



Volume 20
Patriot District

The Patriot Press

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press>

November 2017
National Capital Area Council



Issue 11
Boy Scouts of America

Fall Camporee 2017: A Great Weekend at Montpelier Plantation

The Patriot District held its Fall Camporee at Montpelier Plantation, home of the fourth President of the United States, James Madison, on October 13-15. The theme for the event was President Madison (1809-1817), the United States Constitution, and Montpelier. James Madison was an American statesman and Founding Father who is hailed as the “Father of the Constitution” for his pivotal role in drafting and promoting the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The camporee event, enjoyed by more than 300 Boy Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and adult Scouters, featured a wide range of activities, including historical/cultural/learning experiences, five different Merit Badge sessions, archery and air rifle shooting sports, dodge ball, STEM, and more.



President James Madison
and Dolley Madison



Montpelier Plantation: Site of a Memorable Fall Camporee

Most participants arrived late on Friday afternoon and well into the evening, checking in and setting up camp on the plantation grounds about a mile from the Madison mansion. Friday evening events included rocket assembly for Scouts participating in the Space Exploration Merit Badge session; a meeting of Scoutmasters with the Camporee Senior Patrol Leader, William Wallace of Troop 1131; and a cracker barrel for about 70 Scouts and adult leaders. Reveille at 6:30 AM, breakfast, and opening ceremonies in the morning fog launched Saturday activities. Overall, weather for the weekend, however, proved favorable once again, as moderate nighttime temperatures and the early fog each day gave way to sunny skies that contributed to making outdoor activities much more enjoyable. Following breakfast and the opening ceremony, led by Scouts from Troop 1131, Scouts dispersed to various locations on the vast Montpelier grounds to begin their camporee adventures.

Historical/cultural/learning activities enjoyed by many Scouts and Scouters throughout the day included viewing a movie on James Madison's Montpelier, an interesting guided tour of the Madison mansion, and visits to Mr. Madison's temple, the former slave quarters in the South Yard, the Gilmore Farm (a freedman's home), the Madison Family Cemetery, where James and Dolley Madison are buried, and the Montpelier Slave Cemetery. Other opportunities included visits to the walled and gated Annie DuPont formal garden, the William DuPont Gallery, and the Joe and Marge Grills Gallery. The expansive grounds also provided great hiking experiences on several trails offering both natural and historical sights. At least one troop hiked a combination of these trails in completing a trek of about 10 miles on Saturday afternoon.

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A highlight of activities at the mansion was a unique interaction featuring a session with “President Madison” himself (pictured above), during which a skilled, realistic, and highly knowledgeable elderly gentleman in period costume spoke in the first person about the colonial period, described some of his experiences as president, including during the War of 1812, and responded in a remarkably detailed way to a range of interesting questions posed by attending Scouts and Scouters. Most notable was the fact that at no time during his lengthy discourse did he deviate from his in-character role.

Many Scouts participated in the Merit Badge Sessions, including separate sessions on Archaeology, led by Mark Greer; Photography, led by Rich Harrington; Space Exploration, led by Mark Blanchard; Citizenship in the Nation, led by Phil Sternberg; and American Heritage, led by Paul Hoffmann. Also of considerable interest was a display/demo manned by NRL scientists featuring a small Vanguard satellite as part of STEM activities, led by Sokkhom Kith, STEM coordinator for the Patriot District. STEM activities included the launch of numerous rockets prepared by Scouts earning the Space Exploration Merit Badge.

Saturday afternoon sports activities included archery, under the direction of Mike Stonkey; air rifle marksmanship, under the direction of Ken Gaul; and dodge ball, organized and managed by Scouts and leaders from Troop 1324 of the Potomac District. Special Webelos Scouts activities on Saturday included a knot-tying session, directed by Jack Oliva, and sessions focused on individual skills important for advancement in Scouting. Following dinner and the coming of darkness, Saturday’s activities concluded with the traditional campfire, which was totally organized and led by Scouts. Following numerous skits by various Troops, the campfire closed with a special American flag retirement ceremony; six flags that had flown proudly in the Burke/Fairfax area but were deemed no longer serviceable were respectfully retired by burning, the most common approved method of disposal.

Following breakfast on Sunday morning, Scouts participated in several service projects for the Montpelier Foundation, which maintains Montpelier as a National Trust Historic Site. Scout service activities included spreading more than 50 piles of mulch on plantation flower beds, clearing brush and fallen branches from areas near the Montpelier race track, site of an annual steeplechase horse racing event (this year, to be held on November 4th), and picking up thousands of walnuts that littered the landscape. For this significant service effort, the Foundation waived usual camping fees for the weekend. Closing ceremonies for the camporee followed the service project activities, and the campground was vacated by midday as Scouts and Scouters headed home.

As always, the great success of this Fall Camporee was made possible by the great assistance and contributions of many Scouters and other adult volunteers. Kudos to all for a job well done! Bill Dexter once again served in the key role as lead organizer, logistics and budget chief, and Camporee Director. Administrative matters were ably addressed by Pat Ring and Kelly O’Malley. The highly experienced team of John Merchant and John Cavan served as “grubmasters” for the camporee staff. Commissioner support for the Camporee was provided by Dave Astle, Jae Engelbrecht, Lee Cass, Jack Oliva, and Paul Hoffmann. OA support was under the direction of William Wallace, OA Chapter Chief, and Robert Cohn, OA Advisor. Hearty thanks are also extended to the Merit Badge counselors and the sports, Webelos Scouts, and STEM activities leaders identified above. And thanks as well to leaders for the religious services held late on Saturday afternoon: Doc Johnson (Protestant), Howard Kaye (Jewish), and Ahmed Mashaal of Troop 114 (Muslim).

