Upcoming Events (Training Events in RED) (Recharter Turn in)

November
18 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
21 NCAC Pow Wow for Cub Scout Leaders and Den Chief, contact http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=695745&group=
21 Training Day for all Positions in Baltimore, contact http://www.baltimorebsa.org/event/1766010
24 District Committee “Annual Meeting, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701 david.place@Scouting-cmd.org
28 Recharter Turn In LDS Stake, 199 North Place, Frederick 9-noon.

December
5 Training day for nearly all positions in Gaithersburg offered by Seneca District Cub Scout Leader Specific http://www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=671263&group=
8 Recharter Turn In and Workshop at Roundtable, contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
10 Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
12 Recharter Turn In and Workshop, contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
14 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
19 Recharter Turn In “LAST CALL”, contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
22 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701
28 Bubble Soccer, contact bubblesoccer@ship37.org

January 2016
9 District Chairman's Seminar and DC/ADC training at Marriott Scout Service Center
12 Roundtable (Boy Scout/Cub Scout/OA) 7:15pm at LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick
14 Commissioner’s Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
19 Inter Troop Sports Table Tennis, contact shawnyoungberg@comcast.net
22-24 Klondike Derby (Webelos Jan. 23 only), contact grenierscout@gmail.com.
23 Aviation Merit Badge Day, contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
26 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701
From the Desk of the Commish:

This is a very busy time of the Scouting calendar with camping and other programs, youth advancements, Scouting For Food, year-end planning, recharter activities, transition to new leaders, training, etc, etc, etc. I want to thank you Scouters for all you do for our youth.

Some things on my mind this month:

- **Recharter** – the next turn in is on November 28 at the LDS Stake Center from 10:00 AM to noon; turn in again at December Roundtable; final turn in is on December 19 at the Stake Center. If there are any questions, units should contact their Unit Commissioner, the District Executive or myself.

- **Journey to Excellence 2015** - JTE forms may be turned in with recharter packages or sent to me directly. December 30 is the last day for getting JTE forms turned in.

- **Journey to Excellence 2016** – Take a look at the 2016 benchmarks to see where your unit program may need to be tweaked. JTE is the national standard for best practices and all our units should be aligned to it.

- **Unit of the Year Forms** – These may be turned in with recharter material or handled separately to me. Once again, December 30 is the last day for turn in.

- **Training** – Scouters, please consider attending the University of Scouting and/or the Commissioners College training days in February and March. These are great opportunities for networking and training. They are also FUN.

- **Membership** – our District membership numbers are down for another year. I ask all Scouters to promote membership recruitment so that our movement may continue to offer the value based programs that is Scouting.

- **Reporting Service Hours** – it really doesn’t take much effort to report unit service hours. My analysis is that this in an area where we consistently under report. It is easy to record service hours using the JTE site (www.scouting.org/Awards/JourneyToExcellence)

As I mention last month, changes are coming to the Boy Scout program beginning January 1. Answers to all your questions on the new Boy Scout program features can be found at www.scouting.org/programupdates.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. I hope you are having “Thanksgiving in the Woods.” Finally, thank you veterans for your service to America. Also, happy 240th birthday to you Marines.

Yours in Commissioner Service,

Bill Desmond
District Commissioner

Commissioner’s Corps Positions Open: We continue to seek a Unit Commissioner for Pack, Troop and Crew 1998 sponsored by the Elks Club in Frederick. We are also looking for a Roundtable Boy Scout breakout session Commissioner. Please contact Bill Desmond at CMDCommissioner@aol.com for the specifics of each position.
Aviation Merit Badge Day January 23rd
by Bill Desmond
The District is working with the Airline Owners and Pilots Association to put on an Aviation Merit Badge Day in Frederick on January 23, 2015 from 8:30am until 2:30pm at the AOPA National Aviation Community Center at the Frederick Municipal Airport. The maximum class size is 20 Scouts, so advance registration is required. Click on the link below for full details including registration and consent forms.  https://app.box.com/s/4njs6jq2glum4ljpqbqxwil4m1iaz5zl

What Is the SCOUTStrong® Be MedWise Award? Submitted by John Huggins

The Boy Scouts of America and the National Council on Patient Information and Education (NCPIE) developed the SCOUTStrong Be MedWise Award as an interactive way to educate members of Boy Scouting, Venturing, and American youth in general about the importance of safely and responsibly using medicines. Survey data show that 50 percent of teens begin to self-medicate with over-the-counter medicines in their homes as early as ages 11 to 12, and each year, there are approximately 10,000 children and teens seen in emergency rooms because of errors made in the self-medication of OTC medicines. This program improves the knowledge gap that youth have when it comes to medicines and will teach skills needed to use medicines responsibly.

