Upcoming Events (Training Events in RED)

April
24-26 OA Ordeal
28 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701
david.place@scouting-cmd.org
29 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
30 Wood Badge Camp Snyder through May 2

May
9 Bike Rodeo, contact Cubmaster@pack271.org
12 Roundtable (Boy Scout/Cub Scout/OA) 7:15pm at LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick.
Training at RT: CSLST, BSLST, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat,
Climb On Safely or Trek Safely. Training sessions made available by contacting mudrat@erols.com
13 Gathering of Eagles
14 Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
15 Frederick County Dance
15-17 Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS), contact wklohr@gmail.com
16 Citizenship Merit Badge Day
26 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701 david.place@scouting-cmd.org
27 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
28-30 Wood Badge Camp Snyder

June
9 Roundtable (Boy Scout/Cub Scout/OA) 7:15pm at LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick.
Training at RT: CSLST, BSLST, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat,
Climb On Safely or Trek Safely. Training sessions made available by contacting mudrat@erols.com
11 Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
22-26 Cub Scout Day Camp
23 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701 david.place@scouting-cmd.org
24 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net

Guide to Advancement Submitted by Dave Place
Guide to Advancement 2015 was just put up on the Scouting.org site http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf
April is time to start thinking about a unit’s annual (or semi-annual) Program Planning Meeting. A great way to approach program planning is using the BSA Journey to Excellence (JTE) principles. So what does JTE bring to your unit? Good question. First, JTE provides a framework for planning for the year. JTE standards are based on what successful units do to continually improve. JTE is also a method for evaluating your unit by providing tangible measurements on things you are already tracking, such as camping and youth advancement. JTE also provides specific guidelines and standards of what is considered good unit performance. Finally, JTE provides a real easy way to track service hours, an area in which our units traditionally under report. Also, did you know that BSA has an entire section on Program Planning at www.Scouting.org, including a narrated Planning Conference Guide Power Point? Remember the 6 P’s - Prior Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance. Your Scouts deserve no less.

35 (of 63) Catoctin Mountain District units achieved JTE status last year and the District qualified as a Gold District (1of 9 in NCAC). I am hoping that this year JTE will be a primary unit planning tool used throughout the year, rather than something else that needs to be done at recharter time. If you have questions about JTE, get in touch with Assistant District Commissioner for JTE Paul Smith, who can walk you through the process. BSA also has a JTE page on www.Scouting.org where you can find a wealth of JTE background and training material, as well as a convenient way to report service hours.

Roundtable attendance is up and the monthly programs have been timely and informative. We now have a plenary session and breakout sessions for Boy Scout, Cub Scout and a newly instituted LDS leader’s session. Roundtable is not just for unit Key 3, it’s for all leaders. Key 3 bring your adult leaders and your SPL and ASPLs, Crew and Ship officers and Team Captains to Roundtable, so they can network with their peers. If there is enough youth leader interest, we will find a place for them to have their own breakout session. Any suggestions for making Roundtable a better experience are welcome.

Congratulations to Assistant District Commissioner/Unit Commissioner/District Health and Safety Advisor John Huggins who received his Wood Badge beads at March Roundtable. He is a member of the WB Eagle Patrol. Us Foxes consider Eagles a delicious anytime snack!!

The Commissioner’s staff know how strongly I feel about youth advancements. In the first three months of 2015, we have had only 54 rank advancements by Scouts in Teams, Troops, Ships and Crews. We should be doing better and I cannot fathom what might be holding us back. I ask unit leaders to make an effort over the next 30 days to review individual youth standing to see if we can’t help them advance to the next level prior to summer camp.

Congratulations to former Francis Scott Key District Chairman Jim MacGillivray on being named a 2015 Silver Beaver Awardee. This is a well-deserved honor for Jim, who has served Scouting in Frederick County and beyond so faithfully over the years.
I am still in need of a Unit Commissioner for Pack, Troop and Crew 1998. Commissioner Service is unselfish, rewarding, fulfilling and fun. Please consider joining the Catoctin Mountain Corps of Commissioners. Contact me at CMDCommissioner@aol.com for specific duties and commitments.

