



The Blue Blaze

The Catoclin Mountain District's News Source

Est. June 3, 2003

Editor in Chief
Linda Sundergill
301-898-7549



The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

District Executive Jonathan Miller, jonathan.miller@scouting.org 301-214-9168
 District Chairman Ron Layman, layman274@gmail.com 301-788-7496
 District Commissioner Bill Desmond cmdcommissioner@aol.com 301-662-4151
 District Webpage <http://ncacbsa.site-ym.com/group/catoclinmountain>

February 2016

Vol. 14 No.2

Upcoming Events (Training Events in RED) (Venturing Events in GREEN)

February

- 16 **Frederick County VOA Meeting** 6:30 pm- 7:15 pm Frederick Church of the Brethren
- 16 **Frederick County Venturing Forum** 7:20 pm- 8:20 pm Fred.Church of the Brethren
- 21 **Training day for all positions** in Baltimore, <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/specific-saturday-trainings/57465>
- 23 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701
- 24 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
- 26 District Dinner, contact layman274@gmail.com
- 27 **University of Scouting**, <https://scoutingevent.com/?ncacuofs2016>

March

- 5 First Aid Meet, contact lewcar@comcast.net
- 5 **Scoutmaster Specific Training** in Herndon, VA, see <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6053>
- 5 **Venturing Crew Advisor and Committee Trng.** in Herndon, VA, <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6055>
- 8 Roundtable (Boy Scout/Cub Scout/OA, AdVenturing) 7:15pm at LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick
- 10 Commissioner's Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
- 11 Filmfest, contact cpaulsmith@verizon.net
- 12 Super Derby, contact derby@pack1070.org
- 12 University of Scouting, Baltimore Area Council, see page 4
- 12 **Unit Committee Training for Packs and Troops** in Bethesda, <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6339>
- 15 **Frederick County VOA Meeting** 7:30 pm- 8:30 pm Frederick Church of the Brethren
- 22 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701, contact layman274@gmail.com
- 23 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
- 28 Inter-Troop Sports Dodgeball, contact shawnyoungberg@comcast.net

April

- 12 Roundtable (Boy Scout/Cub Scout/OA, AdVenturing) 7:15pm at LDS Stake Center, 199 North Place, Frederick
- 13 **IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills)**, <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6342>
- 14 Commissioner's Meeting, 7:30pm 199 North Place, Frederick contact cmdcommissioner@aol.com
- 15-17 Spring Aviation Camporee, contact 2016camporee@bsatrop1998.org.
- 16 University of Scouting <http://www.mason-dixon-bsa.org/event/1805276>
- 22-23 **IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills)**, <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6342>
- 26 District Committee Mtg, 7:30pm, 199 North Place, Frederick, 21701, contact layman274@gmail.com
- 27 District Eagle Board by appointment only, contact nfeldser@comcast.net
- 29-5/1 Area 6 VOA Venturing Phenomenon, Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation
- 29-5/1 Wood Badge <https://scoutingevent.com/?wbspring16>



From the Desk of the Commish:



Happy Birthday BSA. Imagine, our movement has been around since 1910 and we are still making a difference in the lives of the youth we serve.

Been a lot going on in the District. We are through with Rechartering. Thanks to all units who turned in their recharter material prior to the Christmas holidays. We have a newly elected District Chairman Ron Layman and a new District Committee. We also have a new District Executive Jon Miller. The Klondike Derby was a huge success and some great programs are on the horizon, such as the First Aid Meet, Citizenship Merit Badge Day, the District Film Festival and the Spring Aviation Camporee at the Frederick Airport, to name just a few. Also, it is not too late to register for the University Of Scouting on February 27.



I am very proud of our Journey to Excellence (JTE) results this year. Almost 80% of District units achieved a Bronze, Silver or Gold rating. The District received a Silver rating and our Order of the Arrow Chapter was Gold. Way to go all. I encourage units to use the new 2016 JTE scoresheets in their spring program planning efforts. Unit Commissioners will also use JTE benchmarks as a resource during their semi-annual assessments with the units.

The Delaplaine Distinguished Citizen Dinner is coming up and Ron Layman and I are looking for help in the planning and coordination of this event. We are again partnering with Scouters from the Appalachian Trail District.

Thanks to Dave Moore, our newest Unit Commissioner. He will be serving the 11 year old Scouts in the LDS wards. I am still looking for several new unit commissioners. Please let me know if you can help.

Finally, we are a month into our 2016 Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign. Council needs our financial support to continue putting on great programs and providing resources for our Scouts.



There is a lot of competition for your financial generosity, but please consider the value that Scouting brings to our youth and to Frederick County and make a donation to FOS.

Yours in Commissioner Service,

Bill Desmond
District Commissioner



Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign: FOS is the National Capital Area Council's annual giving campaign. It helps to ensure high quality Scouting programs for youth served within Council. The money raised through FOS amounts to ~17% of Council's income each year and is vital to our success.

