### Upcoming Events (Training Events in RED)

**July**

- **No District meetings this month**—Have FUN camping
- **14** Popcorn Kick Off 7:15pm LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick
- **31** Popcorn orders due

**August**

- **10-15** Camp Airy
- **15** Touch a Truck
- **11** 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** Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
- **25** District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701 david.place@Scouting-cmd.org
- **26** District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfieldser@comcast.net

**September**

- **5** **Fall Super Training**
- **8** Roundtable at the Walkersville Watershed beginning at 6:15pm. Bring a dish to share. See details below.
- **10** Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
- **11-13** **Woodbadge**, contact margie.egan@scouting.org
- **22** District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701 david.place@Scouting-cmd.org
- **23** District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfieldser@comcast.net

---

**SCOUTER PICNIC AT SEPTEMBER ROUNDTABLE**

The annual Scouter Picnic will be held at the September 8 Roundtable at the Walkersville Watershed. Food serving will begin at 6:15 PM. Cost is $5.00 per person. Each Scouter should also bring a side dish to share. The District will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, plates, cups and utensils. This year our colleagues from the Appalachian Trail District will be joining us. Advance registration is required by email to CMDCommissioner@aol.com. Please use “Picnic” in the subject line. Registration cut off will be Saturday, September 5.
Congratulations to Alex Mayhew on his recent election as Catoctin Mountain Chapter Chief in the Order of the Arrow. This is Alex’s second term in this office. He is a great Scout and a fine person to lead our local OA chapter as it begins its second century of service.

Cub Scout Day Camp was a HUGE success. Many thanks to the leaders who gave so unselfishly of their time and talent in the planning and execution of this event. Our units are in the midst of summer resident camps. I have heard some reports from some units on their experiences this summer. Is there anything better than Boy Scout summer resident camp? I think not. Remember that we have available to us a unique Scouting experience at Camp Airy from August 10-15. Check out the web site at www.airybsa.org for details.

For units that did not do formal six month planning in the spring, please do your Scouts a favor by holding a planning session before we begin our fall Scouting program. Also, I solicit unit Key 3 support to their Unit Commissioners in completing the new Unit Assessments.

Unit Advancement Chairs Have you subscribed to Advancement News BSA’s e-newsletter on topics related to youth advancement? It is for all levels of Scouting from Cubs to Venturing. Sign up by sending an email to advancement.team@scouting.org using “Subscribe” in the subject line and providing your name, email address and Council name in the body of the message. Best of all – there is no cost!!

Reporting Journey to Excellence Service Hours

Scouting was founded on the premise of doing a Good Turn daily. Community service is very important in the character-building process and, as Scouts, we have made the commitment to give back to our communities. BSA has provided a website to make it easy for units to report and keep track of the Service Projects we perform in our local communities.

Completion of a certain number of service hours is a requirement for each unit's Journey to Excellence score. This website will help to keep track of service projects and hours spent executing them. Setting up a unit's Profile on the Service Hours website is simple. Just follow the three steps shown on the next page! To sign up, you will need to know your 4-digit Unit Number (use zeros to make up digits if needed. Example: Troop 48 would use Troop 0048) as well as your Unit ID#, (this is the same # you use for online advancement). If you don't have this, you can get it from District Executive Mychal Tamilow.
Have a terrific Scout outdoors summer. Please remember that the September Roundtable is a picnic at the Watershed. Reservations are needed by September 5. See you at August Roundtable at the Stake Center.

Yours in Commissioner Service,

**Bill Desmond**
District Commissioner

---

**Merit Badge Information** 
Bill Desmond, District Merit Badge Dean:

The *Counselor’s Compass* is a quarterly BSA e-newsletter designed to provide Merit Badge Counselors with current information on a variety of topics related to the Merit Badge Program. To subscribe, send a message to merit.badge@scouting.org with “Subscribe” in the subject line. In the message text, indicate your name, email address and Council name.

Included in the Spring 2015 edition, is a citation from the 2015 Guide to Advancement that Scouts should not be given on line access to counselor lists out of respect for the privacy of Merit Badge Counselors. It was also noted that on May 22 the first set of interactive, digital merit badge pamphlets went on sale for the First Aid, Cooking, Robotics and Animation Merit Badges. For more information on the interactive, digital pamphlets including purchase details, visit www.boyslife.org/meritbadges.

Finally, be on the lookout for the new Animation Merit Badge released by BSA on May 19.
Bike Rodeo

This article appeared in the July-September “The Scouter Digest”.