In closing, special thanks to our Patriot District Executive, Kyle Molldene, and District Chair, Steve Smith, for their strong support throughout the planning and conduct of this Fall Camporee. The event provided great memories for all participating Scouts and Scouters. We look forward to the Spring Camporee 2018, which will be held at Camp Snyder on April 20-22 and feature a Scout Skills theme.

Numerous pictures illustrating Fall Camporee activities are provided on the following pages.

*Bill Snowden, Patriot District Committee
Reporter and Photographer*



Archaeology Merit Badge Activity



Photography Merit Badge Activity



Space Exploration Merit Badge Activity



Montpelier Learning Center



Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge Activity



American Heritage Merit Badge Activity



Camporee SPL and Friends

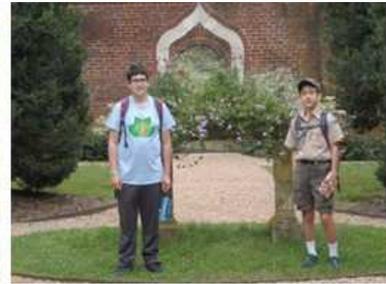


Scenes around the Campsite





Webelos Scouts Knot-Tying Activity



Scouts in Montpelier's Garden



Saturday Afternoon Archery



Saturday Afternoon Air Rifle Marksmanship



Saturday Afternoon Dodge Ball: A Must for Every Camporee



STEM Activities: NRL Exhibit/Demo and Rocket Setup and Launch



From the District Chairman:

Scouts and Scouters of Patriot District,

Wow! It is hard to believe it is already November!

Welcome to the beginnings of Winter. With November on us, we'll soon be ready for Christmas.

We had a great Fall Camporee! Bill Dexter and the whole Camporee Committee are to be thanked and commended for another wonderful Patriot Camporee at Montpelier, VA. Everyone had a great time. Many thanks to our Camporee Team for their great planning and outstanding execution! It was such a great Camporee that James Madison himself came by to welcome everyone!

Scouting for Food is upon us. Bags will probably already be out by the time you are reading this so do a great job collecting them! This is a great opportunity to help others and build some service hours as we meet to pack up the tuna mountain and send it off to feed the homeless. We have a great set of maps, and the team has come up with clear boundaries for bag distribution on Saturday, November 4, and bag pickup on Saturday, November 11.

Are you ready for Unit Re-chartering! We're looking forward to seeing the numbers of the new members in the Troops and Packs. Work with your Commissioner to get everything correct and submitted to Council on time.

Now is the time!!! Prepare for advancement and upcoming Courts of Honor! Let me know if you are having a Court and please send the results to the Patriot Press. We would love to publish more pictures of worthy Scouts! Read each issue of the Patriot Press from cover to cover. Share Scouting! Please share our Patriot Press with the families in your units. Let them know they belong to the Patriot District!

As always, thank you for what you do for our Scouting movement. And thank you for your support to our Patriot District's program.

Yours in Scouting,

Steve

Steve Smith, Patriot District Chairman



Montpelier Camporee Lost and Found

Several items were collected at the end of the camporee: Water bottles, sun glasses, Uniform shirts, sweatshirt, etc.

We will have this assortment of stuff at the Roundtable on November 9th. If you lost something, come by and claim it. After that, it will go to Good Will or the Salvation Army.



From the District Commissioner

It's November already and that means Thanksgiving is not far off, but Scouting for Food is also here. This is a tremendous community service we do annually and perhaps this year we can set a record for the quantity our district contributes. Let's have a great turn out on Saturday Nov 11th when our scouts hit the neighborhood to collect the bags of food. Make sure your scouts canvas the areas where they left bags because we've had calls in the past from families who have food still on their porch on Sunday. We don't want to miss anyone.

If you didn't attend last month's Camporee at James Madison's residence in Montpelier, you missed a wonderful opportunity of experiencing some history. Our Camporee Director Bill Dexter told the scouts at the opening ceremony that the objective of the Camporee was to have fun, learn something, and be safe. Think we accomplished it all. I think all of our scouts particularly enjoyed visiting the room where our Constitution was written by Mr. Madison and then having him visit our campsites that Saturday evening. The park quite enjoyed having our scouts visit as well, but particularly appreciated our service project of picking up black walnuts from the grounds. We got lots of Kudos from the staff for our efforts.

November also brings our annual rechartering event. Just over half of our units have started that process at this point and that actually puts us behind. We need to have all of our units complete their rechartering such that we can do quality control on them before we send them to council. We have asked they be completed and given to your Unit Commissioner by Nov 4th, but that's obviously not going to happen. We ask our units to please get on with this process as we need to have our recharterers to council by Dec 1st.

Lastly, everyone have a great Thanksgiving holiday as we give thanks for the many blessings we have.

Dave Astle, District Commissioner



SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Scouting for Food (SFF) is an annual event where Scouting units from across the NCAC, including the Patriot District, collect food for those in need. The food the Patriot District collects goes directly to the Capital Area Food Bank for distribution to various other food banks and pantries. Historically we have faithfully filled three huge trucks with the food we collect. Our drop off point is the Safeway on Burke Centre Parkway. The SFF Scout and Scouter collection team and other helpers will be there from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday Nov 11th to receive the contributed foods gathered by all participating units.

November 11th: Scouts begin picking up the food at 9 AM and deliver the bags to the Safeway located at Burke Center Parkway Shopping Center. We do not take glass jars; please leave them behind if possible. We will ask each unit to stop by the **SFF table** to identify the unit dropping off and provide a bag count. Each bag we estimate as approximately 5 lbs. OA Scouts will diligently be waiting to assist, often with the help of a crew from GMU, and also with some very reliable dedicated adults.