Within the Catoctin Mountain District our FOS goal is \$27,000. Each unit is asked to hold an FOS event. This is a 10 to 15 minute overview presentation by a unit or District Scouter outlining the Council's financial status and its needs. Each family is asked to fill out a pledge form, whether or not they make a contribution. This is our way of knowing that all Scouting families have been contacted and have had the opportunity to make a contribution. The Council spends about \$200 per year per Scout to provide local programs and activities.



Units are requested to provide to Ron Layman (layman274@gmail.com) by February 29 the name of their FOS contact, the date of an FOS presentation and whether a District Scouter is needed to put on the presentation. Our goal is to complete the campaign by the end of May and unit cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

Thank you for your support to Scouting.

Ron Layman
District Chairman

Bill Desmond
District Commissioner

Jon Miller
District Executive

Meet the New Catoctin Mountain District Executive



My name is Jon Miller and I am your new District Executive. My girlfriend, Sam, and I moved from Detroit, MI, to the DC area at the end of January, and we're very excited to see what's in store for this next chapter in our lives, living in Maryland.

I'm originally from Bloomfield Hills, MI - about 20 miles north of Detroit - where I began my life as a Scout in 3rd grade as a Bear. I stuck with Scouting through 12th grade, earning Eagle at 16, and Bronze, Gold, and Silver Palms after that. I've been on many High Adventures: Appalachian Trail, Philmont (Twice! Trek & OA Trail Crew), Tinnerman Canoe Base, Sea Base, and countless other outings and trips. I'm a NESAs member, OA member, and Wood Badge trained, still completing my ticket (I'm an Owl!). I was a District Executive to the Pontiac-Manito District in the Great Lakes Field Service Council (Michigan Crossroads Council) for a year and a half, and proud to now be serving the Catoctin Mountain District!

I was disappointed not to have met many of you this month due to the Roundtable cancellation. If for whatever reason you need to meet with me on anything (Camp Cards, applications, recharter, etc.) I will be at Wegmans (7830 Wormans Mill Rd, Frederick, MD 21701) this **Thursday 2/18 from 6-8pm**. Stop by, say Hi, and meet your new DE! (I'm especially looking for unit FOS dates!)

Thanks for taking a few moments, and please don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to meeting and working with all of you, bringing the opportunity of Scouting to each of our community's youth.

Jon Miller, 248.417.0862, jonathan.miller@scouting.org



New Roundtable Breakout Session

Starting in March, a new breakout session for AdVenturing will be added to the Roundtable agenda. This replaces the current Venturing Forum held on the third Tuesday of the month. The AdVenturing breakout is designed for Scouters in Venturing and Sea Scout programs, as well as Crew and Ship youth leadership, to share experiences and discuss common issues. Damon Allen will serve as the AdVenturing Roundtable Commissioner.



Are You a STAR Scouter?

A STAR Scouter (not to be confused with the rank between First Class and Life) is a “Scouter That Attends Roundtable.” Beginning in March, I will be giving out STARS suitable for wear on the uniform to any Scouter who makes a presentation at Roundtable or who brings a new Scouter to Roundtable. The STARS are collector’s items that are handcrafted, numbered, and one-of-a-kind that in 300 to 400 years may be worth \$3 to \$4.

Bill Desmond, District Commissioner

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 Catocin Mountain District.

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 - <https://scoutingevent.com/?ncacuofs2016>
- 3/12 Baltimore Area Council --held in Westminster at Carroll Community College, see <http://www.baltimorebsa.org/university-of-scouting/39855>
- 4/16 Mason-Dixon Council --watch *Blue Blaze* or the MDC website <http://www.mason-dixon-bsa.org/event/1805276>

Other upcoming opportunities:

IOLS (Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills), 4/13 and 4/22-4/24, in Gainesville, VA and Camp Snyder see <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6342>

IOLS, 10/4 and 10/14-10/16, in Gainesville, VA and Camp Snyder see <https://scoutingevent.com/?OrgKey=BSA082&eventID=6347>

Wood Badge, 4/29-5/1 and 6/3-6/5, at Camp Snyder see <https://scoutingevent.com/?wbspring16>

*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 refreshments 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.



District Dinner

The District Annual Awards Dinner will be held on Friday February 26th at the Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Building, 8101 Crum Rd. Walkersville, MD 21793. Doors will open at 7pm and dinner will be served at 7:30pm. The cost is \$20 per person cash at the door. Please RSVP by February 22nd to Ron Layman layman274@gmail.com 301-788-7496. After February 22nd the cost will be \$25 per person.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL & CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN DISTRICTS

FIFTY



SIXTH

First Aid Meet

**Saturday
March 5
5:30pm**



**Calvary Assembly of
God
8234 Woodsboro Pike
Walkersville, MD**

**SCOUTERS START GETTING YOUR TROOP
PREPARED NOW**

Rules will be available Online & at December Roundtable

Don't Delay – Limited to 24 Patrol Slots

REGISTRATION to START December 2015

Send Troop Patrol names to Lew Raeder: lewcar@comcast.net

For First Aid Meet Instructions, go to:

<https://app.box.com/s/5mu8g2mmrnoz4o7n85b8btp1acejyr00>

Judges Needed

Emergency Medical Responders Please Apply to Lew Raeder 301-639-2731 or lewcar@comcast.net

CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

SUPERDERBY

MARCH 12, 2016



Race against other Packs in Catocin Mountain District's Super Derby!