This award is designed to complement existing Boy Scouting and Venturing programming. This award's training curriculum consists of four lessons that could be reviewed at the start of a unit meeting, taking no more than 12 to 15 minutes each. The program is self-paced, which allows the unit leader to determine how quickly it is completed.

Upon completion of the SCOUTStrong Be MedWise curriculum, youth will be able to do the following:

- Understand what prescription and OTC medicines are, and the ways they are the same and different.
- Learn how to use medicines safely.
- Know what’s on the Drug Facts label.

This curriculum has been prepared specifically for ages 11-17, and each lesson must be followed specifically as written. The turn key program includes everything needed to teach the program as PDF files. Includes printable certificate and patch that can be ordered.

URL:  http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/bsafit/medwise_award.aspx
**Troop 628’s Trailblazer Klondike Derby**

By R.J. Grenier

Mush! Mush! Mush! Those words conjure up visions of dog sled teams dashing through the snow along the Iditarod Trail. It is the spirit of that race that Troop 628’s Trailblazers Klondike Derby hopes to emulate January 22-24, 2016 (Webelos January 23 only) at the Walkersville Watershed.

The derby will have a number of activities to test the skill and knowledge of the participants. Are your Scouts up for a challenge?

The Derby is open to all Scout Troops and Webelos. Troops are welcome to camp on Friday and Saturday nights per the unit leaders discretion. Webelos are welcome to come for the day (8:30am to 5pm). The cost is $17.50 per registrant and will cover the event. Sled teams should consist of 8 – 10 scouts.

Further details and registration packets are available from R.J. Grenier, Troop 628 at grenierscout@gmail.com. Information will also be available at Roundtable. The Registration Deadline is January 11, 2016.

Come spend the day in the Artic exercising your skills, testing your knowledge and most of all HAVING FUN!
Philmont Scout Ranch

Are you or someone you know interested in a 2017 High Adventure experience? The 2017 registration period ends November 18, 2015. To register, use this link: [http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/trek.aspx](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/trek.aspx)

Philmont Museum Expansion Brick Paver Program

Ever wanted to leave your mark on Philmont? Commemorate your trek? Honor your Advisor? Perhaps you’d just like to give a little back and help the next generation of Scouts? 100% of proceeds go towards the upcoming Philmont Museum expansion. A great holiday gift!
To buy a brick, use this link: [http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/brick.aspx](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/brick.aspx)

Work at Philmont, this Summer!

A summer in the mountains! If you’ll be 18 by summer 2016, now is the time to apply for a Philmont staff position. You have the opportunity to be considered for over 1100 positions. Internships are available. To apply for work at Philmont, use the link below.
[http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/jobs.aspx](http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/jobs.aspx)

First Aid Meet

Save the Date - March 5, 2016.
Registration begins in December.
Training Opportunities by Alan Ashley
If you need basic training, are looking for supplemental training, or want to take a refresher, please contact Alan Ashley at AlanAshley@cedarville.edu or 240-409-6610. There are many resources available to Frederick County Scouters, both within our Council as well as in the three other Councils that border Catoctin Mountain District.

- **Pow Wow events for Cub Scout Leaders November 21**
  Pow Wow is an exciting opportunity to take your training to the next level. Whether you are a new Cub Leader or seeking to increase your knowledge in a broad range of skills or just looking to add that extra "pizzazz" to your Den or Pack program .... Pow Wow is the place you'll find it! Two courses are being offered in our area during November. See calendar on page one for contact information.

- **University of Scouting**
  University of Scouting is a wonderful enrichment opportunity for any leader. Whether you are a new leader, or seeking to increase your knowledge in any of a variety of topics, or just looking to add that extra "pizzazz" to your program .... University of Scouting is a tremendous resource. Three events are being offered in our area this Winter:
  - 2/27 NCAC -- watch Blue Blaze or the NCAC website www.ncacbsa.org
  - 3/5 Mason-Dixon Council -- watch Blue Blaze or the MDC website www.mason-dixon-bsa.org
  - 3/12 Baltimore Area Council -- held in Westminster at Carroll Community College, see http://www.baltimorebsa.org/university-of-scouting/39855

**District Committee**
The minutes of the September District Committee Meeting are available by going to: https://app.box.com/s/rxqmzqzdp57phsp2eswl6icyh4i09byl

