



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

What is Bear Claw?

Bear Claw is an intensive outdoor experience for present and future youth troop leaders, designed to help a Scoutmaster in his responsibility to train his Scouts in being better troop leaders and in maintaining a youth-run Scouting Program. It is based on the BSA National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Program.

The course focuses on teaching advanced leadership skills in a team-building atmosphere based on the patrol method. Participants will be regularly challenged to accomplish activities and projects using the leadership skills taught in the course. Participants will also have opportunities to improve their outdoor skills and apply them.

The course is an example of a boy-led troop as all the teaching is done by youth staff who have attended Bear Claw. The experience and fellowship received by being with a patrol of other boy leaders from other troops and led by a quality youth staff is significant for the participants. Our objective is for the participants to return to their troops with enthusiasm and ideas that will help make their job a lot easier and improve the troop's program.

Who should attend Bear Claw?

Bear Claw participants must be thirteen years of age by June 1, be in a position of leadership (Senior Patrol Leader or Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or will be a candidate in the near future) and be First Class rank before June 1. A Scout must want to attend Bear Claw and have the enthusiasm and desire to participate in this learning experience. Bear Claw will nourish the leadership ability of the Scouts that are counted on to run a troop.

Bear Claw will not help Scouts lacking in Scout spirit or Scouts who are generally not leaders counted on by their troop. Qualifications and maturity will be discussed at the January meeting for Scoutmasters. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of any Scout attending Bear Claw, please contact the Course Director or the Course Scoutmaster.

Is Bear Claw a week at summer camp?

No. Bear Claw is a leadership training course in an outdoor environment. There are no rank advancement opportunities during the week. The purpose of this course is to develop leadership skills that Scouts will use in their home troop and throughout their lives.



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

What is the curriculum?

The course models a month in the life of a troop - three meetings (one each day for the first three days) all leading up to a big outdoor experience (an overnight outpost camp). The course uses the patrol method and presents model Patrol Leader Council meetings.

Patrols are challenged early in the week to present to the troop at the end of the week their "Quest for the Meaning of Leadership." While the challenge is designed to have them go through the four stages of team development, it will help patrols and individual Scouts internalize the leadership skills and concepts being presented to them along the way.

Throughout the course, the staff will be modeling the concepts and skills that are the core content of the course. The focus of each session is not only knowledge, but to give the youth a "Toolbox of Skills" that equips them with the "how of leadership". Bear Claw has six major aims:

- ❑ To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run the troop program;
- ❑ To teach and practice key leadership skills and relate these skills to the Scout's troop responsibilities;
- ❑ To give Scouts the opportunity to share ideas and experiences that other Scouts have found to be successful and useful in their home troops;
- ❑ Give each Scout a varied experience with emphasis on the patrol method and new ways to teach Scoutcraft skills in a fun atmosphere back in his home troop.
- ❑ To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience "Scouting at its best".
- ❑ To enhance the relationship between the participant and his home troop Scoutmaster.

What are the skills being taught?

The course begins with the patrols finding their team vision and ends with the individuals refining a personal vision of how to take the skills back to their home troop and communicate what he has learned. A more detailed description will be distributed at the Scoutmaster pre-course briefing.



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Communicating

Resolving Conflicts

Finding Your Vision, Part I

Making Ethical Decisions

Setting Your Goals

Leading Yourself

Preparing Your Plans

Valuing People

Forming Your Team

Finding Your Vision, Part II

Problem Solving

Conducting a Troop JLT

Leading EDGE

The Patrol Method

Teaching EDGE

Creating A Future

Is the home Scoutmaster involved?

Absolutely! Bear Claw is designed to enhance the Scouts relationship with his home Scoutmaster. The home Scoutmaster coordinates and encourages the Scout's completion of his Phase 2 goals. The home Scoutmaster approves the completion of these goals by signing the form. He may also change these goals (one or all of them) to have a better fit to the needs of his troop.