Volunteers Needed: On November 11th, we need volunteers to collect and sort the food, direct traffic, and many other duties that are much appreciated. Our volunteers sign in at the SFF table where they can have service hours validated. If you are an OA member and plan to attend the event, please try to bring an orange or yellow safety vest to wear over your official BSA OA uniform. If it is cold or rainy, please dress accordingly. We will provide hydration and nutrition.

Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

November 2017

- 3 Final popcorn Order Due
- 4 Scouting for Food Bag Distribution
- 4 Commissioner Basic Training (Patriot District)
- 4 Unit Recharter Turn-in to Unit Commissioner (*last date*)
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day
- 11 Scouting for Food Collection
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 16 CPST
- 18 Final Popcorn Distribution
- 18 Life to Eagle Seminar
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 28 PD Committee Meeting



December 2017

- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – December
- 8 Final Popcorn Payments/Prize Orders/Scholarship Forms Due
- 12 Hanukkah begins (sundown)
- 12 Commissioner/Committee Joint Mtg.
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 25 Christmas
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – January

January 2018

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 OA Lodge Banquet
- 9 Commissioner Meeting
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13-15 Winter NYLT (First Weekend)
- 14 ARC First Aid/CPR/AED (Session 1)
- 15 ARC First Aid/CPR/AED (Session 2)
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr, Day
- 23 PD Committee Meeting
- 28 Patriot Press Deadline – February

BCOLS	Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills	OA	Order of the Arrow
CPST	Cubmaster Position-Specific Training	SPST	Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
IOLS	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills	VAPST	Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training
JSN	Join Scouting Night	VCPST	Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training
NLE	New Leader Essentials	VOA	Venturing Officers Association
NYLT	National Youth Leadership Training		



Troop 1346 at Philmont



The first sunrise of the 12-day hiking trek and a glimpse of Cathedral Rock for BSA Troop 1346.

Corporate and association meeting planners always remember that one special meeting or event that stands out from the hundreds of others they have worked on over their career. It is even more rare when a planner can tie in a volunteer organization that he/she works with into a successful event. That is exactly what Joe Margraf was able to achieve this past summer.

Joe is the manager of the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Events (MICE) Division for Omega World Travel in Fairfax, Virginia. But in his spare time, he is the Scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America Troop 1346 in Burke, Virginia. Beginning July 24th, he led a group of 21 Boy Scouts and 7 leaders on a 100-mile trek through Northeastern New Mexico. The group spent 12 days hiking the New Mexico wilderness on a visit to Philmont Scout Ranch. Located in Cimarron, New Mexico, the 214-square-mile ranch is in the rugged wilderness of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and features trails climbing from 6,500 feet to 12,441 feet.

These trips are a once in a lifetime opportunity for Boy Scouts and their leaders, and the preparation for them starts over a year and half in advance. The adult leaders handle all the logistics associated with each trip. In fact, Joe had planned two other past trips to Canada and the Bahamas, but this one was longer with triple the number of participants. Last fall, he had just started working at Omega World Travel and decided to approach his director about having Omega help with the Boy Scout trip.

Joe's meeting team at Omega was able to assemble several detailed proposals for the BSA group to consider. Omega incorporated and negotiated fairly priced air, ground transportation, and hotel options for the Boy Scout crew. Because the Scouts and leaders need to acclimate to the high altitude of the area, Omega suggested two cities for the Scouts to tour prior to their arrival at Philmont Scout Ranch: Denver/Colorado Springs or Albuquerque. Both cities are above 5,000 feet, allowing for good acclimation. Omega's meetings division extensively researched the local areas of both cities to provide numerous activity options for the group during those two days. The Scouts ultimately voted on flying into Denver and spending two nights in Colorado Springs. While there, they visited the Garden of Gods, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the Cogwheel Railway to Pike's Peak, and the U.S. Olympic Training Center. It was the perfect pre-trip before beginning the intense journey at Philmont. With a major part of the planning out of the way, the Scouts and their leaders were able to focus on the intense training required for their trek.

Since the Boy Scout crew is boy-led – meaning that adult advisors are only there for guidance and safety, 16-year-old Nick Margraf, Joe's son, served as the Crew Chief for the group during the Philmont trek. It was his responsibility to handle all aspects of the hike. Each participant had to carry a 40-50 pound backpack containing all of their supplies, including: tents, first aid supplies, clothing, camp stoves and freeze-dried meals while hiking between camps. The hikes were at a very high altitude in bear and mountain lion territory, required many up and down steep climbs (switchbacks), and were often during severe rain storms. The crew never passed a house or town along their journey, and only stopped for a short time every few days at bear-proof "commissaries" to grab more necessities. One of the most difficult yet highly anticipated parts of the trip was the arduous climb to the summit of Baldy Mountain (12,441 feet.)



The Troop 1346 Philmont crew at the summit of Baldy Mountain at a height of 12,441 feet.

While on the trail, the Scouts participated in a number of backcountry programs, including rock climbing, building railroad track, black powder shooting, hatchet throwing, blacksmithing, and western campfires. They also conducted a conservation project centered on the upkeep of Philmont’s ecosystem. Cell phones were limited to the leaders; however, service was only available at the highest peaks or openings, with nowhere for charging. Joe had all the Scouts leave their phones behind, and he followed their example. So instead of the Scouts being on their phones, they all needed to hang daily bear bags, cook and clean in the backcountry, and set up tents before almost daily fast-moving mountain storms crept in during the early afternoons.



Joe concluded by saying, “This was truly a once in a life time experience and I am (so) glad I was able to complete the trek with my Scouts, fellow leaders, and especially my younger son Nick. It was his leadership and daily encouragement that helped me immensely while on the trail.”