In May, Pack 271 and the Catoctin Mountain District held the annual Bike Rodeo at the Harley-Davidson of Frederick's motorcycle training course. The Frederick County Sheriff's Department was out in full force to assemble an obstacle course they designed for the Scouts to learn bicycle safety.

Some parts of the course are used to train police officers on bikes, and the Scouts had a great time interacting with their local law enforcement. The officers gave demonstrations on proper technique and safety instructions so the Scouts would be prepared to have a safe summer on their bikes.

Despite a few collisions and scraped elbows, everyone had a great time at the event! Bike Doctor of Frederick also paid a visit to show the Scouts how to patch tires and adjust their seat height for a comfortable ride. A huge thanks to Pack 271 who provided excellent leadership and organization to put on a fun and educational event.
Day Camp “Take Flight” GREAT Success
The Catoctin Mountain District Day Camp took flight June 22-26 at the Frederick Municipal Airport. With the support of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Cub Scouts saw hot air balloon demonstrations and got a chance to stand in the basket of the balloon. They were able to use flight simulators and hear talks given by working pilots. They even enjoyed a Stearman Biplane fly-by. In addition the 216 Cub Scouts had visits from “Amelia Earhart” and “Howard Hughes”.

Mr. Hughes arrived in this 1932 Chrysler LaBaron

The Cubs searched for clues to find Amelia Earhart’s missing plane and wore special tee shirts to commemorate their efforts.

The Cub also had archery and bb shooting events and a zip line airplane to ride. The 65 Day Camp staff really went the extra mile to make this Day Camp extra special for the boys.

The Frederick News Post did a very nice article about the Day Camp, including a video. You can access the article and video by using the link below.

Mark Jeffery Receives District Award of Merit at Day Camp
This year the Catoctin Mountain District presented four deserving Scouters with the District Award of Merit. Three were presented at the District Recognition Dinner in May—John Huggins, Belinda Matlock and R. J. Grenier. The fourth recipient of the award, Mark Jeffery, was not able to attend the awards dinner. His certificate was presented at the closing banquet of the Day Camp on June 26th.

Mark has served as a Den Leader in Pack 1070 for 5 years and Scoutmaster of Troop 1070 for two years. He has been Day Camp Director for two years (2014 and 2015). He is an OA Brotherhood member.

Congratulations Mark and thank you for your service to Scouting.
You Can Impact Youth for Life Simply by Promoting their Opportunities

BSA has established a unit-level position of Religious Emblems Coordinator (“REC”) for the purpose of encouraging all youth to earn the emblem of their faith. To support this initiative, Catoctin Mountain District will issue a complimentary Unit REC position patch (pictured above) to the first 20 units who respond by contacting District REC, Alan Ashley, at AlanAshley@cedarville.edu or 240-409-6610 (voice or text). In addition, anyone assisting in the recruitment of a Unit REC will receive a promotional patch (pictured below). Just let Alan know of your efforts.

Information about the role of the Unit REC can be found at the following websites:
http://www.praypub.org/rec/
http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Commissioners/newsletter/spotlight/10_2013_religious.aspx
ADVENTURING BLURB
FREDERICK COUNTY VOA
SUMMER 2015

MEETINGS

Frederick Co. VOA
3rd Tuesday, 6:30-7:15 pm
Frederick Church of the Brethren
Jun 16
Aug 18
Sep 15
Oct 20
Nov 17
Dec 15

NCAC VOA
1st Tuesday 7-9 pm
NCAC, Bethesda
Jul 7
Aug 4
Sep 1

Frederick Co. Venturing Forum
3rd Tuesday 7:20-8:20 pm
Frederick Church of the Brethren
Jun 16
Aug 18
Oct 20

District Round Table
2nd Tuesday 7-9 pm
LDS Stake and Church of the Brethren
Jun 9
Aug 11
Sep 8

ACTIVITIES

June

June 16: Youth Officers Needed for FCVOA
Allenonthelake@comcast.net Rich.golling@yahoo.com
Youth Officers are needed to plan and regulate the Frederick County Venturing Officers Association. Youth need to be registered in the Venturing Program and show an interest in obtaining leadership skills by serving on the FCVOA. Positions open include: President, VP of Administration, VP of Program, VP of Communications, Secretary, and Treasurer. Contact Damon Allen or Rich Golling for more information.

June 16: Venturing Forum
Allenonthelake@comcast.net Rich.golling@yahoo.com
The Next Frederick County Venturing Forum will take place on 19 June at the Frederick Church of the Brethren starting at 7:15 PM. Learn about what the Frederick County VOA can do for you and what you can do for the FCVOA. Also learn about summer opportunities for Venturers such as... Contact Damon Allen and Rich Golling for more information.