Is Bear Claw complete after the course?

No, Bear Claw is a two phase program.

Phase 1 is the course at Onteora Scout Reservation or Schiff Scout Reservation, and the NYLT certificate is issued at the completion of this phase.

Phase 2 is the completion of the personal vision statements with goals prepared by each Scout in his home troop after he completes the course. These vision statements should be completed within a year of course completion, at which time the Scout will receive his Bear Claw necklace and certificate. The home Troop Scoutmaster approves the completion of these goals by signing the form. He may also change the goals as needed to meet the troop's needs. The Scoutmaster awards the necklace and certificate to the scout at a Court of Honor or other occasion. The signed form and a cover letter should be mailed to the course Scoutmaster.



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

Orientations:

SCOUTMASTERS and PARENTS: The briefing will be held on February 26, 2009 at Kellenberg Memorial High School in Uniondale, at 8:00 pm to review the course syllabus and application procedures; for those unfamiliar with the course, attendance is strongly recommended. Two applications per troop will be accepted for each course; additional applications will be placed on a wait-list and confirmed after the registration deadline on May 17, 2009.

A Bear Claw Orientation meeting (MANDATORY) will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday, May 17, 2009 at Kellenberg Memorial High School in Uniondale. Accepted participants, parents and Scoutmasters are required to attend. The meeting will review course activities and requirements. The orientation meeting will be 60 - 90 minutes although staff will remain to answer specific questions.

When does registration close?

Registrations and full fees are due on May 17, 2009. After that date, Scouts are taken IF space is available. No applications will be accepted after Orientation.

To register, mail the following forms

- ❑ The application, complete with parent and Scoutmaster signature along with the registration fee:
- ❑ The confidential Scoutmaster evaluation
- ❑ The participant self-evaluation
- ❑ The participant permission form

Send the forms to Theodore Roosevelt Council, 544 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758 attn: Bear Claw Registration.

At the Pre-Course Orientation, the applicant will need to bring a completed Class III Medical Form modified for NYS compliance, and the specific forms for medication and releases for emergency treatment by camp.

Arrival at the Course:

Each Scout should have one backpack with all of his items and be in a full Class A Scout summer uniform (with Scout shorts, Scout knee socks, Scout shirt and Scout belt). A hike of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles will be made to the course site.

DO NOT BRING FOOTLOCKERS; THIS IS NOT A SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM. Participants that bring footlockers will not be enrolled and will be asked to leave.



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

How will Scouts live during Bear Claw?

In order to accomplish the objectives, the participants upon arrival, are placed in a patrol composed of 6 (Scouts from the same home troop will be in different patrols). A Troop Guide (Youth Staff Member) is assigned to each patrol to advise and to be a resource to the participants throughout the learning process. The patrol method is used extensively at the course. Patrols are on their own to set up campsites, cook meals, construct patrol projects and plan and carry out other activities without direct adult supervision.

Is any special equipment needed?

Each Scout is required to have at least one complete summer Scout uniform. A complete uniform includes the following; Scout shirt, Scout shorts, Scout belt and Scout knee socks. This is known as the Class A uniform and will be worn at breakfast and dinner during the week. Most other times the Scouts will wear a Class B uniform which consists of the NYLT T-shirt (provided on the first day of the course) along with Scout shorts, Scout knee socks and Scout belt. More information is given at the Orientation meeting.

How do I contact my son?

At Onteora Scout Reservation

Scout's Name
 Bear Claw NYLT
 Onteora Scout Reservation
 Rt. 1, Box 261
 Livingston Manor, NY 12758

At Schiff Scout Reservation

Scout's Name
 Bear Claw NYLT
 Schiff Scout Reservation
 1606 Wading River Rd.
 Wading River, NY 11792

What is the NYLT Participant cost?

The course fee is \$ 325.00 (\$100 deposit paid by April 15, 2009, balance paid by May 17, 2009) *Make all checks payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Council.*

All payments must be made at or to the Council Service Center; no payments will be accepted at pre-course meetings.