Nick and Joe Margraf at Philmont Scout Ranch.



FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Important Message for all Committee Chairs and Unit Leaders

It’s time to get your presentation date and time slot for the 2018 Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign. Please contact the District Vice-Chair for Finance, Mark Greer, to schedule your annual Family FOS presentation. Ideal times are Courts of Honor and General Pack Meetings. **We need a date, time, and POC for every unit in the District.**

The annual FOS campaign has several components: Family, Scouter, and Community, and a successful campaign each year is absolutely critical to the financial health of the National Capital Area Council (NCAC). It helps to pay for much-needed upgrades to Goshen Scout reservation (over \$300,000 in recent years), was a big part of paying for the \$6 million needed to modernize the Lake Merriweather Dam at Goshen, pays for training costs not covered by units/participants, and helps pay the salaries of our dedicated, professional Scouters and staff, among a long list of NCAC program and operating expenses.

If you are new to Scouting, (or you simply haven’t understood why we have this additional fundraising activity each year) you may wonder why it’s really necessary. Let me assure you that each Scout’s dues only pay a small part of the nearly \$200 annual program cost per Scout. When we look at the benefit of Scouting (the value proposition), it is tremendous. A recent Harris Study found that 83 percent of adults who were Scouts say that the values they learned in Scouting continue to be very important to them today. And when we see the return on investment among Scouting alumni, it’s even more impressive: 89% of senior class presidents, 71% of football team captains, 70% of Annapolis Graduates, 72% of Rhodes Scholars, and 26 of the first 29 Astronauts were all Scouts.

So please take this opportunity to sit down at a computer right now and send an email to Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net to schedule your presentation.



Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence - is the key to unlocking our potential

~ Winston Churchill (b. November 30, 1874)



Training Corner

As always, if you have any questions about the various trainings offered by the District or about Scout training in general please feel free to reach out. And don't forget that we always need good Scouters to help support the training team!

*Justin Day, Vice Chair, Training
patriottrainingbsa@gmail.com*



STEM Corner:

We are excited to report that the changes to the Cub Scout Nova program were just approved at the highest levels of the BSA. The changes impact the Adventure Loop requirements. Youth now have the opportunity to either earn an Adventure Loop specific to their rank OR complete an option that crosses all Cub Scout ranks. These changes are effective immediately. When earning a Nova, youth can choose whether to use the newly released requirements or the older requirements (through 12/31/2017). Effective January 1, 2018, only the new requirements may be used.



Requirements for the Cub Scout Novas and Supernova Awards have been revised. Specifically, requirement 2 of each Nova and of the Dr. Luis Alvarez Supernova, and requirement 1 of the Dr. Charles Townes Supernova Award, have revised lists of rank specific adventures that the youth may earn, as well as a new option for the activities. Follow the Cub Scout Nova Award Changes. <http://www.scouting.org/stem.aspx>



<http://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Cub-Scout-Nova-Award-Changes.pdf>

Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity

~ George S Patton (b. November 11, 1885)

Cub Scout Roundtable!



All Cub Scout Leaders, Come Out and Join us for Fun & Fellowship
and to Pick-Up some New Ideas for your Pack and Den Programs!

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

To provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas – and
the know-how that makes for successful unit operation.

To provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm,
inspiration, and vision that periodically renew the desire to serve youth.

When: Thursday, November 9th, 2017

Where: Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road

Midway: 7:30 – 8 PM

Roundtable: 8 – 9 PM

Mike Stonkey, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner
mstonkey@verizon.net



Boy Scout Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Patriot District Boy Scout Roundtable

Thursday, November 9th, 2017

Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke

Midway: 7:30 - Pre-Opening: 7:40 – Roundtable: 8:00 to 9:00

Topics: Uniforming, Online Troop Leader Resources, Virgin Island Camping

Randy Witter, Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner
703-323-5220, Randy.Witter@gmail.com

Steve Polchek: 703-978-1309, sapolchek@verizon.net

Patriot Chapter OA

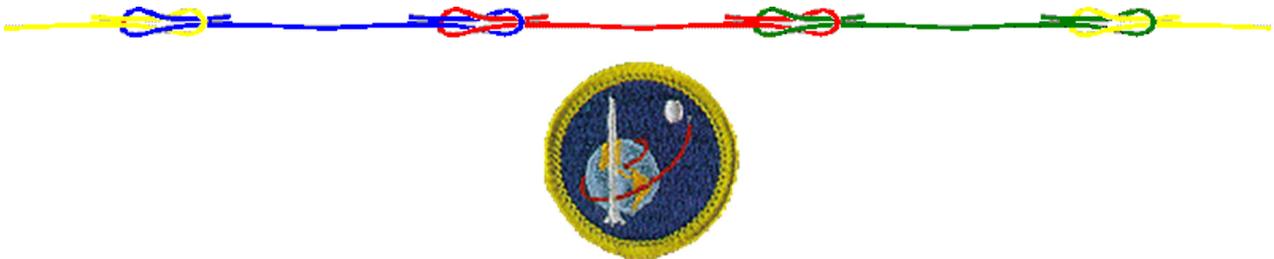


The Patriot Chapter of the Order of the Arrow has had a robust October under the leadership of Chapter Chief William Wallace and Advisor Robert Cohn. Our recent meeting featured a cooking feast of various trail foods using different types of backpacking stoves. On Thursday 9 November, 7 pm at St. Stephens UMC, the chapter program will feature advanced fire-starting techniques such as flint & steel, and bow. All Arrowmen are encouraged to attend and light up their firemaking skills and take the training back to share with their Troops.