**International Scouting News** Submitted by Shawn Youngberg
The November issue of International Scouting News is available at https://app.box.com/s/l0jeco60urvj6vrt5wsoclwjms30mj
# Adventuring Blurb

## Frederick County VOA

### November 2015

#### Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frederick Co. VOA</th>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Tuesday, 7:00-8:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Church of the Brethren</td>
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<td>Nov 17</td>
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<td>Dec 15</td>
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<td>Jan 19</td>
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<td>Mar 15</td>
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<td>Apr 19</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCAC VOA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Monday 7-9 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCAC, Bethesda</td>
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<td>Dec 7</td>
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<td>Jan 4</td>
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<td>Feb 1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frederick Co. Venturing Forum</th>
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<td>3rd Tuesday 7:20-8:20 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Church of the Brethren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 20</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
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<td>Apr 19</td>
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<tr>
<th>District Round Table</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Tuesday 7 – 9 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>LDS Stake and Church of the Brethren</td>
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<td>Dec 8</td>
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<td>Jan 12</td>
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<td>Feb 9</td>
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#### Activities

**November**

**Nov 17: FCVOA Meeting**

Alleenonthelake@comcast.net, Rich_golling@yahoo.com

- The FCVOA will be having its monthly meeting at the Frederick Church of the Brethren starting at 7:20 PM. All Crew Advisors, Committee Members, Crew Presidents, and interested parties are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting. Upcoming adventures and trainings will be discussed.

**Nov 21: Super Venturing Training**

Allenonthelake@comcast.net

- The FCVOA will be holding a Super Venturing Training for all New Crew Advisors and committee members on 21 November at the Frederick LDS Stake Center (199 North Place, Frederick, MD). Venturing Advisors Position Specific Training (VAPST) and Crew Committee Challenge (CCC) will be offered. There will be an open forum at the end of the training for all attendees to ask questions about the Venturing program and to cover all information about the changes and updates to the program itself. The training is FREE of charge with the exception of lunch. Contact Damon Allen at the AT Venturing Training Chair to register.

**December**

**Dec 8: DVLA Nominations DUE!**

Alleenonthelake@comcast.net

- The District Venturing Leadership Award (DVLA) Nominations are Due at your respective Roundtable Meeting. Turn the forms into either Damon Allen or Rich Golling at the start of Roundtable.

**Dec 29: Bubble Soccer**

Bubblescoccer@ship37.org

- Ship 37 and the FCVOA are hosting a fun Holiday adventure for all Crews, Ships, and their guests! This is an opportunity for units to invite friends and potential new members. The cost is $20 (early registration) or $25 at the door. Let’s have fun!

#### Training

**December 5: Bull Run District Venture-ALL 2015**

http://www.ncachbsa.org/events/event_details.aspx?id=693708

- The Bull Run District will be hosting an all-day Venturing Training for youth. The courses will enable youth to be able to learn about leadership skills and to enhance their existing skills. The training is FREE and will be held at the QBE at 14604 Washington Street, Haymarket, Virginia.

- Courses being offered include: Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC), Planning & Prioritizing, Mentoring and Adult COR Training. For more information, contact Rob Hoitt at: advisor@crew617.org.

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**FRIENDS**

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

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**JOIN VENTURING!!**

- www.scouting.org
- www.ncachbsa.org

- Do you want to have an adventure? Do you want to experience an adventure? Are you interested in learning more about Venturing? Check out the websites above and attend your local Roundtable!
The Catoctin Mountain District of the
Boy Scouts of America presents—

Third Annual

Catoctin Mt. District
Film Festival

Friday, March 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
at the LDS Church, 199 North Place, Frederick, MD 21701

Join us for a night of side-splitting entertainment, watching the movies made by
troops, teams and crews in the Catoctin Mountain District. Popcorn and other movie-type re-
freshments will be served. Admission is free. This will be a great event to promote Scouting
and to invite new youth to join Scouting. Awards will be given for:

- Best Film
- Best Script
- Best Background Music
- Most Original Music
- Outstanding Costumes
- Most Humorous

- Best Actor
- Best Actress
- Best Supporting Actor
- Best Supporting Actress
- Best Editing
  (possibly Others)

Other units interested in participating should contact Paul Smith at cpaulsmith@verizon.net.
Movies may be up to 10 minutes in length.
STEM Events in NCAC BSA: 2015

WEBELOS SCOUTS:

Geology Lab Tour & Class
November 21 & 22, 2015 | GMU; Fairfax, VA
This is a 3 hour educational program sponsored by the Northern Virginia Mineral Club & George Mason University Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences. The program was designed and run last year for over 288 youth to earn the Geology Belt Loop, Pin and part of a Nova.
This year webelos may work on the Earth Rocks! Adventure and Down and Dirty Nova Award.