Yours in Commissioner Service,
Bill Desmond
District Commissioner

**Day Camp**

The Flight Academy Administration has been hard at work preparing a memorable Day Camp for the Cubs and Webelos. This amazing adventure will take place at the Frederick Municipal Airport June 22-26. The updated version of the Parent-Leader Guide is available by using the link below.

[https://app.box.com/s/pw5z28r5m1euyo68ctv37ofndl5hajkr](https://app.box.com/s/pw5z28r5m1euyo68ctv37ofndl5hajkr)

**Buzz Aldrin to Speak** submitted by Mychal Tamillow

There will be a big space event downtown, the Humans-to-Mars Conference (http://h2m.exploremars.org/) in early May (5th-7th), and the organizer just invited Scouts to the event on the first evening. At 7PM, in the Lisner Auditorium (http://lisner.gwu.edu/) at GW, Andrew Aldrin will be interviewing his uncle, Buzz Aldrin. Buzz was a Boy Scout, flew fighter jets in Korea, and something else...oh yeah, he walked on the moon in 1969 and has been a tireless space advocate ever since. He’s now 85.

There is a fee for the event, but it is waived for Scouts and their adults. Use the discount code ScoutMars.

**International Scouting News** Submitted by Shawn Youngberg

The March issue of International Scouting News is available at [https://app.box.com/s/zgivf6qqv05hyihlpyti8y73f00yl](https://app.box.com/s/zgivf6qqv05hyihlpyti8y73f00yl)

**Sporting Clays** Submitted by Mychal Tamillow

The 2015 Sporting Clays event will be held May 7-8 at Camp Wm. B. Snyder. There will be prizes awarded. For full details, go to: [https://app.box.com/s/1npbfw1vqllezadek07shkmx642lcmd](https://app.box.com/s/1npbfw1vqllezadek07shkmx642lcmd)
Walking Merit Badge

Submitted by Bill Desmond, District Merit Badge Dean

The long-awaited Walking merit badge requirements were released on April 1. Though not an Eagle-required badge, I expect this one will be one of the most popular badges to collect in 2015.

Requirements for the Walking merit badge:

1. Do the following:
   1. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while walking, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
   2. Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while walking, including hypothermia, heatstroke, heat exhaustion, frostbite, dehydration, sunburn, sprained ankle, insect stings, tick bites, snakebite, blisters, hyperventilation, altitude sickness, sudden cardiac arrest, malaria, typhoid, chicken pox, hangnail, ambulophobia, and spontaneous combustion.

2. Explain and, where possible, show the points of good walking practices including putting one foot in front of the other, staying upright, courtesy to others, choice of footwear, and proper care of feet and footwear.

3. Write a 300-word report about how walking was invented. Share this report with your counselor.

4. Make a written plan for a 6-mile walk. Include a map route, equipment list, list of emergency phone numbers, list of food stops along the route, list of homes with dogs or large cats along the route, and list of bus, train, or taxi stops along the route.

5. Do FIVE of the following accompanied by a parent, or designated adult:
   o Walk and chew gum for at least five minutes without choking.
   o Walk on your hands for at least two minutes without falling.
   o Walk backwards for at least five minutes without running into any person, animal, or inanimate object.
   o Read "A Walk in the Woods" or watch the movie. Report to your counselor about how the book or movie presents the mindset of people that walk. As an alternate, you may watch and report on at least three full seasons of "Walking Dead".
   o Memorize, and present at a campfire, at least three "Walks Into a Bar..." jokes. Poll your fellow scouts to find which one was the most popular and report back to your counselor.
   o Have a talk with your father or grandfather about how he walked to school. If possible, walk from his childhood home to his old schoolhouse and determine if it actually is uphill both ways or not. Report your findings to your counselor.
   o Take a virtual walk on Google Earth or gmap-pedometer.com - the walk must be of at least 100 miles. The walk must start at your home and include at least two state or national parks or monuments, state capitols, national historic locations, or homes of famous people. Save the map of your walk and show it to your counselor.
   o On a campout, cook dinner in a wok for your patrol. (This meal may NOT be used for the Cooking merit badge)

6. Find out about three career opportunities in walking. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

---

From BoyScoutTrail.Com
New Adult Application Submitted by Mychal Tamillow
A new adult application was introduced in March. Any new youth in the Venturing program who are over 18 will now have to fill out an adult application and take YPT. Any 18 year old who is presently registered or rechartered in the program is grandfathered in and does not have to reregister nor take YPT at this time. At the next recharter they will be asked to take YPT.