William is assisted by Vice Chief of Ceremonies Sean, VC Communications Tom, VC Activities Spencer, and VC Elections Harlan. The Chapter completed this year's activities with the Fall Ordeal organized by Virginia Central Area 5 chapters. This event was held at Doc Snider's Verdun Adventure Bound in Rixeyville, Virginia, and led by past Chapter Chief Matt Cohn (now the Virginia Central Area Chief). We had the responsibility of Administration and Check-In, but assisted with Arrowmen in cooking, elangamats, and ceremonies. Again, William led a ceremonies team for pre-ordeal and ordeal comprised of members from several different chapters. During this October weekend, the chapter added several new brothers who had not completed an earlier ordeal.

Several weeks ago at the site of Montpelier the chapter again led the way by providing the youth leadership and service corps for the Patriot District Fall Camporee. William, assisted by volunteers from our many active Troops, led the opening and closing flag ceremonies, as well as the campfire on Saturday night. The evening concluded with an OA Brotherhood Walk with seven candidates. And late that night, the seven Brothers sealed their membership at the next level during the Brotherhood Ceremony.

We encourage all Patriot Chapter Troops to send their TOARs and other representatives to our Chapter meeting, held just prior to each Patriot District Round Table.



Space Exploration Merit Badge from the Montpelier Fall Camporee

The November 1st follow up merit badge session has been postponed until Wednesday, November 8, at St. Stephens United Methodist Church from 6-7 pm in room M9. Its focus will be on completing requirement 6a on the space shuttle and discussing Scouts' robotic mission and solar system inhabited base.

Scouts attending the Camporee completed all of requirement 3, requirement 4a, 4c, and the robotic historic mission part of 5a. However, the following Scouts did not check in during the launch portion back at the campsite and their launch and other requirements need confirmation: Tommy Rustia (T-1346) , Canon Tells (T-1508), and Matthew Miller (T-1524).

Initialed Blue Cards will be available on the Wednesday, November 8, session and at Round Tables and District meetings. Scouts wishing to complete requirements may do so through email by submitting the requirements as an attachment, or make other arrangements. If there any questions or concerns please contact Mark Blanchard at mblancha88@gmail.com or 703-786-8968.



Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for Adult Volunteer Scout Leaders

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW – BEFORE, NOT AFTER, A CRISIS

As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support. As adult volunteer Scout leaders it is incumbent upon us to know how to recognize and respond to the signs of mental illness and duress. This knowledge can literally be the difference between life and death. Several years ago Fairfax County schools had a string of devastating teen suicides...and some of the boys we lost were from our local troops. In response, we are now partnering with the Fairfax County Health Department to offer a training course in Youth Mental Health First Aid to help prevent teen suicide. This is the same training that is mandatory for every Fairfax County School System teacher, administrator and staff member to complete. The same instructors from the Fairfax County Government's Health & Wellness Department that teach them have agreed to provide that training to us and to also customize it to the specific needs of Scouting.

We're excited to report that we are trying to schedule the third class for our district. Any interested Scouters please contact Mark Greer (mfgreer@verizon.net) to express their interest. We are trying to ensure we have enough potential attendees to fill a class. The exact date will depend on the availability of our instructors.

Every unit should have a goal of having at least one trained leader. The cost for the training is \$30 per person and covers all course materials and instruction. Space is limited and we are accepting no more than 30 participants for this class. Upon completion of the course, all participants will receive a Youth Mental Health First Aid certificate of completion and a NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating achievement.



Scout Trivia

The story of a **Good Turn** on the foggy streets of London tells of an American businessman who lost his way, and a Boy Scout assisted him. When the traveler offered the Boy a gratuity, the Boy declined, declaring it was his Good Turn. On February 8, 1910, that American businessman stood as one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. What was his name? *William D. Boyce.*

Eagle Palms



All current Boy Scouts — even those who completed their Eagle Scout board of review before Aug. 1, 2017 — are now entitled to receive Eagle Palms for merit badges earned before their Eagle board of review.

Previously, only those Scouts with an Eagle board of review date on or after Aug. 1, 2017, were eligible for these Eagle Palms. Now all current Eagle Scouts can receive Palms for additional merit badges earned before their board.

This is a revision to the change announced at <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2017/07/10/changes-to-eagle-palms/> on July 10, 2017. The move comes in response to passionate feedback from volunteers and was approved by the BSA’s National Executive Board

The Patriot Press, Patriot District
National Capital Area Council

The Patriot Press is the monthly newsletter of the Patriot District, NCAC, Boy Scouts of America. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the official policies of the National Capital Area Council or the Boy Scouts of America. This newsletter is provided eleven times each year (not in July) and posted at <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotPress>

Deadline for copy inclusion in *The Patriot Press* is the two Sundays prior to Roundtable. Using MS Word, articles may be emailed to the editor at joe.osborne@cox.net.

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Robert Cohn	OA Advisor	patriotchapter@wipit470.org

**BSA Venturing Crew 80 Is Once Again Offering An
Amateur Radio License Course**

WANT TO BE AN AMATEUR (HAM) RADIO OPERATOR?

Scouts can earn the BSA Radio Merit Badge

Qualify for a Technician Class Amateur Radio License from the FCC

No Morse Code Required - Open to the Public

Sponsors: BSA VENTURING CREW 80 and MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

When: Saturdays in January and February 2018 - a 2 hour orientation and materials distribution plus three seven hour classes, including the FCC license exam:

- January 13 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Orientation and Study Materials Distribution)
- January 20 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction)
- January 27 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction)
- February 3 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction, Review for Exam)
- February 10 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (FCC Exam)

Where: First Christian Church, 2723 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302

Cost: \$50 (Cost of Materials - textbook and CD-ROM - Yours to keep).

