree college. Select **Associate Degree** during registration. (*Those who attended the P.B.A.C. University of Scouting in 2016 earned their Associate Degree at that time and may now work on their Bachelor's Degree.*)

University of Scouting – Bachelor's Degree

Prerequisites: Participants will have previously earned their Associate degree and be fully trained in their registered position, be current on YPT, and Hazardous Weather, if a direct contact leader. Participants should attend **3** classes in their chosen degree college, and **3** classes in a combination of any of the other colleges. Select **Bachelor's Degree** during registration.

University of Scouting – Master's Degree

Prerequisites: Participants will have previously earned their Bachelor's degree and be fully trained in their registered position, be current on YPT, and Hazardous Weather, if a direct contact leader. Participants should attend **3** classes in their chosen degree college, **2** classes in any other college, and will be required to teach a subject in their degree college. Select **Master's Degree** during registration.

University of Scouting Graduate Studies Program – PhD

Prerequisites: Participants will have previously earned their Master's degree and be fully trained in their registered position, be current on YPT, and Hazardous Weather, if a direct contact leader. They should also have earned the appropriate training award for their registered position. Participants who have previously earned their Master's degree, are eligible to earn their PhD when they have attended a total of **8** classes in their chosen degree college. In addition, candidates for their PhD will be required to put together a new class for their degree college and teach it. A syllabus of the class must be turned in to the college chancellor for approval. Select **PhD** during registration.

To maintain the integrity of the University of Scouting and the degree programs, the following policies are in place:

1. Students in any of the degree programs must be registered Scout leaders.
2. At registration, all students should indicate the degree program area they are pursuing.
3. Some courses require prerequisites which are listed.
4. To receive credit for a class a Scouter must attend the entire class and sign the class roster.
5. Completion of degrees will be acknowledged upon completion of the program requirements.
6. Faculty will be able to apply credit for the subjects they teach.

Course Catalog

9:00 – 9:50 am (1st Period)

CCS-140 : The Grand Ringmaster: Cubmaster Magic 101

Cubmasters are the heart of the Pack, the spark of energy, the keeper of traditions, and the creator of magical moments that Cubs remember for years. This session equips new and seasoned Cubmasters with the skills, tools, and confidence needed to lead a dynamic, joyful, and well-organized program. Whether you're stepping into the role for the first time or fine-tuning your leadership magic, this course will help you shine.

COS-114 : Magical Mentorship: Becoming an Effective Merit Badge Counselor

Every Scout's journey is filled with curiosity, discovery, and growth and the Merit Badge Counselor (MBC) is the mentor who helps turn those sparks of interest into real skills. In this class, participants will explore the application, certification, approval process, essential responsibilities, best practices, and inspirational opportunities that come with serving as a counselor.

CGS-101 : Discover the Magic of Scouting's Hidden Partnership!

Learn how to work together with your Unit Commissioner to strengthen your program, support your leaders, and create unforgettable experiences for your Scouts. Practical tips, real examples, and proven "magic tricks" you can use right away!

COS-113 : Ascending the Tower: The Magic of COPE & Climbing Safety

COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) and Climbing programs bring excitement, teamwork, and confidence to Scouts, but only when guided by trained leaders who understand what is allowed, what isn't, and how to keep high-adventure activities safe and transformative. In this session, leaders will lift the veil on the world of COPE and climbing, learning the essential rules, procedures, and safety enchantments that protect young participants as they soar to new heights.

COS-115 - Keeping the Magic Alive: Engaging Senior Scouts

Senior Scouts are powerful role models, emerging leaders, and the heartbeat of a strong troop or crew, but as they grow older, school, sports, work, and social commitments can pull them away. This class reveals the "advanced enchantments" that keep older youth excited, empowered, and deeply connected to Scouting

COS-142 : The Enchanted Compass: Orienteering for Leaders

Step into the realm of enchanted direction-finding! Discover how to teach Scouts to read maps, follow bearings, and navigate the outdoors with confidence.

