



**TO:** All Northeast Georgia Council Crew and Post Leaders

**FROM:** Scott Sorrels, 2007 Winterfest Chairman

**RE:** 2007 Winterfest

**DATE:** September 1, 2006

Winterfest 2007 is set for January 26-28, 2007, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. It will be an exciting weekend of fun and competitions that your youth won't want to miss! Last year more than 2,000 participants arrived from all over the Southeast, some as far away as Houston, Texas! We expect even more to attend this year; Winterfest will again be the largest, highest quality event for Venturers and Explorers in the United States.

Now is the time to begin promoting Winterfest to your youth and parents. You will find everything you need to register in this packet; a separate "Competitive Events" packet will be distributed a little later this fall. All materials will be posted to the Northeast Georgia Council's websites:

[www.nega-bsa.org](http://www.nega-bsa.org)  
[www.nega-lfl.org](http://www.nega-lfl.org)

Please feel free to contact Michele Rasmussen if you need any additional information.

Michele Rasmussen  
770-962-2105 x224  
770-873-1121 (cell)  
[mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org](mailto:mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org)  
770-962-8004 (fax)  
203 Swanson Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30043



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## What is Winterfest?

WINTERFEST is an exciting competitive events activity for all Posts and Crews. The 2007 weekend is set for January 26th - January 28th in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, located in the heart of the Smoky Mountains. More than 2,000 participants are expected for the 2007 WINTERFEST!

There will be a variety of activities and events for participants to enjoy. Competitive events usually include the following: Talent Show, Volleyball, Fire Fighting, Climbing Wall, Law Enforcement, Mock Trial, Engineering Design, First Aid, Advanced Medical, Shooting Range, and much, much more. In addition, there are two dances - one Friday night and one Saturday night. A detailed competitive event information packet will be available to all Crew and Post Advisors by mid-October.

There are also plenty of non-competitive activities available to your Posts and Crews, including snow skiing (weather permitting), shopping, museums, movies, and many local restaurants and eateries. Winterfest is sure to be the highlight of the year for your Post or Crew. Participation in Winterfest will help your unit attain the Quality Unit or National Explorer Post of Excellence award.

## Changes for 2007

### 2007 Registration Fees

	Rec'd by NEGA before 1/12/07	Rec'd by NEGA after 1/12/07
Venturers & Explorers (all 14-20)	\$35	\$45
Adults (21+)	\$10	\$15
Visitors (5-14)	\$10	\$15

1. For 2007, the registration for youth participants (all Explorers and Venturers) will be \$35 if payment is received by the Northeast Georgia Council by January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This registration fee increases to \$45 after 1/12/07.
2. The registration fee for Advisors, Visitors and all others will be \$10 if payment is received by the Northeast Georgia Council by January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This registration fee increases to \$15 after 1/12/07.
3. All persons of Venturing/Exploring age (14 – through 20) must pay the Participant registration fee.
4. At check-in all participants, advisors, and visitors (5 years or older) will



receive a wristband that must be worn at all times during Winterfest (including the Awards Presentation).

## **Events and Activities**

The highlight of WINTERFEST is the many competitive events. Youth may take part in any of the events. Event details are now being finalized. Additional events are being reviewed, including even more high adventure activities designed to appeal to the high adventure Crews. A “competitive-event” packet will be available to all Post and Crew Advisors in mid October. It will be mailed to all Posts and Crews in the Northeast Georgia Council and available on the council websites ([www.nega-bsa.org](http://www.nega-bsa.org) and [www.nega-lfl.org](http://www.nega-lfl.org)).

Last year’s events included: fire fighting, law enforcement, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, Advanced Medical, climbing tower, shooting range, volleyball, water basketball, engineering design, mock trail, bouldering wall, flying squirrel, high climb, and more.

You are required to pre-register for some of the competitive events. Registration forms for these events will be in the “Competitive Event” Packet. For many events, you can simply sign-up at the Program Orientation on Friday night.

