

**Appendix 112 to**  
***THE HISTORY OF SCOUTING IN SOUTH GEORGIA***  
***2012 Merger of Chehaw Council***  
*(Appendix Updated on: April 9, 2013)*

***Joint Brochure from Both Councils***

**Better.... Stronger.... for All**

We rely on dedicated volunteers, like you, to promote the mission of preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

As we have entered our second hundred years of the Boy Scouts of America, we are committed to delivering the highest quality program possible to the youth of our communities. New and innovative program offerings must be constantly sought if the Scouting program is to continue to appeal to more youth and families. We need to constantly examine how we deliver programs to our Scouts and provide support to our volunteers.

Strong, successful councils across the country have a blend of urban, suburban and rural membership. They have the resources of a common media and business market. This blend enhances the quality of program offerings, greatly improves fundraising opportunities and creates efficiencies in administration.

A consolidated council serving the youth of these 29 counties in south west and south central Georgia will enhance the Scouting experience today and opportunities for tomorrow.



**Scout Oath**

On my Honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

**Scout Law**

A Scout is....

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly,  
Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,  
Brave, Clean and Reverent.



**Prepared. For Life.™**

**Better....**  
**Stronger....** for  
**All**

The Alapaha Area Council and the Chehaw Council Executive Committees have approved resolutions to recommend to the Council body a consolidation of the existing Councils into one, new unified Council.

The respective Chartered Organization Representatives and Council members-at-large have been notified of the Board's decision and asked to attend a Council-wide meeting on October 9 for Chehaw Council and October 11 for Alapaha Area Council to approve this decision.

The decision to recommend consolidation was carefully evaluated by committees from both Councils. The unified objective was to provide opportunities to deliver the highest quality Scouting program that provides:

- Enhanced Program Opportunities for All Youth
- Expanded Resources and Support for Adult Volunteers
- Financial Sustainability

The consolidation committee reviewed four areas: Program, Finance, Administration, and Properties. Here is a brief summary of each area and the benefits that address the objectives of consolidating the two councils.

## Finance

While the focus of any council should be on serving the youth of the community, financial strength is essential for carrying out quality programs. A consolidated council will have greater fundraising strength. Consolidating the councils will lead to greater efficiencies. We will see immediate efficiencies in Fall Popcorn sales with economies of scale with ordering, processing and pickup/delivery.

## Administration and Personnel

The Consolidated Council Executive Committee and Executive Board will include a balanced representation of both existing councils.

The new Council will be restructured to create four new districts. Each district will be served by its own unit serving executive, based in that district. Other professional positions will include Scout Executive, Field Director and Development Director. Support staff positions will be based on the workload of the new Council.

All Pack, Troop, Crew and Explorer Post numbers will remain the same.

There will be a new council name, and new names for the four new districts.

## What our new Council will look like



## Program

The consolidated council will serve 29 counties in south Georgia. There are complimentary program strengths in many phases of Scouting.

Both lodges of the Order of the Arrow will continue to operate independently and they will determine and be provided the opportunity to form a single lodge at a future time.

We see the benefits of consolidation as:

- Generates a new level of enthusiasm among Scouts and Scouters as they take advantage of new and increased in-council opportunities.
- Larger attendance at Council events.
- Fuller spectrum of training and opportunities for youth and adult.
- Increased number of volunteers to carry out activities and events.