10:00 am -10:50 am (2nd Period)

CCS-122 : The Den Leader's Guidebook Magic for Every Meeting

Den Leaders are the true magic-makers of Cub Scouting, creating fun adventures, memorable activities, and meaningful learning for youth. *The Den Leader's Guidebook* equips new and experienced Den Leaders with everything they need to make meetings run smoothly, keep Scouts engaged, and build a supportive, joyful environment for families. This session is perfect for brand-new leaders, seasoned Den Leaders looking for fresh ideas, or anyone preparing to step into a den leadership role.

COS-143 : Masters of the Map: Youth-Led Annual Planning for Troops & Crews

A truly magical troop or crew is one where the youth design the program, choose the adventures, and chart the course for the year ahead. This class teaches adult leaders how to coach, guide, and empower Scouts to take ownership of their annual planning, without taking over the process. When Scouts dream, discuss, and decide together, they create a program they believe in... and a unit that thrives.

CGS-114 : The Enchanted Ledger: Learning Scoutbook Plus

Designed especially for beginners, this class walks new leaders through the essential features, tools, and “digital magic” that make managing your pack, troop, or crew easier, smoother, and more accurate. Whether you’ve never logged in or you’re overwhelmed by buttons, menus, and dashboards, this course will help you feel confident navigating the system.

CGS-115 : Mystic Packs & Trail Tools: A Guide to Backpacking Gear

Backpacking becomes magical when your gear works for you, not against you. Leaders will learn how to choose the right pack, shelter, sleep system, cooking gear, and personal essentials for safe and enjoyable backcountry adventures. This session also covers how to properly care for gear so it lasts, performs well, and keeps Scouts comfortable on the trail. Perfect for new backpacking leaders, troops planning their first trek, or anyone looking to upgrade their gear knowledge with a touch of Scouting magic.

COS-107 : The Guiding Light: Duty to God & Religious Emblems for the Troop

As Scouts grow into adolescence, questions of faith, values, and personal belief become deeply meaningful. *The Guiding Light* helps Scoutmasters, assistants, chaplain aides, and troop committee members understand how to support Duty to God in a way that honors every Scout's individual path while staying true to the inclusive spirit of Scouting. This session also breaks down the Religious Emblem programs available for middle-school and high-school aged youth, and how leaders can encourage interest without directing or influencing a Scout's personal beliefs.

CGS-111 : Guardians of the Water Realm: Aquatic Safety for Scouting Leaders

Water can be wondrous—or dangerous—depending on how well-prepared a leader is. This class demystifies the essential principles of BSA aquatic safety so you can lead memorable, magical, and safe adventures on lakes, rivers, pools, and beyond. This course gives leaders a clear and practical understanding of Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and other key aquatic guidelines that keep youth protected during boating, swimming, paddling, rafting, tubing, and waterfront activities.

11:00 AM - 11: 50 (3rd Period)

CCS-110 : Faithful Magic: A Leader's Guide to Cub Religious Awards

This class helps leaders understand how to nurture that light through Duty to God adventures and the many religious emblem programs offered across different faith traditions. Designed with respect for all beliefs, this session provides clarity, resources, and practical ideas to help leaders support families as they guide their Cub Scouts in faith-based growth.

CGS-106 : The Magic Mirror: Reflecting Your Unit Online

Show your community the magic happening in your unit through positive, engaging, and safe social media practices following the policies outlined by Scouting America.

CGS-136 : The Enchanted Camp Kitchen: Outdoor Cooking Made Magical

Great food is one of the most magical parts of any campout - whether simmering in a Dutch oven, sizzling over coals, or crafted from lightweight ingredients miles down the trail. This session is designed to help leaders master the art (and magic!) of outdoor cooking for Cub Scouts, troops, and high-adventure crews. From planning menus to managing safety and cleanup, this class will teach you how to turn every campout into a culinary success.