Presently the Council has not received the new adult applications. The new applications are also available for you to download from www.scouting.org. This new application will serve as the application for adults also, not just for 18 year old youth in the Venturing program.

New Adult Application  https://app.box.com/s/spnjhc1q0483y5i48l77m7gk1018584w
Venturing Application Changes  https://app.box.com/s/vc652jrk40u6agh1iv8ke68rios8ktiq

Day of Service in Catoctin Mountain Park
Submitted by Jim Sundergill
The Catoctin Forest Alliance (CFA), a group of volunteers dedicated to the preservation of the Catoctin Mountain forest and a primary partner to Catoctin Mountain Park, has announced their 3rd annual “Day of Service” to be held at Catoctin Mountain Park on May 9th. The event will be held from 9:00 am till 3:00 pm on the 9th with check-in at Camp Greentop’s auditorium on the 9th from 8:00-9:00 am.

This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to come to the park, enjoy the beautiful outdoor setting, do a service project in the park and enjoy a lunch provided by CFA. By prior arrangements, Eagle service projects could be included in the event.

This year we will be staining cabins and eradicating invasive plant species. Projects will be taken over by Troops or Packs that will provide their own leadership for the project. Certificates for Community Service hours will be given out as needed. There is no lower age limit for participants but all will be expected to work for four to five hours that day. The work is usually such that younger Cubs and siblings would not be able to contribute but parents can decide on an individual basis if their child will be able to help and not hinder the work effort. All youth must be supervised by adults. To learn more about the full range of projects available, contact Jim Sundergill at jimsundergill@comcast.net or call 301-898-7549

Goshen Spring 2015 Workend Submitted by Dan Carroll
Attention all current and former staff members, Order of the Arrow members, Scoutmasters, Goshen Bears, handypersons, contractors, and more! On the weekend of May 15th, 16th, and 17th, we will be hosting our Goshen Workend. During this time, we will be constructing new tent outriggers, building a few new bridges, restoring buildings, and taking the necessary steps to open and operate Goshen for the 2015 season! All are welcome to attend and lend a helping hand! If you’ve been wondering how you can pitch in and make a difference at Goshen, this weekend is for you! Don’t delay and sign up today at http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=119323&id=282493#signup
FCVOA Elections: 19 May 2015!!

The Frederick County VOA will be holding its annual elections at the Frederick Church of the Brethren at 7:00 on Tuesday night at the Frederick Church of the Brethren.

Who can run for election?  All Venturers and Sea Scouts in the Appalachian Trail and Catoctin Mountain Districts can run for office.

Why run for office?  *Want to make a difference in the Venturing Program? Need some leadership opportunities?*  Here is your chance!!  Come make a difference and help expand the program within Frederick County!!

What positions are open?  President, VP of Administration, VP of Program, VP of Communications, Secretary, and Treasurer.

How do I know I am eligible?  Just be active in a Venturing Crew for at least 12 months and it is strongly encouraged that Venturers have ILSC.

For more information contact Damon Allen the FCVOA Advisor at: ALLENONTHELAKE@comcast.net
## Adventuring Blurb

### Frederick County VOA

**April 2015**

### Meetings

| MEETINGS |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| **Frederick Co. VOA** |
| 3rd Tuesday, 3:30 PM |
| Frederick Church of the Brethren |
| May 21, May 19, Jun 16, Aug 18, Sep 15, Oct 20 |
| **NCAC VOA** |
| 1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM |
| NCAC, Bethesda |
| May 2, Jun 6, Jul 7 |

### Activities

| APRIL |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| **April** |
| **Apr. 21: Frederick Co. Venturing Forum** |
| Allmeetings@bsa-bsa.org |
| The Frederick County Venturing Officers Association will be hosting its bi-monthly Venturing Forum on Tuesday April 21 at the Frederick Church of the Brethren. The Forum will begin at 7:20 which will be addressing ideas to increase membership via recruitment. Summer opportunities for Venturers will also be discussed. |

| **Apr. 24-26: Area 3 e Vent** |
| areare3@venturing-bsa.org |
| The Area 3 VOA will be hosting its annual event known as the e Vent! This year’s e Vent will be a Zombie Apocalypse! The e Vent will take place at Camp Woodland in Constantia, NY! The cost is $45 for tenting or $55 for cabin camping. Such activities will include: shooting, “survival,” cooking, dancing, and partying! For more information and to register, contact Jordan Dunning! |