Age: No Limit (parental accompaniment recommended under age 14)

Instruction Method: Reading assignments and personal and video instruction and computer-based practice exam question review. You keep the textbook and CD-ROM.

Course Description: Everything you need to know to get an Amateur Radio Operator Technician Class license: Fundamentals of electricity, electronic circuit theory, electronic components, radio theory and electromagnetic wave propagation, antennas, feed lines, amateur radio operating procedures, practices, equipment, FCC rules and regulations.

How to Sign Up: Pre-register anytime, but no later than January 5, 2018:

By email to k4bsa@verizon.net or by phone at 703-820-2534 (H) between 6-9 PM. Provide Name, Address, Phone Number and Email address. The registration fee (cash or check) will be due at the first session on January 13, 2018. Scouts and Venturers passing the FCC Technician licensing exam will meet the requirements for the BSA radio merit badge and can have their blue card signed by the course instructor. CERT members are also encouraged to attend.

Questions? Please call or e-mail the following:

Demi Pulas K4BSA 703-820-2534 or k4bsa@verizon.net

More details at <http://w3bsa.org/Course07.htm>



Curiosity is natural to the soul of man and interesting objects have a powerful influence on our affections

~ Daniel Boone (b. November 02, 1734)



The National Court of Honor, Boy Scouts of America

The Boy Scouts of America, acting through the National Court of Honor, may award the Silver Beaver Award for distinguished service to youth. The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. The Silver Beaver is an award given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service.

The Silver Beaver nomination document is available by going to <https://www.ncacbsa.org/> under advancement, then Silver Beaver. The nomination form and supporting information packet for the Silver Beaver award should be placed in a sealed envelope with "Silver Beaver Nomination" on the outside and either delivered or mailed to the Marriott Scout Service Center ONLY. All nominations MUST be received at the MSSC no later than NOVEMBER 30.



District/Division Award of Merit

The District/Division Award of Merit is awarded by a District for service to youth in the District.

A nominee must be a registered Scouter.

A nominee must have rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside of Scouting, or both. The nature and value of "noteworthy service to youth" may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.

Consideration is given to the nominee's Scouting position and the corresponding opportunity to render outstanding service beyond the expectations of that Scouting position.

There is a form on ncacbsa.org.

Please submit your nominations to chioma@msn.com by December 15.



You may not have any extra talent, but maybe you are just paying more attention to what you are doing

~ Alan Sheppard (b. November 18, 1923)



2019 World Scout Jamboree

Registration for the 2019 World Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve is live. This means prospective youth participants, adult volunteers and staffers — known in World Scout Jamboree parlance as the International Service Team (IST) — can register to join the adventure.

The quadrennial event, held at the BSA’s high-adventure base in West Virginia and co-hosted with Scouts Canada and Asociación de Scouts de México, will be the first World Scout Jamboree in the United States in more than half a century.

This historic event will be held July 22 to Aug. 2, 2019.

The World Scout Jamboree (hereafter WSJ) will welcome 50,000 Scouts and leaders from 169 different countries. They’ll gather to meet friends from around the world, develop mutual understanding and sharpen their leadership skills. They’ll do all that at the BSA’s newest high-adventure destination, where a playground of world-class adventure venues awaits.

This means you might climb next to a Croatian, skateboard with a South African or paddleboard with a Paraguayan.

Use this link: <https://wsj2019.us/apply>



New Cub Scout Shooting Sports Awards!

Take aim at fun and excitement in your council with the new Cub Scout Shooting Sports Awards. Insignia will arrive in national Scout shops and become available for wholesale customers in February. The awards will be offered in three disciplines: BB guns, archery, and slingshots. Councils may choose to offer one or more of the disciplines. With rank-specific requirements and insignia, there is incentive for boys to earn the awards year after year at camp. Our youth members consistently list shooting sports as one of their most-desired outdoor activities. With these new awards, Cub Scouts will hit the bull’s-eye with fun



<http://www.scouting.org/Home/programupdates.aspx>

BSA Announces New Member Coordinator Position

Submitted by Paul Gendreau, Membership Campaign Manager, Spirit of Adventure Council

<http://www.scoutspirit.org/family-engagement-is-the-name-of-the-game/>

I find myself thinking of the great number of times over my career that I've heard a leader bemoan, "Parents think BSA means Baby Sitters of America". These leaders are wonderful people who have caught the "Scouting bug", believe wholeheartedly in what we do for young people, and who have jumped in with both feet. That's an understatement. They've jumped in with their whole being. These leaders just cannot understand why parents won't "step up" when they announce a position that needs to be filled or when some job to be done in the unit. I think the truth lies in the fact that despite all of the training available along with enough three-hole punched literature to fill a library, BSA has never done a very good job teaching leaders how to draw others into the fold. I know that I've coached countless volunteers in the process of recruiting the right person for the right job over the years.



Locally, we've come to recognize that for us to both gain and keep new members; we need to draw the whole family into our program. Our council has set a course designed to help units engage families. By providing planned programs at our Base Camp sites and satellite locations, programs that at the unit/den/family level require no effort other than showing up, we continue to create an environment where parents and their children can have fun together within a Scouting framework. Smart leaders will keep a watchful eye on these families enjoying Scouting together and use these feel-good times to get parents to take the next step. Usually, that next step is ask them to help out with something small within the unit and have it happen soon – before that good feeling fades. It is called cultivation and the desired end point is having many people do a little so that nobody has to do a lot within the unit. I am sure that those who follow this prescription will have no problem in getting people to step into leadership or committee roles as needs arise in their units.