While some events may benefit from a little preparation or practice, other events are designed to ensure that everyone will have plenty of activities to choose from for their Saturday program. Events that require “pre registering” will be handled on a first-come, first serve basis (based on when event registration form is received by the Northeast Georgia Council).

Most of the events will be in the Gatlinburg Convention Center, but a few of the event sites may be too far away to walk from the hotel area. Therefore, you may need transportation to and from your hotel to these sites.

If your unit would like to host an event contact Michele Rasmussen at 770-962-2105 or e-mail Michele at [mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org](mailto:mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org), as soon as possible.

## **Transportation & Meals**

Each Post or Crew must make arrangements for their transportation to and from WINTERFEST. Crews should follow the rules in the Guide to Safe Scouting. Posts should follow the rules in the Guide to Safe Learning for Life Activities (this information can be accessed at: [www.learning-for-life.org](http://www.learning-for-life.org), click on Exploring and you can download the Safety 1<sup>st</sup> information for tour instructions).

Also, be sure to file the appropriate Tour Permit (different for Crews and Posts) with your Council Office. Please allow two weeks for processing.



Where to find the Tour Permit form:

- Venturing Crews –
  - Go to [www.nega-bsa.org](http://www.nega-bsa.org)
  - Click on “Forms & Flyers”
  - Click on “National BSA Forms”
  - Click on “Local Tour Permit Application”
- Exploring Posts –
  - Go to [www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org)
  - Click on the “Exploring” logo
  - Click on “Site Map”
  - Click on “Exploring Resources”
  - Click on “Safety First Guide to Safe Learning for Life Activities”
  - Click on “Local Learning for Life Outing Permit Application”

Remember, some of the competitive events may be several miles away from your hotel. You may need transportation to get to and from the events.

Each Post or Crew must make arrangements for their own meals. The conference fee does not include any meals/lodging.

## **Hotel Reservations**

It is your Units responsibility to make your hotel reservations directly with your desired hotel. With more than 2,300 participants expected, rooms will be reserved quickly – reserve yours now!

Although you may stay at any place you like, we have made special arrangements with three centrally located hotels. When you call for these arrangements, state you are with the Winterfest/Northeast Georgia Council in order to receive these special room rates.

### **DAYS INN**

**Glenstone Lodge**

**(\$83 per room per night)**

**Phone: (800) 362-9522**

### **HOLIDAY INN**

**SunSpree Resort**

**(\$83.99 per room per night)**

**Phone: (865) 436-9201**

### **MOUNTAIN LODGE**

**Sidney James**

**(\$66 per room per night)**

**Phone: (865) 436-7851**

Most hotels will require you to give them a rooming list 30-45 days prior to Winterfest.



A sample rooming list follows this page.

Please provide Winterfest Staff with a copy of your rooming list on arrival at the conference site so we may reach you in the event of an emergency.

## **Tennessee Tax Exempt Certificate**

*Avoid Tennessee State Sales Tax by following these steps.*

### **STEPS**

1. Go to this website: [tennessee.gov/revenue](http://tennessee.gov/revenue)
2. At their home page click on “sales and use tax” (look under “Tennessee Tax” heading in the left-hand column)
3. At the next screen click on “Application for non-profit exemption (PDF)”
4. Print out the one page application and one page instruction sheet
5. Fill out the application and mail it to the address listed on the instruction sheet
6. Allow six weeks for processing

Any questions call the Tennessee Revenue Office at 615-253-0600.



**WINTERFEST ROOMING LIST**

**(Please submit this form to your hotel 30 days prior to Winterfest!)**

\*\*\*submit a copy of this form to the NEGA Council Winterfest site at Registration\*\*\*

Room #	Last Name	First Name	Youth/Adult	Male/Female
1	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
2	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
3	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
4	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
5	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



## **Winterfest T-Shirts**

Winterfest T-Shirts continue to be a big hit with the Venturers and Explorers. Most of last year's supply of shirts were pre-ordered, with the few remaining sold out by 4:00 on Friday.

To ensure your participants get T-shirts, you are encouraged to pre-order shirts. You pre-order with your Winterfest Registration Form, or using the separate T-Shirt Order Form (following this page).