### Training

| MAY |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| **May** |
| **May 17-19: Project COPE Training** |
| ncacCOPE@gmail.com |
| The NCAC COPE Committee will be offering a COPE Instructor training for any youth and adult with interest in staffing COPE Courses at Scout Camps. The training will take place at Camp Snyder in Haymarket, Virginia. Sign up and learn how to be a COPE Instructor, lead games, and learn how to properly text the ropes course! Learn the secrets of the trade on how to help youth enhance their leadership, communicational, and decision making skills. Cost and sleeping arrangements have yet to be announced. A BSA Medical form is required for this training. For more information and to sign up, contact Tony Waiszner, NCAC Training Chair. |

### Friends

All crew officers are encouraged to join us to plan activities! Contact: Chris Platt, President: chris.platt34@gmail.com (or Damon Allen, Advisor: allenon: thelake@comcast.net)
Frederick County Venturing Forum

21 April starting at 7:20 at the Frederick Church of the Brethren

Come join the Frederick County Venturing Officers Association for a night of food, games, and education!!

Learn the tricks of the trade on how to recruit new youth! Discover what programs and opportunities are available for Venturers during the summer months! Obtain information on the FCVOA Elections and the upcoming Spring Fling!!

An open Forum will be conducted where Crews can ask questions about anything!! All Advisors, Crew Committee Members, Youth Officers, and Crew members are encouraged to attend!! Bring your friends!!

For more information, contact Damon Allen at: ALLENONTHELAKE@comcast.net.

Venturing Officers Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: https://app.box.com/s/z2xlp8bqb2pv95iwriceo3hd71mmkuvj
National Capital Area Council
Frederick Area Districts

Join Scouting and Cub Scout Bike Rodeo

Saturday, May 9th from 1PM to 3PM

at

Harley-Davidson of Frederick

Join your Scout friends for a day of bike riding! Registration is open to all Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos (and elementary-age siblings). All Scouts will receive a Bike Rodeo Patch and visit stations to earn rank requirements, biking belt loop and pin (awarded by individual packs).

Bring your own bike & helmet!

Activities include:
Flat tire changing demo & bicycle inspections by Bike Doctor of Frederick
Helmet fittings by Safe Kids Coalition of Frederick
Rules of safe cycling, bike registration & loss prevention
Make a poster of early bikes
Challenge Ride & Obstacle Course

Rank Requirements & Electives: Tiger Elective 38 (Bike Repair), Wolf Requirement 9E (bike safety), Bear Requirement 14 A-F, Webelos Athlete (#8) & Handyman (#6, 7, 8)

Questions or to volunteer: Contact LeMoyne Fletcher 301-471-3206 or cubmaster@pack271.org

Registration: $5 per child; includes Rodeo Patch.

Due by May 1st

Mail to: LeMoyne Fletcher, 8205 Skipwith Drive, Frederick, MD 21702

Scout Name ___________________________ Rank ______ Pack ________

Phone: ________________________________

Email: ________________________________
The Frederick County Venturing Officers Association, the Frederick County Gathering of Eagles, and the Frederick Maryland Stake invite you to—

The Spring Fling

Friday, May 15, 2015
8:00 - 10:30 p.m.
at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
199 North Place, Frederick, MD 21701

Dress: Coat and Tie for the young men; Sunday dress for the young women

This dance is for youth ages 14-18.
You are welcome to bring a partner, or just come alone.
We will have punch, refreshments, a dance demonstration, some dance instruction, great music and a lot of fun and dancing.

For questions contact Paul Smith at 301-748-2929 or cpaulsmith@verizon.net
Admission is free. Modest dress and conduct standards will be observed.
“Gathering of Eagles” Invitation

The Gathering of Eagle Committee invites you to attend the third “Gathering of Eagles” Banquet

Celebration for Eagle Scouts in Frederick County.

When: Wednesday, May 13, 2015
Where: Dutch’s Daughter Restaurant
581 Himes Avenue, Frederick, MD 21703
2nd Floor Banquet Room, 301-668-9574

Time: 6 - 10 p.m. Dinner Buffet served at approximately 7 p.m.