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

IMPORTANT DATES FOR BEAR CLAW NYLT 2009

SM Pre-Course Orientation	February 26, 2009 @ 8:00 PM Kellenberg HS - Uniondale NY
Registration Starts	February 1, 2009
\$ 100 Deposit Due	April 15, 2009
Registration & Final Fees Deadline	May 17, 2009
Course Orientation (MANDATORY) For Participants/SM/Parents	May 17, 2009 @ 2:00 PM Kellenberg HS - Uniondale NY

No payments will be accepted at the pre-course orientation.

Schiff Scout Reservation Course

Weekend 1 : Participant Arrival:	July 10, 2009	12:00 N
Participant Departure:	July 12, 2009	5:30 PM
Weekend 2 : Participant Arrival:	July 17, 2009	5:00 PM
Closing Ceremony:	July 19, 2009	5:00 PM
Participant Departure:	July 19, 2009	5:30 PM

Onteora Scout Reservation Course

Participant Arrival:	August 9, 2009	12:00 N
Closing Ceremony:	August 15, 2009	10:30 AM
Participant Departure:	August 15, 2009	11:00 AM

How can I get additional information?

More information is available on the council website (www.trcbsa.org/Training/NYLT/NYLThome.htm) by visiting the NYLT Homepage. I will be glad to answer any questions that you have. Based on the principles of the course, potential and registered participants should be encouraged to make inquiries to take responsibility to understand the goals and to get registration information. Please feel free to telephone or write to me at the following:

Dwight Rosenstein, Course Director, Bear Claw NYLT Telephone: 516.482.3603

Email: bearclaw@trcbsa.org



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

APPLICATION AND PERMISSION

Name _____ Birth Date _____

My friends call me _____

Current leadership position _____ Rank _____

Troop # _____ District _____ Council _____

Address _____ T-shirt Size (circle) S M L XL XXL

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Scout's e-mail: _____ Parent's e-mail: _____

Select one:

SCHIFF SCOUT RESERVATION July 10-12 & July 17-19 2009

ONTEORA SCOUT RESERVATION August 9-15 2009

NOTE: *If parents wish to be included in such e-mailings, please include that e-mail address too.*

Application and Statement of Qualifications

On my honor as a Scout, I promise that I will faithfully live according to the Scout Oath and Law during the National Youth Leadership Training Conference and thereafter. I will represent my troop with honor and do all I can to pass along my new knowledge and skills to my fellow Scouts. I certify that I am at least a First Class Scout competent in all scout skills required for attainment of the rank, 13 years of age by June 1, and a troop youth leader (Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or capable of filling those positions). I also understand I will be sent home if I violate standards appropriate to Scout behavior or if I am homesick and disrupt the ability of the staff to administer the course program.

Signed _____ (Scout's signature)

Applicants will attach the following documents:

- The confidential Scoutmaster evaluation
- The participant self-evaluation
- The participant permission form

Make all checks payable to: Theodore Roosevelt Council BSA.

Please send registration form and fees to: Bear Claw NYLT 2006 Theodore Roosevelt Council, 544 Broadway, Massapequa NY 11758 attn: Bear Claw Registration



Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training

Scoutmaster Approval

Signed _____

Troop _____ Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Approval of Parent or Guardian

I approve the attendance of my son named above at the Theodore Roosevelt Council National Youth Leadership Training course (Bear Claw NYLT) and will see that he has the necessary equipment and uniforms to meet the requirements for the course and we will attend the Orientation Meeting on May 17, 2009. I understand that if my son violates course norms or becomes homesick, his Scoutmaster will be contacted to have you pick up your son so that the staff will be able to attend to the delivery of the course to the remainder of the participants.

Signed _____

In case of emergency during the course, please notify:

Name _____

Home Phone _____ Business/Cell Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Alternate Phone _____

In the event that I cannot be reached please notify:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Home Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____