### Winterfest T-Shirts

Again this year, we will offer Winterfest t-shirts to participants. This year's shirt will be navy blue and Long-Sleeved.

Shirts are available via pre-order. A limited number of shirts may be available on-site at Winterfest. To ensure that you get shirts, we encourage you to place your pre-order by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Shirts ordered through pre-order are available for \$17/\$19, while they will cost \$22/\$24 if purchased at Winterfest. If you pre-order your shirts, you can pick them up when you check-in at the Winterfest Table on Friday night. Last year the shirts sold out Friday night, so order early!



Number of Shirts Ordered:					
Medium		x	\$17	=	\$
Large		x	\$17	=	\$
X-Large		x	\$17	=	\$
XX-Large		x	\$17	=	\$
XXX-Large		x	\$19	=	\$
<b>Total Shirts:</b>			<b>Total Enclosed:</b>		<b>\$</b>

Check: *Please print legibly!*

Check Enclosed (Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_)

Please charge my

Visa                      Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard              Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Discover                      Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Ordered by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Post/Crew: \_\_\_\_\_

Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Amy Garrett/Winterfest  
 Northeast Georgia Council, BSA, PO Box 399, Jefferson, GA 30549  
 Fax: 706-693-4849/Telephone: 706-693-2446



## Conference Registration

Everyone who attends Winterfest must register with the Northeast Georgia Council. Registrants will be given a wristband that must be worn at all times (Friday through Sunday). Entrance to all events is granted with a wristband.

To save money, plan to submit your registration fees by January 12, 2007. The registration fees go up after that date.

You may pay your registration fees in one of three ways:

- ✓ Cash:
  - by taking your registration fees directly to one of the Northeast Georgia Council Service Centers
- ✓ Check:
  - by taking your registration fees directly to one of the Northeast Georgia Council Service Centers
  - by mailing your registration fees with the Winterfest Registration Form to one of the Northeast Georgia Council Service Centers
- ✓ Credit Card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover):
  - by taking your registration fees directly to one of the Northeast Georgia Council Service Centers
  - by mailing your registration fees with the Winterfest Registration Form to one of the Northeast Georgia Council Service Centers
  - by calling Amy Garrett and completing the transaction over the phone (706-693-2446 x123)

The Winterfest Registration Form follows this page.



# Unit Winterfest Registration Form

Council Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Num: \_\_\_\_\_ <or> Crew Num: \_\_\_\_\_

Charter Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Special Interest: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(EMS, High Adventure, law enforcement, etc)*

Group Leader Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Fees:**

\_\_\_\_\_ youth x \$35 (if received by 1/12/07) = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ youth x \$45 (if received after 1/12/07) = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ adults x \$10 (if received by 1/12/07) = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ adults x \$15 (if received after 1/12/07) = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Participant Fees:** \_\_\_\_\_

*T-Shirt Orders (may also be ordered separately. To ensure delivery at Winterfest, T-Shirt orders must be ordered by Friday, December 15, 2006. Shirt orders received after 12/15/06 may be mailed to you after Winterfest):*

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's Medium x \$17 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's Large x \$17 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's X-Large x \$17 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's XX-Large x \$19 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's XXX-Large x \$19 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Shirts Ordered **Total Shirt Fees:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Fees Remitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by: \_\_\_\_\_ Check (Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card (indicate type): \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ Discover

Credit Card Info: Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (with credit card payment information) to:

Amy Garrett / Northeast Georgia Council, BSA / 706-693-4849

Otherwise, mail to:

Attn: Winterfest Registration / Northeast Georgia Council, BSA

P. O. Box 399 / Jefferson, GA 30549



## Emergency Contact Information

*(Please turn this in upon Winterfest Check-in)*

Unit Leader #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post/Crew #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Unit Leader #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post/Crew #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Unit Leader #3: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post/Crew #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Council: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hotel Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



## Tentative Schedule

### Exploring/Venturing "WINTERFEST" Conference and Ski Weekend January 26<sup>th</sup>-January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Gatlinburg, Tennessee Draft Agenda