Nationally, the need to engage families has also been recognized and is being addressed at perhaps a more elemental level, one that can work hand in hand with what we are doing at The Spirit of Adventure Council. Units at all levels of Scouting are encouraged to add one or more adults to the newly created position of New Member Coordinator. Let's face it. With a culture and language all our own, uniforms bedecked with an assortment of patches and awards, not to mention a host of real and imagined rules and regulations, we are often our own worst enemy. Without meaning to be, we can be intimidating to the uninitiated, particularly if you were not exposed to Scouting as a child. Do you remember how it was for you when you attended your first meeting or sign-up event? Somehow, though, you got past that trauma. For every one of you who survived, there are plenty who didn't. Scouting is trying to remedy that with this new position.



The main requirement for the New Member Coordinator is to be someone who wears a smile and warmly welcomes new youths and their families. These people are communicators, inviters, and follow-upers (if that's a word!). In doing so, they have an impact on recruiting, retention, leader cultivation, and ultimately growth in their unit and, by extension, our national movement. They can be the one who says, "We're planning on an outing to Base Camp at Camp Sayre or Lone Tree in two months, but you don't have to wait for that. You can go online and sign up to take part in program offerings any time you have a free day or part of a day. Here's how..." If you happen to be a Cub Scout Pack (or a Boy Scout Troop that has purchased the Adventure Card), your boys can take part for free as often as they wish. Adults can attend with their child and there is a modest discounted fee for an adult to participate with their card-holding child (if they want to shoot BBs or jump in the pool, for example). In short, the New Member Coordinator gently serves as a guide to new members and their parents in navigating

Scouting and all it offers to enrich their family life. The coordinator encourages families to participate in unit and local events early and often. It won't take long for them to stop feeling like the "newbies" and start feeling like a valued part of the Scouting family.

Well, that's my spin on how this new position could mesh with what we are doing in our council. Nationally, the approach doesn't drill down quite to that level and currently the guidance is more general. BSA will continue to add content to its page for the New Member Coordinator. There you'll find a short video about the position and some downloadable resources. There is a brochure, a position description, and other items. There is training coming for the position too. Currently there is a welcoming video available and that is enough to start. There are three other modules for this position that are coming too. Here's a helpful hint: The New Member Coordinator page notes that the video is located in my.scouting.org. This is true but I had a hard time finding it. Do not look in the training center in your dashboard (where you go for Youth Protection Training). Look in the BSA Learn Center. You'll see the box on the right when you log in to my.scouting. Strangely, it makes you enter your login and password again.

One last thing: In June, both national podcasts, <http://www.scouting.org/Scoutcast/Cubcast/2017.aspx> joined forces for the June podcast which introduced this position. It is well worth a listen as you consider how adding New Member Coordinators can help you engage new families, increase volunteerism in your unit, increase retention and unit health, and put an end to the baby sitter syndrome.

New Member Coordinator Position is Useful for First-Time Scouts

Nearly every unit in Scouting faces four challenges:

1. We lose a high percentage of youth and families soon after they join.
2. Millennial moms aren't being engaged, even though they should be our target market.
3. We are not reaching the fastest-growing youth population groups demographically.
4. Many of us are overly dependent on legacy Scouting families. We don't connect with today's families who do not have a family member who was a Scout (the majority).

New Member Coordinators should become the unit "Welcome Wagon" program by doing the following three main tasks:

1. Help new members join, and get them engaged in the unit's program. Form relationships with new members and their families.
2. Share the benefits of Scouting with new families; be a FUN and engaging.
3. Help with new member recruitment through social media, school nights and in other effective ways.



Welcoming new Scouts and their families!



American Red Cross

First Aid-CPR-AED Certification Class

When: Two class sessions:

Session #1 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Sunday, January 14, 2018

Session #2 - 6:30pm to 9:30 pm Monday, January 15, 2018

Who: Leaders and Scouts, e.g., Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier, etc. Others may sign up to participate on a space-available basis. Class size is limited. Class dates and times reflect the needs of Jewish Scouts and Scouters.

Where: VFW Post 8469, 5703 Vogue Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

What: Participants will earn the American Red Cross *First Aid-CPR-AED* certification. Scouts attending High Adventure programs must have First Aid and CPR certified members in their group; it's a good idea to have several people certified, including youth members.

Register: Please send your contact information as soon as possible to:
Philip Sternberg, phil.sternberg@gmail.com

- Name, Mailing Address, Email Address, home and cell phone numbers, BSA unit type and number, and BSA Personal ID number (from membership card).

Bring: For Session #1, bring personal lunch and beverages. We will have a working lunch, and we will have drinks and refreshments available in the morning. For Session #2, eat before you arrive, or bring food with you.

Cost: Fifty dollars (\$50.00) covers American Red Cross fees and classroom training materials. Make checks out to "Jewish Committee on Scouting," and write "ARC First Aid Training" on the memo line. Payment due by Friday, 22 December 2017.

Send checks to Philip Sternberg, P.O. Box 4052, Alexandria, VA 22303.

Those with a financial need, please contact Philip Sternberg <phil.sternberg@gmail.com>.

Patriot District



You can post pictures to: <https://www.facebook.com/PatriotDistrict>



NCAC Jewish Committee on Scouting

MERIT BADGE FAIR

Sunday, January 7, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Gesher Jewish Day School

4800 Mattie Moore Ct, Fairfax, VA 22030

The National Capital Area Council Jewish Committee on Scouting invites Boy Scouts of all faiths to participate in a Merit Badge Fair.

To Register: Email the *registration form* on the next page: <registration@ncacjcos.org>

Send us your *registration form* as soon as possible Enrollment for each merit badge class is limited. Scouts and their parents will be notified by return email with the merit badge they have been assigned, and with the contact information for the merit badge counselor. Counselors will let scouts know about prerequisites and how to prepare for their merit badge class.