Summer

Summer: Camp Meade
Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation’s Camp Meade is open to Venturers to experience a unique summer adventure! Venturers can choose from 7 different weeks for their adventure! Go online and check out the program available!

Summer: V-Week
www.fcacscout.org
Camp Sallman will be hosting a V-Week for all Venturers from 2-8 August! ATV Driving, Project COPE, Wilderness Survival, Leave No Trace, and Adventure Outposts are just a few of the many available programs for youth this summer! Go online and register!!

Summer: Venturing @ Goshen
Gary.Carroll@scouting.org
Goshen Scout Reservation has special programs available for Venturers during the summer!! In one week, youth can work on various requirements for the new Venturing Award!! In a two week stay, youth can complete nearly half of the Ranger Award Requirements! Youths can decide to attend as individuals or register as a group. The youth decide what activities they wish to participate in and have an adventurous summer!! For more information and to register, contact Gary Carroll as soon as possible!!

Summer: Eagle Base
www.lhcbsa.org
The Laurel Highlands Council's Eagle Base High Adventure program is open to all Venturers throughout the summer! Participants can register as individuals or as an entire Crew. Full weekend and half-week programs are offered!! All equipment is provided. So participants only need to bring their personal belongings. Go online to check out the program!

FRIENDS

All Crew officers are encouraged to join us to plan activities! Contact: Damon Allen, Advisor: allennon-the-lake@comcast.net

TRAINING

June 21-26, July 12-17, and 26-31: NCAC National Youth Leadership Training (IMPEESA)
http://www.ncacbsa.org

The National Capital Area Council will be hosting three separate National Youth Leadership Training Courses known as IMPEESA or NVLT. Each session is a week long where each participant: Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts learn the necessary skills to be efficient leaders within their respective units. The youth will learn about setting a Vision, establishing Goals, as well as Planning. Participants will also learn about solving problems, using the EDGE method, and making Ethical Decisions. Participants must be 13 years of age, Venturers and Sea Scouts must be under 21 years old to be able to attend the course. For more information on course fees and to register, go online to the NCAC Website.
District Committee Minutes
The minutes of the May District Committee meeting are available by going to:
https://app.box.com/s/fi9y2avo4nfd32k7ds4msamh0w73bxm

International Scouting News Submitted by Shawn Youngberg
The July issue of International Scouting News is available at
https://app.box.com/s/bfeqjm1j1dyg1ml9azdaonrqa3atl11t

Unit Change Request submitted by Bill Desmond
The Unit Change Request Form is to be used by Scouters to update information regarding their membership in the BSA and associations within their units. The types of information that can be updated include:
- Name
- Address
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- Position Change

This form is designed to be more efficient than the current method which requires the Scouter to fill out a new adult application or wait for the annual re-charter to update this information in the ScoutNet system. To access the PDF fillable form and get full details, go to http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=114091&id=315876

Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills Training
Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills, which is required training for Scoutmasters and ASM's, will be offered under the following schedule:
- 10/8/15, Thursday evening - initial training topics will be presented, patrols will be formed, and patrols will plan for the overnight experience
- 10/23-10/24, Friday through Saturday - training will be completed through an outdoor camping experience

Registration deadline is 10/1. Contact AlanAshley@cedarville.edu with questions or to register.
NCAC Venturing Shooting Event  
Saturday, July 25, 2015

What: A one-day event for Venturers to shoot .22 cal rifles and .22 cal and larger caliber pistols, as an introduction for new shooters and to begin to qualify for the Venturing Ranger Award Shooting Sports Elective for more experienced shooters.

When: Saturday, July 25, 2015, 9:00AM to 5:00 PM

Where: A private range near Frederick, MD. Details provided after registration.

Number of Participants: Maximum of 30

Cost: $30

Other information: No one “can’t shoot.” Everyone can shoot well. Everyone can have fun. There is no magic age, size, build, gender, etc. You just need a willingness to try, and a positive attitude. Class size is limited to provide a quality teaching environment.

- Be part of a relaxed setting on a private range in a small class.
- Strong hands-on emphasis & firearms practice- you will get plenty of practice
- Firearms, ammunition, etc are provided- Do not bring your own.
- Safety glasses and ear protection are provided.
- Shooting house is open to the breeze, dress comfortably!
- Bring your own lunch. Drinks will be supplied.

Point of Contact: Joseph Flaig, NCAC Shooting Sports Committee, jwflaig@aol.com
To sign up for The Blue Blaze, go to http://Scouting-cmd.org/blueblaze

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.