#### Friday

2:00 - 10:00 PM	Participants arrive, check in their hotel, and get their conference material.
3:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Skiing (for those selecting Friday ski package)
8:30 PM – Midnight	DANCE – (Convention Center)
9:00 PM	Opening Program - encourage all post/crew officers and advisors to be present – (Convention Center)
9:30 PM	Advisor's briefing in Convention Center.
10:00 PM	Program Orientation Session (one Explorer/Venturer and Advisor for each Post/Crew participating in events)
10:00 PM	Talent Show Qualifying Round
1:00 AM	Everyone in own room - curfew

#### Saturday

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Late registration (Convention Center)
9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon	Competition and Events begin - Schedule and location in check-in package and posted on bulletin board at the Convention Center.
1:00 PM - Until	Competition and Events continue, also sightseeing, shopping, skiing, etc.
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Skiing (for those selecting Saturday package)
8:00 PM	Venturing Roundtable
8:15 PM - Midnight	V.I.P. Reception at Convention Center (for adult leaders & staff)
8:30 PM - Midnight	DANCE (Convention Center)
9:00 PM	Awards Presentation for competitive events, Talent Show, and closing ceremony (Convention Center)
1:00 AM	Everyone in own room-Curfew

#### Sunday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Skiing (for those selecting Sunday Package)
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**Checkout time is before 11 a.m. Advisors and contingent leaders are responsible for checking conditions of each room before check-out. Individuals will be responsible for the cost of any damage to the room or furniture. Thanks for your participation and have a safe trip home.**



# Release Form

## PARENT / GUARDIAN RELEASE FORM

For Explorers/Venturers, under 21 years of age, participating in the Winterfest.

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in Winterfest 2007

(Print youth's Name)

on January 26th - January 28th, 2007.

I know of no health or fitness restriction(s) that preclude participation. In the event of illness or injury occurring to my son or daughter while involved in this activity, I consent to X-ray examination, anesthesia, medical, or surgical diagnostic procedures or treatment that is considered necessary in the best judgment of the attending physician and performed by or under the supervision of a member of the medical staff of the hospital furnishing medical services. (It is understood that in the event of serious illness or injury, reasonable efforts to reach me will be attempted.)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name here: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers where I can be reached during the time of this activity:

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*A copy of this signed form must be in the possession of the Unit Leader at all times while at Winterfest.**



## Code of Conduct

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of its individual members. This Code of Conduct is designed to ensure the success of the conference and provide maximum enjoyment and safety of all participants.

1. The group leader (adult advisor) shall, with the full cooperation of the Posts or Crews, be responsible for maintaining discipline, security, and the standards outlined in this Code of Conduct.
2. All participants are expected to set a good example by being properly dressed and presentable at all times, based on the discretion of his/her Crew/Post leader.
3. All Posts / Crews are expected to participate in ALL scheduled sessions and activities.
4. In consideration of others, all Posts / Crews are expected to be in their own rooms and quiet by 1:00 a.m. They are not to leave their rooms again before 6:00 a.m.
5. Each Post / Crew is personally responsible for breakage, damage, or loss of property. Posts / Crews will be charged for damage not covered by individual members. Loss of personal articles is not the responsibility of the hotel, conference staff, or the Boy Scouts of America, or their agents or representatives.
6. Each Post / Crew will allow no unregistered person to occupy his or her room, or visit in same (including local area residents.)
7. All participants will respect the rule prohibiting use of private automobiles during the conference, unless you have permission from an advisor or area adult leadership.
8. The Post / Crews understands that the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs at the conference will not be allowed. This standard shall apply to all participants--youth and adults.
9. Hotel Bills: Charge of phone calls from your room is not permitted. Use public phones in the hotel lobby. Extra meals and TV movies also may not be charged to your room.
10. Fireworks of any type are strictly prohibited.
11. The Winterfest youth chairs, in conjunction with the Winterfest Volunteer Chairman shall serve as a review panel with regards to any serious violation of the Code of Conduct. Conference staff reserves the right to send any youth home for violation of this Code of Conduct. Any decision of the review panel is final.
12. Everyone is expected to act appropriately at all times, including appropriate dance behavior during both dances.