Merit Badges: *Aviation, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Chemistry, Communication, Electricity, Family Life, Fingerprinting, Genealogy, Nuclear Science, Personal Management, Photography, Public Speaking, Space Exploration*

On the registration form, you can also ask for a merit badge of *your choice*, and we will try to offer it. Bring a Boy Scout merit badge *blue card* signed by unit leader to give to their counselor.

Fees: The cost of the Merit Badge Fair is \$15.00 per scout (\$10.00 for additional scouts in the same family). This fee pays for, facility use fee, merit badge supplies, a special patch, and refreshments. Payment is due upon arrival. Make checks out to "Jewish Committee," include "Merit Badge Fair" on memo line. Scouts with financial need should indicate this in their email.

Note: Please do not bring your own food or drinks to the Fair; refreshments will be provided.

Questions: Philip Sternberg <registration@ncacjcos.org>, or 703-960-0205 (cell).



**NCAC Jewish Committee on Scouting
Merit Badge Fair - Registration Form**

(Participants of all faiths welcome)

Where: Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Ct, Fairfax, VA 22030

When: Sunday, January 7, 2018, 2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 per scout (\$10.00 for additional scouts in the same family). This fee pays for the facility use fee, merit badge supplies, a special patch, and refreshments. Payment is due at check-in upon arrival, Make checks out to "Jewish Committee," and put "Merit Badge Fair" on memo line. Scouts with financial need should let us know.

Registration Information:

- Merit Badge (First Choice): _____
- Merit Badge (Second Choice): _____
- Merit Badge (Other): _____
- JCoS Committee Member: _____
- Request Financial Assistance: _____

Contact Information:

Scout's Name: _____
 Scout's Age: _____ Rank in Scouting: _____ Grade in School: _____
 Unit Type (Pack, Troop, etc): _____ Unit Number: _____
 Unit Location (city, state): _____ District: _____
 Parent's Name: _____
 Unit Leader's Name: _____
 Scouts' Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Scouts' E-Mail Address: _____
 Parents' E-Mail Address: _____
 Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Do not bring food or drinks into the event. If you have specific dietary requirements, please let us know:

Email this form to registration@ncacjcos.org



NCAC Jewish Committee on Scouting

Tu B'Shevat Celebration - Jewish Arbor Day

Plant Seedlings, Enjoy Tree Food, Conservation-Forestry

When: Sunday, January 28, 2018, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Who: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Venturing Scouts, Girl Scouts

All faiths welcome. Register early, space is limited.

Where: George Mason University Jewish (Chabad) House. 4601 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

What: Celebrate the annual Jewish Holiday of Tu B'Shevat. Scouts will get Tree Seedlings in 2" pots to decorate and take home for planting when the weather is warmer. Learn about Conservation and Forestry. And enjoy a Tu B'Shevat Seder ... with food from trees like nuts and fruits.

Register: Email the registration information to: <registration@ncacjos.org>

Cost: The event will cost \$18.00/per participant-pay at the door. Make checks payable to "Jewish Committee," and put "Tu B'Shevat" on the memo line. Scouts with a financial need should let us know.

Questions: Philip Sternberg <registration@ncacjos.org>, or 703-960-0205 (cell).

Directions: Take I-495 (beltway) to exit 54A, Braddock Road, west, about 5 miles. Turn right onto Roberts Road. The GMU Chabad House is the first building on the right.

Registration Information:

- Registration options: Cub Scout Program, Boy Scout Program, Venturing Program, JCoS Committee Member, Other, Request Financial Assistance.

Contact Information:

Form fields for contact information: Scout's Name, Age, Rank, Grade, Unit Type, Location, District, Parent's Name, Unit Leader's Name, Mailing Address, City, State, Zip, E-Mail Address, Cell Phone, Home Phone.

Do not bring food or drinks into the event. If you have specific dietary requirements, please let us know:

Email this form to <registration@ncacjos.org>



BSA SAFETY MOMENT

COMBATING OBESITY

SUMMARY

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 18 percent of children and teens in the United States are overweight or obese (BMI at or above the 85th percentile for children and teens of the same age and sex). There are serious health risks associated with obesity, as well as psychological risks. Schools, families, caregivers, and organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America must all do their part to combat this epidemic.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Factors that may contribute to this obesity epidemic include increased portion sizes; decreased physical activity; and increased consumption of high-calorie, low-nutrition foods.

Health risks associated with childhood obesity include Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, respiratory problems, and orthopedic problems. Psychological conditions such as depression and low self-esteem may also be greater in the overweight or obese child. There are many steps we can take as an organization to combat this epidemic:

- Encourage healthy food choices such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat milk and dairy products, and involve the Scouts in these choices.
- When traveling with Scouts, stop at restaurants that offer healthy meal options.
- Encourage Scouts to limit screen time (including TVs, computers, and electronic games) to no more than two hours per day, and emphasize the importance of getting enough sleep.
- Stress the importance of daily physical activity (60 minutes per day).
- Challenge your unit to earn the SCOUT Strong Healthy Unit Award.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Combatting Childhood Obesity":
www.cdc.gov/features/PreventChildhoodObesity/index.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "About Child & Teen BMI":
www.cdc.gov/healthyweight/assessing/bmi/childrens_bmi/about_childrens_bmi.html
- SCOUTStrong Healthy Living Initiative: www.scouting.org/scoutsource/BSAFit.aspx
- SCOUTStrong Healthy Unit Award: www.scouting.org/scoutstronghealthyunit.aspx
- Eatright.org, "How to Prevent Childhood Obesity: Healthy Eating Tips for Kids":
www.eatright.org/resource/health/weight-loss/overweight-and-obesity/preventing-childhood-obesity-healthy-eatingtips-for-kids