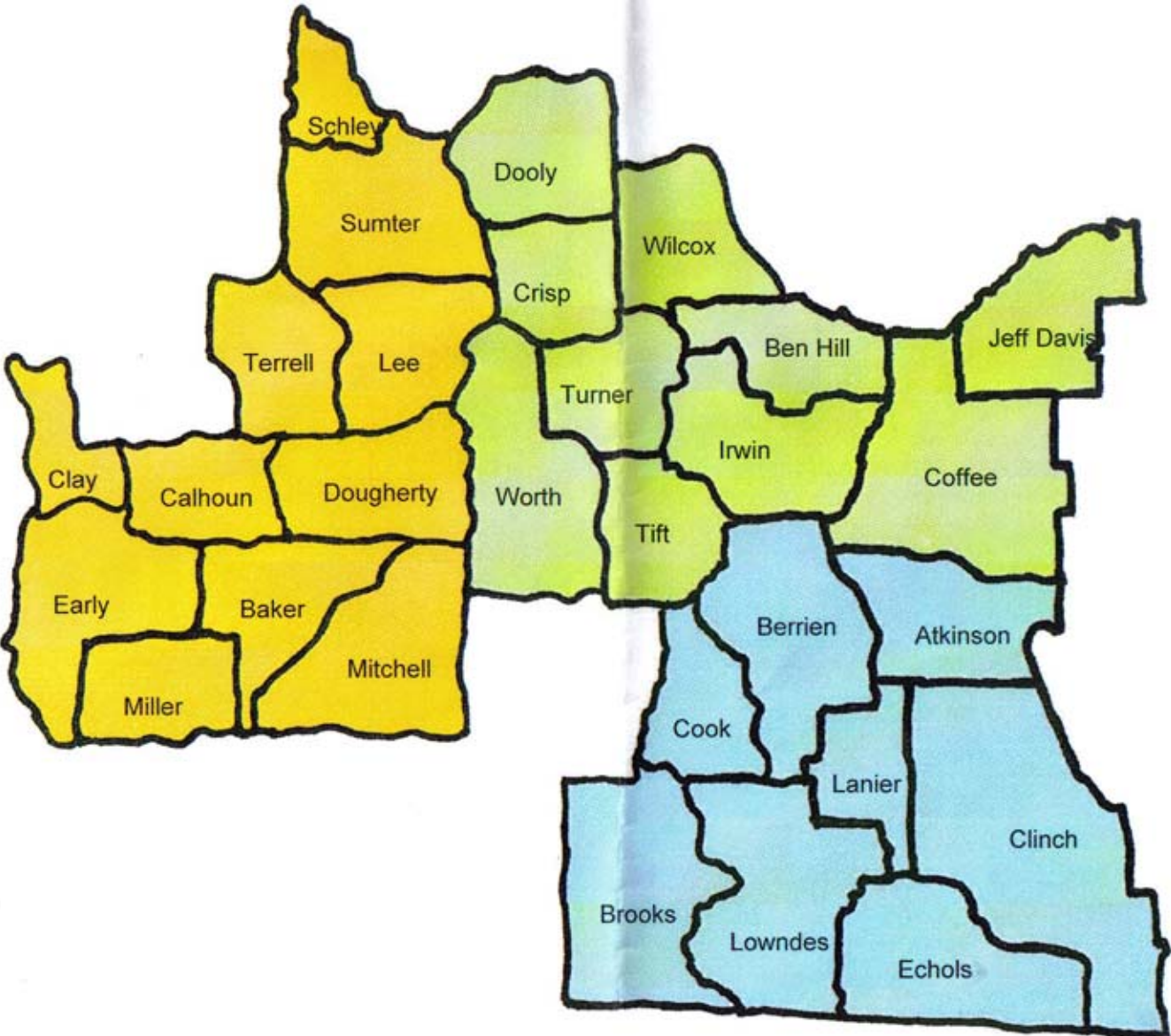
## Properties

The consolidated council will continue to operate all current camps: Camp Osborn in Sylvester, and Camp Patten in Lakeland. The new council will work to continue to provide new and varied programs that can leverage the beauty, layout, resources and potential of both camp locations.

The Lem Griffin Service Center, located at 1100 N Madison St., Albany and the Jennett Service Center located at 1841 Norman Drive, Valdosta will continue to operate. The new council will review options to improve the service offerings to the 29 counties served.

**Better, Stronger, for All**

*A Three District Plan Issued After the Brochure*







Home [Home](#) [Calendar](#) [Join Scouting](#) [Youth](#) [Parent](#) [Volunteer](#) [Training](#) [MyScouting](#)

Chehaw Council [Districts](#) [Outdoor Adventures](#) [Order of the Arrow](#) [Funding](#) [Media](#) [ScoutCast](#)

- CHEHAW COUNCIL**
- [Good Turn for America](#)
- [History of the Chehaw Council](#)
- [Internet Advancement](#)
- [Internet Recharter](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Scout Service Center Staff & Key Volunteers](#)
- [Training Council](#)
- [Local or District](#)
- [National](#)
- [Words from the Scout Executive](#)

Home > Chehaw Council

**JOIN**

### **Important News to Volunteers**

**Youth Protection Training is now required for ALL registered volunteers. New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training within 30 days of submitting their application for registration. Contact your unit leaders or the Council office for more information.**

### **CALLED BUSINESS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL CALLED MEETING OF CHARTERED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

**As required by the existing bylaws of the Chehaw Council, Chartered Organization Representatives and Members of the Executive Board are hereby notified that:**

**On October 9, 2012 a special meeting of the council's Members at Large has been called with the express purpose of voting on the Plan of Merger of the Chehaw Council and the Alapaha Area Council. The voting members of the Council include Chartered Organization Representatives, Council Members at Large or members of the Executive Board. The meeting will be held in the Dining Hall at Camp Osborn at 6:30 p.m. We will be gathering at 6:00 pm for registration prior to the vote.**

**Members must be present to vote; no proxy or absentee voting is permitted under the council's bylaws.**

**For a brochure on the Plan of Merger, please click [here](#).**

### **Council Fireside Chats Scheduled to discussed proposed Consolidation**

**Three special meetings will be held for all interested scout volunteers to address and discuss the consolidation of the Chehaw Council and the Alapaha Area Council, BSA. After many meetings, the volunteer Executive Committees of both councils have unanimously approved the formation of a new Scout Council serving Southern Georgia.**

**We are sure that there are questions and the council wants to make sure that every question is answered. Please join us**

#### **Find Scouting Near You!**

Enter your zip code for contact information.

