



# Bear Claw NYLT 2008



National Youth Leadership Training presented by the Boy Scouts of America, 4999 Northcutt Pl, Po Box 13057, Dayton OH 45414  
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Dear Scoutmaster/Committee Chairman:

October 15, 2007

The Bear Claw NYLT 2008 staff is looking forward to an exciting year, and we are hoping you will have one or more youth leaders attend this year's course.

This year, the Miami Valley Council is pleased to offer the **Bear Claw National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)** on June 8-13, 2008 at Cricket Holler Scout Camp. An orientation for the parents and the scouts attending the course will be held on Saturday May 3, 2008 at Cricket Holler K-lodge, at 10:00 a.m. All scouts attending this year's course and their parents are to attend this orientation. Scoutmasters are also welcome to attend to learn what is new for this year.

**Basic Eligibility Requirements:** Each youth leader must be at least First Class, **13 years of age by January 1, 2008** or older to be eligible, and currently filling a leadership position in the troop or likely to assume a leadership position soon. **No exceptions can be made to age and rank requirements.** (Experience has proven that scouts under the age of 13 do not have the maturity to get the full potential from the course, and that 14-17 year old scouts are the ideal age group). Scouts must have a *working knowledge of camping, hiking and open fire cooking skills*. Now is the time to select your Youth Leaders to attend Bear Claw NYLT 2008. If you delay, you risk the course filling up, and your scouts missing the chance to attend.

Bear Claw strives to improve the leadership skills of the youth attending the course. We will teach your youth leaders how to be a leader by introducing him to the skills that are essential for any leadership role. Over the course of their daily chores and activities, the scouts will practice the skills on each other by exchanging roles and sharing responsibilities.

The Scout(s) you choose to send to the course should have the personal desire and the maturity needed to attend. To attend merely to meet the desires of family or troop sets up the possibility of failure right from the start. Please discuss the Bear Claw program, purpose, and course dates with your scout(s) and his (their) family, in order to determine if he is interested, and is able to attend BEFORE submitting his name.

Your expectations and standards of behavior should be discussed as well. All scouts will be expected to live by the Scout Oath and Law. Any scout who can't follow these rules will upset the training for themselves and others, and this cannot be tolerated. Failure to follow the rules will be grounds for immediate expulsion from the course – these scouts *WILL be sent home!* There will be zero tolerance.

Unit Leaders, we would like to invite you to visit our web site at <http://www.mvcbasa.com/training/bearclaw.htm> and read more details on the new National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) course, it is a very exciting course. We feel that this training will be a great asset to your troop and its youth leadership.

**Registration --- Please read carefully. We have had many inquiries about sending Youth Leaders to the course, so we have provided some responses to some of the more common ones. If you have questions, please contact me.**

- **How many Youth Leaders will be accepted in 2008?** – Again this year we plan to have two troops, each troop will have six patrols with six youth in a patrol. The new course is setup with six patrol members rather than the eight in the old course. With six in a patrol, it gives the youth leaders a chance to be both a Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader for the patrol during the week. We will be limited to 36 participants per troop, with a total of 72 youth attending Bear Claw NYLT 2008. The course capacity will be determined by available youth staff to run the program, so the number accepted could be less than 72. We hope that is not the case. We suggest that you select the youth leaders and send in their applications ASAP.

- **Can we nominate more than one Youth Leader?** – Yes! You may nominate as many youth leaders as your unit requires. We want to make sure all troops in our council have the well trained youth leaders. Please note that other Councils do send youth to this training too, so please nominate early.
- **How do we nominate Youth Leader(s)?** – To nominate one or more youth leaders, **have all** the youth leaders complete the Participant Application, the Scoutmaster **fills out all** Scoutmaster Evaluations. **Send in all the Application(s) and Scoutmasters Evaluation(s) for all youth leaders you want to attend.** Please send the course fee (\$195.00) or a \$50.00 deposit with each package. We will not hold a space for a youth leader without the paperwork.
- **Where do I send the registration packets so a scout may be accepted?** - The registration packet should be mailed to: Bear Claw NYLT, c/o Richard Weyrauch, 1107 Claybourne Dr, Kettering, OH 45429. The registration packet includes – Participant Application, Scoutmaster’s Evaluation, and the deposit \$50.00 or fee paid in full. A copy of the participant’s current medical form also needs to be submitted by the Participant Orientation on May 3, 2008. Along with the medical form, if there are any special dietary requirements, please send that information along as well (in particular, food allergies or restrictions – ‘Don’t like carrots’ is not a dietary restriction). Units should make copies of all paperwork turned in for their records.
- **When will Youth Leader know if they have been accepted?** -- All scouts that have been nominated and accepted to attend Bear Claw NYLT 2008 will be notified after March 17, 2008. Scoutmasters will also be notified by email as to who has been accepted. This will give everyone enough time to plan on attending the Troop Orientation on May 3, 2008 and get ready for the course. Acceptance letters will continue to be mailed as registration packets are received after March 17, 2008.
- **When does registration begin and end?** -- Registration begins January 2, 2008 and ends June 4, 2008. Remember that the earlier you submit your nominations, the greater chance your youth leader will be accepted in the course and will receive notification in time to attend the May 3, 2008, participant orientation meeting.
- **Cost:** The total fee is \$195.00 with complete Registration packet turned in and total fees paid in full by May 3, 2008. After May 3, 2008 the course fee is \$220.00 for any late registration or if the complete Registration packet and/or fees (paid in full) are not received by May 3, 2008.
- **What if a Scout can’t attend:**
  - The Course Director must be notified by phone and in writing.
  - The written request must come from the Scoutmaster stating the reason for the cancellation and a refund request must be sent to Donald Schutrum, 2875 Prentice Dr, Kettering OH 45420. Request must be received before May 3, 2008. **All fees are nonrefundable after May 3, 2008.** Scouts who were not cancelled in writing and/or did not attend or are sent home do not qualify for a refund.

If you have questions, don’t hesitate to call me (937) 643-1992, or E-mail [BearClawNYLT@sbcglobal.net](mailto: BearClawNYLT@sbcglobal.net)

Yours in Scouting,

Don Schutrum  
Course Director Bear Claw NYLT