CGS-105 : Restoring the Magic: Conflict Resolution for Scouting Leaders

Every Scouting unit experiences moments when emotions bubble, disagreements flare, or personalities clash, especially during busy seasons, planning sessions, or high-stress outings. This class equips leaders with the practical tools and “magical techniques” needed to ease tension, redirect conflict, and keep the spirit of Scouting alive and harmonious. This class introduces communication strategies, conflict-resolution skills, and leadership approaches that help adults, parents, and youth work together more smoothly.

CGS-107 : Mystic Marksman: Safe & Fun Target Activities for Scouts

Target sports are some of the most magical and memorable experiences in Scouting, whether it's a Cub Scout's first time firing a BB gun or an older Scout mastering archery or tomahawk throwing. *Mystic Marksman* helps leaders understand what is allowed, how to run ranges safely, and how to create engaging, confidence-building experiences for youth. This course breaks down rules, certifications, equipment, supervision requirements, and best practices for delivering safe and fun range programs.

CGS-214 : Masterclass in Magic: Advanced Scoutbook Plus Features

You've learned the basics, now it's time to harness the full magical potential of Scoutbook Plus. Designed for experienced leaders, advancement chairs, committee members, and unit administrators, this session dives deep into the high-level tools, shortcuts, automations, and system logic that make Scoutbook Plus a powerful engine for unit management. If you're ready to go beyond simple navigation and elevate your digital wizardry, this advanced course is for you

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM (4th Period)

CGS-125 : Hocus Pocus Popcorn Focus

The ultimate class for new and experienced Popcorn Kernels who want to bring a little enchantment and a lot of strategy to their unit's annual sale.

CCS-109 : Keeper of the Magic Door: Welcoming New Families

A unit's success begins the moment a new family walks through the door and the New Member Coordinator is the guide who helps them feel the magic right away. This class is designed for leaders who want to understand, embrace, or excel in this essential role.

CCS-103 : The Pack's Magical Backbone: Committee 101

Behind every thriving Cub Scout pack is a team of dedicated adults working together to make the magic happen. The Pack Committee is the engine that supports program delivery, finances, registration, communication, leader support, and more. This class demystifies the structure, duties, and best practices that help committees run smoothly and keep the pack strong. Whether you're new to the committee, stepping into a new role, or looking for ways to strengthen your team, this session will give you the clarity and tools you need.

CGS-117 : Songs, Applause and Audience Magic

Discover how to energize any meeting, campfire, or pack event with interactive moments that captivate Scouts and keep the giggles flowing. Leave with a treasure chest of ready-to-use Cub magic guaranteed to enchant your den or pack and transform ordinary gatherings into unforgettable adventures.

CGS-126 : Enchanted Eats on a Budget: Camp Menu Planning

Feeding a pack or troop shouldn't require a dragon's treasure hoard. With the right "kitchen magic," leaders can create filling, tasty, and youth-friendly meals, while keeping costs low and spirits high. *Enchanted Eats on a Budget* teaches you how to stretch your dollars, plan efficiently, and still deliver magical dining experiences in camp or on the trail. Perfect for Cub leaders, Scoutmasters, committee members, and anyone responsible for camp menus.

CGS-120 : Knots of Honor: Celebrating Adult Service in Scouting

Behind every thriving Scouting unit stands a team of dedicated adults, leaders who teach, guide, mentor, and create magical experiences for youth. *Knots of Honor* helps committee members, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, commissioners, and district volunteers understand how to properly nominate, recognize, and celebrate the adults who make Scouting possible.

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM (5th Period)

CGS-119 : Helping Leaders Unlock the Magic of Every Scout : The Special Needs Scout

This session helps leaders understand how to support Scouts with disabilities, whether visible, invisible, diagnosed, or emerging, and how to create an environment where every youth can thrive in the Magic of Scouting. Through practical tools, compassionate leadership strategies, and an understanding of accommodations, leaders will learn how to build an inclusive program that celebrates every Scout's strengths.