Cost: None. Donations will be solicited.

Program: Surprise Speaker

Buffet Menu: 4 entrees will be offered: Sautéed Beef Tenderloin,
Dutch’s Chicken, Atlantic Salmon and Vegetarian

Note: Please indicate your choice of entrée with your attending reply as we need that information to order your dinner selection. To accept your invitation, please respond immediately to fbroadrup@comcast.net to reserve your space at the Banquet event. The response cutoff date is Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

Event Concept

• A celebration of your achieving Eagle Rank with your fellow Eagles
• Only Eagles are invited -no spouses or significant others.
• If unable to attend and still wish to make a contribution to support Scouting in Frederick County, please make your check to: Gathering of Eagles of Frederick County, Inc. and send to Fred Broadrup at 2502 Hemingway Drive #3D, Frederick, MD 21702
• Please bring to the Banquet any Scouting memorabilia, especially patches, which will be sold as a fund raiser for next year’s event. If requested, a tax donation letter will be provided for your donation. The sales table has been a big hit in the past, but we are getting low on material. Please consider donating and buying Scouting Material.
• You may cancel up to one week prior to the event if your plans change. Notify me at the above email to Cancel.
Appalachian Trail Training Corps (ATTC)

Proudly Presents!

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills (IOLS)

WHEN: May 15-17, 2015

Course starts Friday evening at 6pm sharp and ends promptly on Sunday at noon

Plan to arrive on time and stay for the whole weekend. It’s packed! I will not waste your time.
All of our lives are quite busy, so please do not ask for dispensations for personal reasons.

WHERE: Kemptown Park
3456 - B Kemptown Church Rd.
Monrovia, MD 21770

WHO: Adult, direct contact leaders (Asst Scoutmasters) who are not yet fully TRAINED!
Adult leaders are considered fully TRAINED when they have completed:

- Youth Protection Training (online)
- Scoutmaster / Asst-Scoutmaster Leader Specific Training (Live, and in person)
- And…. IOLS!

COST: $25/ person payable when you arrive at the event. Cash is preferred.
If you withdraw, for any reason, after May 10th, you will still be expected to pay the fees unless you can find a replacement for your slot.

WHAT: Before the weekend of the training, you’ll be assigned to a patrol. Together, you’ll plan your meals, buy your grub and work out logistics for gear. You’ll choose a patrol name and a cheer. Make a flag. And get to know your new patrol mates. Just like your Scouts do.

Then when you arrive on Friday, you will become a new Scout and go through all the requirements that our Scouts must meet: Fire starting, first aid, flags, knots, knives, animals, tents, cooking, gear, and more!!

What is the best part of IOLS, you ask? Why give your valuable time??

You will begin to build a valuable web of friendships both with adult leaders, like you, who are preparing for a larger role in Scouting with their sons and with veteran staff members who are True Believers in Scouting and have already walked the road you are starting.

SIGN UP: Email William Lohr, ATTC Chair, at wklohr@gmail.com by April 30, 2015, to register.
Late registration is $35.
Cub Scout Pack 48 Continues Partnership with Local School’s STEM Program
By Jeff Freimanis, Den Leader Pack 48

On April 17, 2015, Cub Scout Pack 48 in Frederick, MD continued its partnership with Monocacy Elementary School this spring by providing volunteer opportunities to assist with maintenance and the development of the school’s outside garden area. The outside area, which consists of numerous garden beds, multiple composting stations and other agricultural amenities, is used by the school’s STEM program to provide students with a hands on learning experience. Some of the topics students learn about are the benefits of composting, how vegetables grow, how to identify various plants, and how to take better care of our environment.

The event hosted 30 Scouts and adults including the special guests Unit Commissioner Linda Sundergill, Assistant District Commissioner Jim Sundergill, and Catoctin Mountain District Executive Mychal Tamillow. All participants were put to work helping to fix the borders of the raised garden beds, filling the beds with compost and top soil and recycle old wood pallets to create a table to be used as a discovery and planting station for a student in a wheelchair. Also, as part of a school beautification project, the volunteers weeded around the bushes and trees in front of the school preparing the area for other groups in the school to mulch and plant in the area in the coming weeks.

