



Herbert C. Bonner Scout Reservation East Carolina Council, BSA

F A C T S H E E T

History Herbert C. Bonner Scout Reservation consists of approximately 680 acres located on the southern bank of the Pamlico River on Blounts Bay. This section of land has a variety of terrain, from hardwood forest oak, poplar and hickory to thick stands of loblolly pines. High bluffs above the water covered with mountain laurel and dogwood contrast low-lying cypress swamps.

The pre-colonial era saw the area inhabited by the Algonquin Indians. Dr. Patrick Maule, of Bath, established a farm on the property in the early 1700's. The history of the area continued to develop as the population in nearby Washington increased. Activity on or near camp property evolved during the America Revolution and the Civil War period.

In 1960, East Carolina Council began a search for camp property to add to the existing Camp Charles in Bailey, NC. Under the direction of O.B. Roberts, Scout Executive and Harry Billica, Council Commissioner the Evans family of Greenville purchased the property now known as Camp Bonner from Weyerhaeuser Corporation, and the Swindell family of Washington with a donation of property. After a very successful capital campaign, construction was begun in 1968. In early 1968 Congressman H.C. Bonner passed away and in his will left East Carolina Council 330 acres of his farm on the north side of the Pamlico River. In appreciation the total camp property was named in his honor. Herbert C. Bonner Scout Reservation opened its doors for the first time in the summer of 1969.

Program Camp Bonner offers a wide varied of outdoor adventures for the Scouts and Scouters of East Carolina Council. With a sweeping waterfront Blounts Bay is available for canoeing, rowing, motor boating, skiing, and sail boating. The Boddie Dining Hall is a state of the art facility. The recently refurbished Brody Pool complex and Shower Facility provides campers the opportunity for swimming (in season). Camp Bonner also has shooting ranges for rifle, shotgun and archery. Repelling tower and Project C.O.P.E. are also available. The resident summer camp program offers the total program from the first year camper to the seasoned veteran.

Recently introduced to Bonner Scout Reservation is the Pamlico Sea Base, the first dedicated Sea Base on the Mid-Atlantic Coast. The Sea Base gives older Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Venture Crew member's opportunities to participate in advanced outdoor programs and High Adventure activities, which are completely different from anything they may have experienced before. Sea Kayaking, sailing school and scuba certification are offered.

Weekend camping is available by contacting the council service center at 252-522-1521.

Bonner Scout Reservation is located off Highway 33 outside Chocowinity, NC. Take Highway 33 East towards Aurora. Go 1.6 miles and turn left. Follow camp signs for 10.2 miles. Camp entrance sign is on left.

Visit websites at
www.eccbsa.org
www.pamlicoseabase.org