This program is guaranteed to be a fun and great springboard into BSA Geology and STEM Awards. The sessions include interactive tours of the GMU microscope and paleontology labs. Fee is $10/youth.

BOY & GIRL SCOUTS, VENTURERS:

Scout Engineering Day
March 12, 2016 | MITRE in McLean, VA
The fifth annual Scout Engineering Day will host nearly 400 scouts to attend STEM courses. Last year’s course catalogue consisted of 19 STEM Courses based off of Boy Scout Merit Badges. When you register, you will select from subjects including Composite Materials, Programming, Robotics, Sustainability and more.

Register at www.ncacbsa.org/stem. Questions? Email: stem@ncacbsa.org
STEM Training Opportunities

Scout Leaders:

at Florida Sea Base | National STEM Course
January 17-23, 2016
This week-long STEM conference is designed to enable Scouters to enhance traditional Unit, District, and Council activities through the inclusion of STEM-related activities. Learn about how STEM activities have positively impacted metro and rural councils and how your council can benefit. Discussion will include organization of a Council STEM Committee, administration of Nova and Supernova awards, inclusion of STEM activities in unit activities, STEM at camp, and STEM at high adventure bases. There will be many opportunities to experience hands-on activities with discussion on how to implement, modify, and incorporate them into your programs.

at Philmont Training Center
July 17-23, 2016
National STEM Course: STEM—Tastic Scouting: Inspiration, Imagination, and Innovation

at Summit Bechtel Reserve
June 26 – July 1, 2016
National STEM Course: This will be the inaugural year for the SBR’s Training Center!

NCAC Pow Wow
November 21, 2015 | Annandale, VA
Supernova Mentor & Nova Counselor STEM Training

NCAC University of Scouting
February 27, 2016 | Alexandria, VA
Supernova Mentor & Nova Counselor STEM Training: What is STEM?

Further info: www.ncacbsa.org/STEM
2016 Frederick County Spring Aviation Camporee

Event Starts Friday April 15 and runs thru Sunday the 17th.

Over 300 Scouts from 11 to 17 years old will be attending. Those who register early enough will get a chance at a flight in a small aircraft.

Flight Simulators, Airplane Building, Mapping a Flight Plan, Building a Wing Rib Section, How Planes Fly, Performing pre-flights on Single and Multi Engine Aircraft, Vertical Flight, Control Tower Tours, Hang out with the State Police Chopper Crew, Fly Radio Controlled Planes,

More Info and Registration Forms to Follow, Direct Questions or Early Registrations of your Patrols of 7-12 Boys to.

2016Camporee@BSATroop1998.org

Share Your Scouting Photos on Flickr
NCAC has set up a Flickr site to share your great Scouting photos. Use the link below to share if you like.
https://flic.kr/g/rdMo

Other Scouting Sites:
- www.NCACBSA.org
- www.BeAScout.org
- Follow NCAC on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/NCACBSA

New Boy Scout Requirements
Starting January 1, 2016 many of the Boy Scout requirements will change. To view the 24 page document explaining all of the changes, use the following link:
https://app.box.com/s/v71koxp7k29x0lcb2ofxtitsnptxi9j5

Inter-Troop Sports for 2015-2016 by Shawn Youngberg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 28, 2015</td>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>Terrace Lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19, 2016</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>LDS Stake Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15, 2016</td>
<td>3 on 3 Basketball</td>
<td>LDS Stake Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 16, 2016</td>
<td>Chess</td>
<td>LDS Stake Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28, 2016</td>
<td>Dodgeball</td>
<td>LDS Stake Center</td>
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Trouble Receiving The Blue Blaze?
Some of you have reported that you are no longer receiving The Blue Blaze or that you are unable to open the links to the newsletter. Be assured that you are not being removed from the distribution list on purpose. If you find you are no longer getting mailings, go to http://scouting-cmd.org/blueblaze and just sign up again. If you have trouble opening the link to the newsletter, just email me at lindasundergill@comcast.net and I will send the newsletter to you in PDF format. Also Mark Miller, our new Webmaster is in the process of putting 2015 back issues of The Blue Blaze on our website at http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=114094&id=210818.

To sign up for The Blue Blaze, go to http://Scouting-cmd.org/blueblaze
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

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