Overall it was a great night, a lot of hard work and a chance for Scouts to give back to the community. The Pack looks forward to continuing this partnership in the fall as new projects are already in the works.
AWARDS DINNER HELD ON SUNDAY

Story, photos and departures from the truth provided by Jim Sundergill

If you weren’t at the Thurmont American Legion on Sunday afternoon, April 19, you missed the best Catoctin Mountain District awards dinner of the year. Due to the recent closure of the Cozy Restaurant, dinner chairman Ron Layman had to scramble to find a venue for our dinner. Consequently, it was held on a Sunday night which may be the first time that has happened. In an interesting coincidence, this was our 12th annual dinner and it was also the 12th wedding anniversary for District Chairman Dave Place and his lovely bride Dianna. A blue travel mug emblazoned with the Catoctin Mountain District logo was given to all who were present. Alan Ashley provided the invocation and then everyone enjoyed a scrumptious buffet of roast beef, fried chicken and all the trimmings which was provided by Thurmont American Legion Post 168.

After seconds (or thirds in some cases) the awards portion of the evening commenced with Chairman Dave Place handing out certificates to all District Committee members present. Ron Layman followed by presenting plaques to the chairs of various events such as Klondike Derby and the camporees. Larry Boyd then announced that Troop 324 had won the Sports Unit of the Year award.

Leader recognitions were handed out by Jim Sundergill. The Cubmaster of the Year, for the second year in a row, is LeMoyne Fletcher of Pack 271, sponsored by Brook Hill United Methodist Church. The Scoutmaster of the Year is Shawn Youngberg of Troop 324, sponsored by the Monocacy Ward of the Frederick LDS Stake. Shawn was unable to be present for the presentation. The Family of the Year is the Wright Family. John is with Ship 37, Troop 270 and Crew 270. Leann is with Ship 37. Peter is with Ship 37, troop 270 and is active in OA. Alex is with Ship 37 and the Frederick County Venturing Officers Association (FCVOA).
Next on the agenda were the Venturing Leadership awards presented by Damon Allen. These are new awards created to honor Venturing youth and adults who exemplify outstanding leadership skills. The youth who received these awards are Kelsey Stafford, Crew 270, Mercedes Matlock, Ship 59, and Alex Wright, Ship 37. Adult recipients are Dave Place, Crew 270 and Paul Smith, Crew 280. Additionally Damon handed out certificates of appreciation to Alex Mayhew, Alex Wright and Kelsey Stafford for their support of the FCVOA.

![Venturing Leadership Award presentation](image)

*From left to right: Damon Allen, presenter, Peter Wright accepting for his sister Alex, Mercedes Matlock, Kelsey Stafford and Dave Place. Not present for the picture in addition to Alex Wright was Paul Smith.*

Bill Desmond, CMD District Commissioner, was next on the agenda. Bill first presented the Commissioner’s recognition. The Assistant District Commissioner for 2015 is John Huggins for his overall effort but more specifically for championing Commissioner Tools, the new software application for Commissioners; the Unit Commissioner of the Year is Tom Lesser, Unit Commissioner for Pack 1055 and Troop 799, sponsored by FSK American Legion Post 11.

*Alex Wright receives her Venturing Leadership Award from Damon Allen at FVCOA meeting.*
Among the most anticipated awards each year are the Commissioner Unit of the Year awards. This year the Pack of the Year award went to Pack 271, sponsored by the Brook Hill United Methodist Church. This is the second year in a row that Pack 271 has earned this honor. Commissioner’s Outstanding Packs this year are Pack 48, Pack 270, Pack 324, Pack 628, Pack 886, Pack 1055, Pack 1069 and Pack 1998. The Troop of the Year is Troop 324 sponsored by the Monocacy Ward of the Frederick LDS Stake. Commissioner’s Outstanding Troops are Troop 168, Troop 1011, Troop 1070 and Troop 1191. The Team of the Year is Team 324 sponsored by the Monocacy Ward of the Frederick LDS Stake. The Crew of the Year is Crew 270 sponsored by Thurmont Community Ambulance Service 254.