**FIND SCOUTING IN MY AREA**

#### **QUICKLINKS**

- [Scouting Safely](#)
- [Youth Protection Training](#)
- [Guide to Safe Scouting Forms](#)
- [Insignia Guide](#)
- [Philmont Training Center](#)
- [World Jamboree \(2011\)](#)

if your schedule allows. Representatives from both councils will be on hand to discuss the agreed upon plan of merger.

The meetings will be held on September 15th beginning at noon at Camp Osborn. September 27th, at the Leslie Men's Club beginning at 6:30 PM. The club is located at 152 North Bailey Ave in Leslie. The final Fireside chat will be held on October 1st at the Institutional First Baptist Church, located at 1012 8th Avenue and Slappy in Albany beginning at 7:00 PM.

---

**Chehaw Council Popcorn Kickoff**

**Chehaw Council Camp Card Leader's Guide**

**Membership Incentive Program**

**Chuck E. Cheese's Giveback Night**

---

### **Upcoming Events**

click links below for more information on these events

**Cub Scout Roundtable**

**OA Fall Ordeal**

**Merit Badge University**

**Akela Cub Weekend**

**Albany Fright Nights**

**Venturing Wilderness Survival Weekend**

**IOLS, OWLS, BALOO**

**Camporee/Webeloree**

# Boy Scouts vote to form single council

■ In separate landslide sessions, Chehaw and Alapaha Area Boy Scout councils agree on consolidation.

**JIM WEST**

jwest@albanyherald.com

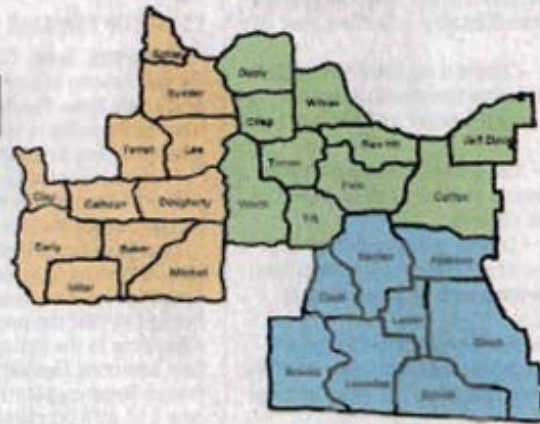
**ALBANY** — Matt Hart is Scout Executive and CEO of the 12-county Alapaha Area Boy Scout Council, based in Valdosta. In less than a month his responsibilities will more than double to 29 counties, as Alapaha and the Albany-based

Chehaw Council merge to form a single unit.

Following a series of informative "fireside chats" held in various locations within both councils, voting members approved the merger 49-1 this week. While cautiously confident of its passing, Hart said, "with Alapaha about the same. These people have made

"The Chehaw group was in and out in 18 minutes," Hart said, "with Alapaha about the same. These people have made

Please see **Scouts**, 4A



Special photo

Effective November 1, Chehaw and Alapaha Area Boy Scout Councils will merge to a single council of 29 counties.

## Scouts

Continued from 1A

a statement they want scouting to thrive through the next century. Now the work begins."

According to Hart, the two councils will officially merge November 1 and will temporarily be known as the South Georgia Council. Volunteers and scouts will have the opportunity to submit ideas for a new name, as well as design concepts for the new uniform shoulder patch.

Hart said the Executive Committee of the Alapaha Area Council had recognized the need for addressing available resources, and decreases in traditional funding. Ultimately, Alapaha approached the Chehaw Council Study Committee with a proposal

to consolidate the two councils. Chehaw had recognized its own financial issues and was operating under a provisional charter by the Boy Scouts of America. With the merger, Hart said he foresees more opportunities for program options and expanded training opportunities for adult leaders.

"Business and individual donors can now be assured that their charitable dollars will be maximized in program and training enhancements and not spent on unnecessary overhead in duplication of services," Hart said. "A contribution to this new council will have a greater impact on Scouting for youth than ever before."