I have read the above rules and agree to observe them fully.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Each Unit Leader needs to keep this sheet with him/her. Don't submit to Council Office.**



## **Ski Information**

Each Post/Crew desiring to ski must make its own ski package reservations. Ober Gatlinburg is offering several special ski packages for Conference participants.

Our key contact at Ober Gatlinburg is Kathy Doyle. Please direct all ski questions to her at 865-436-5423.

Upon arrival, groups skiing on Friday should drop by the Ober Gatlinburg Office to pick-up form and pay any remaining balance. Kathy will be set up in the Lobby of the Convention Center on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. to coordinate with any groups skiing on Saturday or Sunday.

Ober Gatlinburg is also offering complimentary ski packages for Adult Chaperones.



## Important Reminders

1. Two-deep adult leadership is required. You should have a female advisor if you have any females in your group. Adult leadership is responsible for the conduct of their youth during the conference, including complying with the designated curfews.
2. Transportation, meals, hotels, and the ski package are “on your own”.
3. Your conference fee includes all competitive events, dances, and the awards.
4. There is no conference security force, though many of the hotels have law enforcement /security personnel on-site during the night.
5. The conference is staffed with trained medical personnel to assist your unit as needed. If you need medical assistance, please ask for assistance from any Conference Staff member with a walkie-talkie and help will be summoned. If you need immediate assistance, dial 911. If you need assistance during a ski session at Ober Gatlinburg, please contact the Ski Patrol.
6. Please be sure all your youth review and sign the “Code of Conduct” form. Discipline is the responsibility of the Group Leaders and Council volunteers and staff advisors. Serious discipline breaches are subject to review by the Conference Review Panel, and in appropriate cases, the youth involved may be asked to leave the conference.
7. The room phones and pay televisions will be turned off and can only be connected upon the Group Leader’s Authorization.
8. Room charges, meals, damages, etc. are the responsibility of the Participants.
9. You need to get a Tennessee Tax-Exempt Status Certificate to avoid Sales Tax.
10. Winterfest will be held rain, snow, or shine. Given the large amount of fixed costs, the conference fee is non-refundable. Neither the conference staff nor the Northeast Georgia Council is responsible for skiing activities, scheduling, refunds, or other aspects of the skiing program offered by Ober Gatlinburg.
11. Due to past issues, the judging panel for the Talent Show competition will be asked to work with all involved youth and adults to ensure that each act is conducted with appropriate taste.
12. Contingent leaders for each group are responsible for checking in their unit’s hotel check-in.
13. Please make sure that the Conference Staff knows the location of the hotel you are using for each unit. In the event of emergency, it is necessary to be able to track down your unit. Each group will be asked to fill out an emergency contact card. These cards will be in your conference check-in packet.



## NEGA Winterfest Contact Information

### Winterfest Chairman

Scott Sorrels  
[ssorrels@pogolaw.com](mailto:ssorrels@pogolaw.com)

### Vice Chairman, Registration & Administration

Chuck Hecht  
[checht3@aol.com](mailto:checht3@aol.com)

### Venturing Events

Tom Roberts  
[tlorberts@mindspring.com](mailto:tlorberts@mindspring.com)  
770-313-0223

### Convention Center Logistics

Richard Prussing  
[rprussing@bellsouth.net](mailto:rprussing@bellsouth.net)

### Staff Advisors:

Michele Rasmussen  
Senior Exploring Executive  
[mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org](mailto:mrasmussen@nega-bsa.org)  
770-962-2105 x225  
770-962-8004 (fax)

Andy Price  
Director of Field Service  
[aprice@bsamail.org](mailto:aprice@bsamail.org)  
706-693-2446 x110  
706-693-4849 (fax)

### Northeast Georgia Council Winterfest Support Staff:

Amy Garrett  
[agarrett@nega-bsa.org](mailto:agarrett@nega-bsa.org)  
706-693-2446 x123  
706-693-4849 (fax)