After Bill’s presentations, Jim Sundergill presented the Catoctin Mountain Peak awards to individuals that the units felt have helped them the most in the past year. This year there were 27 individuals that were honored by this award. This is the largest number of recipients of the award since its inception in 2004. The contributions of each are included in the dinner program given to those who made it to the dinner.

The next award of the evening was the CMD Baden-Powell Excellence in Service to Scouting Award. This award was created last year and is presented by the CMD Key 3 (District Chairman, District Commissioner and District Executive) to the Scouter that the Key 3 agree has performed the highest level of service to the District. This year’s honoree is Ron Layman.
Norm Feldser followed by reading the list of the 31 Eagle Scouts in the class of 2014. A number from one to 31 was selected by the youngest Scout at the dinner and the Eagle Scout corresponding to that number will be the recipient of a $100 scholarship.

Dave Place and Bill Desmond then presented the highest awards of the evening: the District Award of Merit. This award is given for service at the unit or District level which is deemed by the selection committee to be of the highest level. Districts are allowed to give out this award on the basis of the number of registered units in the District. However, it is not required that all of the allocations be awarded each year. The awards may be stock piled so that in some years there are fewer and some years there are more than the average. This year there were four such awards presented. They went to R. J. Grenier for his outstanding service as the Cub Scout Roundtable commissioner and for the excellent Klondike Derbies that he and his Troop 168 have run for the past two years. The second Award of Merit went to Mark Jefferies who was not present to receive the award so it will be presented at a future Roundtable. The third Award went to Belinda Matlock for her outstanding work with Ship 59 and for the excellent job she is doing as the CMD Vice Chair for Marketing. The fourth Award went to John Huggins for his outstanding work as an Assistant District Commissioner and Unit commissioner and for his eleven years of service as our District Health & Safety chair. Congratulations to all of you.

The evening was concluded with short but heartfelt words of thanks from District Executive Mychal Tamillow. Mychal said that the District was strong because of the volunteers who put in the effort to make it strong. It was also mentioned that next year’s dinner would probably be in January to more closely match our District year. So it’s not too early now to start thinking of those Unit of the Year criteria, leader nominations and Peak award submittals.
Catoctin Mountain District’s 2015 Spring Camporee
a.k.a. The Cast Iron Chef Cook-O-ree Submitted by Dave Place

What merit badge used to be Eagle required, then was not and now is again? If you said Cooking MB you are correct. What better way to earn some of the requirements and have fun doing it than at a Cook-O-ree!

Troop 270 & Venturing Crew 270 jointly hosted the Cook-O-ree at the Walkersville Watershed on April 10-12. The weather was perfect for 16 youth and 3 adult patrols to learn about cooking and then put their cooking skills to the test.

Each meal had a secret ingredient to be added to their already set-up menus for the weekend with specific requirements on how that meal was to be prepared. Breakfast was manicotti noodles, lunch was pinto beans and the meal was to be prepared in cast iron cookware, dinner was capers with the meal to be prepared over a wood fire/wood coals-no charcoal and dessert was raspberry extract.

Each meal was judged by four judges (with one judge always a Venturer) and they were looking for; how the secret ingredient used, taste of the meal, creativity, appearance, smell, presentation and was the presenter neat & clean when delivering the meal. Yes, they checked hands and nails too!

Overall the meals ranged from tasting like soap to absolutely delicious. There were a few that were very creative with the secret ingredient and some that did not cook the secret ingredient, it was an interesting array of meals and ideas. Imagine dried pinto beans sprinkled on a hot dog as a garnish… to some of the most delectable 1 alarm chili you ever tasted.

In between making meals, the patrols rotated to different stations learning about the different aspects of outdoor cooking; how to use fire in cooking, cooking first aid, safe food handling, nutrition and menu planning and last but not least, an egg toss game and item scavenger hunt.

Throughout the weekend Scouts were given an optional signature scavenger hunt to complete. This required communication skills and going outside your comfort zone to ask 20 questions to others like, “Has been to Goshen”? or “Used to be a Wood Badge Fox”? The completed sheet was evaluated at HQ and a special Ghost Patch (an all-white version of the cook-o-ree patch) was awarded to those that completed the sheet correctly. After the camporee was all over, the remaining “ghost patches” were destroyed making the ones that were earned that much more valuable!