The new South Georgia Council will serve approximately 5,000 youth annually in 120 units across the 29-county territory, Hart said.

(The Albany Herald. October 13, 2012. Used with permission.)



# Americus Times-Recorder, Americus, Georgia

*October 23, 2012*

## South Georgia Boy Scout Councils approve merger plan

### The Americus Times-Recorder

Valdosta — In an effort to better serve youth, the Boy Scouts of America across South Georgia will undergo some major changes. A new business model, designed to better serve the youth of South Georgia, has been adopted that will offer great opportunities and resources to the volunteers and Scouts of the area. In a combined vote of 49-1 the voting members of both councils approved a plan of merger which creates a single Boy Scout Council.

Since May, a study committee comprised of members of the Executive Board of the Chehaw Council, headquartered in Albany, have had several meetings to investigate the viability of the Chehaw Council, BSA as an independent scout council. The conclusion that “business as usual” was not in the best interest of the youth of the 17 counties served by the Chehaw Council (Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Schley, Sumter, Terrell, Tift, Turner, Wilcox and Worth).

Coinciding with this timeline, the Executive Committee of the Alapaha Area Council, headquartered in Valdosta, recognized the need to also look at a better way of doing business, based on available resources; decreases in traditional funding, to include United Way support; and the fact that in the business world, smaller is not always better. Volunteers on the Alapaha Area Council Executive Committee reached out to the Chehaw Study Committee with a proposal to merge these two territories into one new council, providing the chance to better serve more youth, increase the number of volunteers and decrease operation overhead caused by duplication of services for the two areas. The Alapaha Area Council’s service area encompasses 12 counties (Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier and Lowndes).

Seven “Fireside Chats” were held in numerous locations in both council territories to provide the volunteers delivering the Scouting program with information related to the discussions and answer any questions they had regarding the potential merger. The response from the volunteers at all meetings was very positive and they anticipated greater opportunities for their Scouts as a new council.

Questions arose from Board members of both councils, as well as unit level volunteers, related to the future of both councils’ camp properties. Scout camps are where the promise of outdoor adventure happens for Scouts, and both properties are near and dear to the hearts of volunteers in their respective areas. All parties were assured that there are no plans to sell, or otherwise dispose of either property. In fact, having two different locations for the combined new council to hold weekend camping activities for units as well as district or council events will only enhance that promise of outdoor adventure for all.

So what’s next? Effective Nov. 1, the new council territory will be temporarily called the South Georgia

Council. Volunteers and Scouts will have an opportunity to submit ideas for the name of the new council, as well as the new council shoulder patch that all Scouts and volunteers will wear on their uniforms. Also beginning Nov. 1, the process of merging internal records related to membership, advancement and accounting will begin.

Scouts and their adult leaders meeting weekly in Scout units all across the territory will see no change to what they do each week. What they will see, however, is more opportunities for program options, expanded training opportunities for adult leaders, and a greater chance to enhance those Scouting memories that last a lifetime.

Business and individual donors to their local Scout councils can be assured now that their charitable dollars will be maximized in those program and training enhancements for the Scouts and volunteers and not spent on unnecessary overhead in duplication of services, etc. A contribution to Scouting in the new council will definitely have a greater impact on Scouting for youth than ever before.

Matt Hart, current Scout executive and CEO for the Alapaha Area Council, will serve as Scout executive for the South Georgia Council.

Scouting, now in its 103rd year, has seen many changes, but the principles of duty to God, duty to country, and duty to other people taught in the Scouting program are timeless and maintain their importance today. Some say that these principles are more important now than ever before.

The new South Georgia Council will serve approximately 5,000 youth annually in 120 units across the 29-county territory.



Alapaha Area Council – Chehaw  
Council

NEW COUNCIL NAME BALLOT

Circle or underline your choice.

- Plantation Trace Council
- Water Oaks Council
- Kolomoki Council
- Jefferson Davis Council
- Sowega Council
- Wiregrass Council
- Peach State Council
- Tomahawk Council
- Georgia Trails Council
- Whispering Pines Council
- Tall Pines Council
- Pine Forge Council
- Seminole Council
- Sweetwater Council
- Southern Rivers Council
- Blackwater Rivers Council
- Coastal Plain Council
- Cypress Pond Council
- Ocmulgee Council
- Eagle's Nest Council
- Achewon Council
- Southern Heritage Council
- Southern Georgia Braves Council
- South Georgia Area Council
- Long Leaf Pine Council
- Pine Trails Council
- Little River Council
- Great Southern Council
- Alache Council
- Slash Pine Council
- South Georgia Council
- Greater South Georgia Council

---

Another name?

New Council name ballot.