COS-116 : Magic of Service: Exploring the Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow (OA) is often described as the “magic behind Scouting”, a place where youth discover brotherhood, service, leadership, and deeper commitment to the Scouting ideals. Yet many adults and families are unsure what the OA actually is, who it's for, and how the process works. This session reveals the purpose, structure, and opportunities of the OA in a clear and welcoming way. Perfect for adult leaders, parents, and Scouts who want a better understanding of the OA experience.

CCS-112 : Mystic Cords and Clever Knots

Cub leaders learn beginner-friendly paracord skills as they transform simple cord into mystic creations like bracelets, charms, and lanyards.

CGS-118 : Magic of the Critters: Wood Badge Explained

Wood Badge is often described as “the magic behind great Scouting leadership”, a powerful, immersive experience that transforms good leaders into exceptional ones. In *Magic of the Critters*, participants will discover what Wood Badge truly is, what happens during the course, and why so many Scouters call it life-changing. Whether you've heard about patrol critters, the ticket, or the beads and want to know more, this session lifts the veil and reveals the purpose, structure, and impact of Wood Badge.

CGS-133 : The Magic of Scouting: learn simple magic

Bring real magic to your Scouting program, literally! This hands-on session teaches leaders how to perform simple, kid-friendly magic tricks that require minimal supplies but deliver maximum amazement. Perfect for pack meetings, campfires, den gatherings, and special events, these tricks help you captivate Scouts, spark imagination, and keep your program engaging and fun. You don't need experience, sleight-of-hand mastery, or a magician's cape, just curiosity and a willingness to learn a little Scouting enchantment!

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (6th Period)

COS-102 : From Cub Magic to Troop Mastery

Discover how the enchantment changes as families move from the fun, leader-led Cub world to the youth-led adventure of Scouts BSA.

CCS-102 : The Enchanted Campsite: A Beginner's Guide to Pack Camping

Pack camping is one of the most magical experiences in Cub Scouting, glowing campfires, nighttime hikes, sticky s'mores, and families discovering adventure together. *The Enchanted Campsite* is the perfect course for new or nervous leaders who want to confidently plan and execute safe, fun, and memorable Cub Scout campouts. This session unlocks the essential skills and rules that turn overnight trips into pure Scouting magic.

COS-112 : The Final Transformation: Life Scout to Eagle Scout Prep

The transition from Life Scout to Eagle Scout is one of the most meaningful and magical experiences in Scouting. It's a time of growth, leadership, confidence, responsibility, and personal discovery. This course helps adult leaders, parents, committee members, and advancement chairs learn how to support, but not overshadow, Scouts as they complete the final steps toward Scouting's highest rank. In this session, you will discuss rank requirements and what "active participation" truly means, required merit badges and leadership roles, tracking progress and timelines without micromanaging and avoiding the common myths that confuse Scouts and parents

CCS-108 : Mystic Moments: How to Run Engaging Pack Meetings

A great Pack Meeting is the heartbeat of Cub Scouting, where families come together, Scouts are recognized, and the magic of the program shines brightest. *Mystic Moments* helps leaders learn how to plan, organize, and deliver Pack Meetings that are fun, smooth, meaningful, and full of Cub Scout excitement. Whether you're a new Cubmaster or a committee member looking to boost your Pack's program, this class gives you the tools to transform ordinary meetings into magical moments.

COS-110 : Realms of Wonder: A Leader's Guide to High Adventure

Step into the world of legendary treks, enchanted forests, ocean voyages, and mountaintop quests. brings together experienced Scouters and youth who have braved Scouting America's high Adventure bases to share their wisdom, stories, and hard-earned advice. Whether you're planning your first expedition or dreaming of future journeys, this panel illuminates the possibilities and the magic of high adventure.

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Graduation and Awarding of Diplomas

Class Selection Worksheet

Select **one class per session (six total)**

Name: _____

Morning Sessions

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Session I: _____

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM Session II: _____

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Session III: _____

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM - LUNCH

Afternoon Sessions

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Session IV: _____

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM Session V: _____

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM Session VI: _____

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM Graduation and Awarding of Diplomas

P.S : This worksheet is only an example. Registration is now available on BlackPug!

I will see you there!