The patrol that was the over-all winner of the cook-o-ree received a brand new 14” Camp Chef Dutch oven, a deluxe lid lifter, Camp Chef Dutch oven gloves and a set of 3 pre-seasoned cast iron skillets!
Winners of the Cook-O-ree are as follows:

**Breakfast Winners**: 1<sup>st</sup>: Mahi Mahi Patrol, T168; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Flaming Stickmen, T1998; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Flaming Huskies, T1636

**Lunch Winners**: 1<sup>st</sup>: Flaming Stickmen, T1998; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mahi Mahi Patrol, T168; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Dragons, T243

**Dinner Winners**: 1<sup>st</sup>: Gladiators, T274, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mahi Mahi Patrol, T168; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Flaming Stickmen, T1998

**Dessert Winners**: 1<sup>st</sup>: Flaming Stickmen, T1998; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mahi Mahi Patrol, T168; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gladiators, T274

**Over-all Winners**: 1<sup>st</sup>: Flaming Stickmen, T1998; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mahi Mahi Patrol, T168; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gladiators, T274

Troop 270 & Venturing Crew 270 would like to thank all those who helped to make this weekend a success. A special thanks to the food judges who braved the dangers and reaped the rewards while putting their taste buds to the taste test: Jacob D., Walt Ellenberg, Marie Mayhew, Devin S., Kelsey S., Dwayne Snyder, Carie Stafford, and Mychal Tamillow.

---

**April is Youth Protection Month** Submitted by Bill Desmond

During April, you have the opportunity to understand the importance of prevention of emerging threats to youth. Youth Protection depends upon the shared involvement of everyone in Scouting. What can you do?

Do you know your Youth Protection Champion? Contact your Youth Protection Champion at the unit, district, council, area, or regional level. For more information, see the BSA’s YP [http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/YPChampions.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/YPChampions.aspx). Ensure that you and others you know are Youth Protection–trained. For more information, see the BSA’s Youth Protection web page at [http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx).

Training is not limited to leaders; encourage parents and others interested to take it. Don’t forget to reconcile your training record with your MyScouting profile. For step-by-step instructions on how to do this, see the BSA’s YP Training How-To’s web page at [http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/howto.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/howto.aspx).

Be an “upstander Champion, NOT a bystander, and get involved. An upstander is someone who recognizes, responds to, and reports bullying behavior. For more information, see the BSA’s Bullying Awareness web page at [http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/bullying.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/bullying.aspx).

Targets of bullying behavior can become those who bully and target others. Stop the cycle before it begins. Brush up on internet safety. For more information, see the BSA’s Cyber Chip web page at [http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/cyberchip.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/cyberchip.aspx).
To sign up for **The Blue Blaze**, go to [http://Scouting-cmd.org/blueblaze](http://Scouting-cmd.org/blueblaze)


According to NCMEC NetSmartz, “it is important that parents and guardians understand how children’s vulnerabilities may make them susceptible to manipulation by these predators.” Sex offenders/predators know to contact youth where there is little to no adult supervision—online. Cyberbullying—bullying can occur in cyberspace. Research indicates that about one-third of online teens (ages 12 to 17) have been cyberbullied; girls are more likely to be targeted. [http://scoutingwire.org/april-is-youth-protection-month/?utm_source=Volunteers&utm_campaign=b0eb6d9c25-Volunteer_Newsletter_6_04_15_20154_15_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9777d746feb0eb6d9c25-203948893#_ftn1](http://scoutingwire.org/april-is-youth-protection-month/?utm_source=Volunteers&utm_campaign=b0eb6d9c25-Volunteer_Newsletter_6_04_15_20154_15_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9777d746feb0eb6d9c25-203948893#_ftn1)

Further, the BSA challenges you to not only acknowledge Youth Protection during the month of April, but every day of the year. Our youth are worth it. Remember…

**Youth Protection Begins With YOU.**

**Disclaimer**

The Catoctin Mountain District only posts advertisements/information which may be directly related to Scouting, however the inclusion of such advertising/articles does not suggest nor imply endorsement of any such product, person or company.

Please encourage every one of the leaders and adults in your unit to sign up for *The Blue Blaze* so we can improve the communication of Scouting information in our District. The process is easy. Just use the link at the left, fill in the blanks and you will be on the distribution list. If you find you are not getting *The Blue Blaze* mailings even though you signed up, just go back.