The cost is **\$60 per Pack (\$45 for LDS units)**. The top three cars from every Pack in each of the racing divisions listed below are eligible to participate. If additional Scouts would like to participate, the cost is **\$5 per car**.

SuperDerby will be held on **Saturday, March 12**. Registration and race times are:

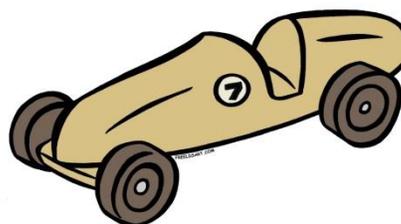
Racing Division	Registration Time	Expected Race Time
Tigers	9:00 - 10:30 AM	no earlier than 12:00
Wolves	9:00 - 10:30 AM	no earlier than 12:30
Bears	10:30 - 12:00 PM	no earlier than 1:00
Webelos (1 & 2 combined)	10:30 - 12:00 PM	no earlier than 1:30

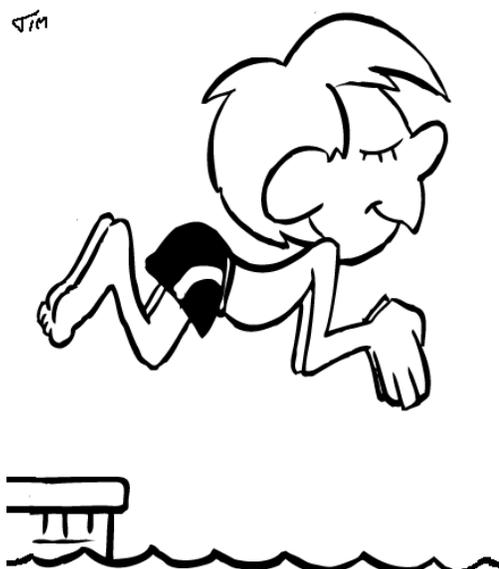
SuperDerby will be held at **St. Timothy's Roman Catholic Church**, 8651 Biggs Ford Road in Walkersville. Concessions will be available for purchase, proceeds to support the church's youth.

Please register your Pack by sending payment (made out to Pack 1070) to Richard Sims, 206 Polaris Dr., Walkersville, MD 21793 by **February 20th**.

Super Derby rules and information can be found at superderby.pack1070.org

If you have questions or are interested in assisting with the event, please contact Richard Sims at derby@pack1070.org





Swim Meet by Mike Turell

The 35th Scout Swim Meet/Scout Swim will be held on Friday, March 11th, from 7-9 pm at the Middletown High School Pool (same location as the previous 34 years). The Troop 278/Pack 278 Invitational Swim Meet has also been known at the FSK District Swim Meet, and is currently the Swim Meet for both the Appalachian Trail and Catoctin Mountain Districts. There will be time before (7:05 - 7:25) and after (8:15 - 8:45) the swim meet for Scouts to work on various aquatic requirements. The cost will be \$5/Scout again this year. This helps to defray the cost of the pool/ribbons/trophies/and patches. **Registrations for the 35th Annual Pack 278-Troop 278 Invitations Swim Meet must be in by Tuesday, March 1st to guarantee a patch.** For more information, contact **Michael Turell** either by email, mturell@erols.com, or by phone, 301-371-5412, or **Scott Lindsay** either by email at atscouter@yahoo.com or by phone, 301-371-4594.

For more information, see the event flyer at <https://app.box.com/s/i8s5v9alalnby69wlqdxrkdukz9xjqk>

The "Swim Meet" is really two separate events. When Mike Turell started the swim meet 34 years ago, it was a Pack 278 event that eventually became the FSK District Swim Meet. For the past 30 years or so, it has been open to all Boy Scouts in Frederick county, but given the size limitations and that we have a "before" and "after" meet open swim, we are limited to the number of people that we can have attend. Therefore, we are limiting it to 3 people per age group for Cub Scouts and 3 people per age group for Boy Scouts. This will keep the numbers manageable and the event fun. If you have more than that for an age group, please contact either Scott or Mike, and we will see how that age group is doing numbers wise, and will try to accommodate your unit.

If you have any questions, please contact **Michael Turell** either by email, mturell@erols.com, or by phone, 301-371-5412, or **Scott Lindsay** either by email at atscouter@yahoo.com or by phone, 301-371-4594. **Please get those registrations in as soon as possible.** If it would be easier, we do not need the registration form on the attached flyer. You can just email either of us with a list of Scouts (**By age group**), ideally in an excel spreadsheet, or even just in the body of the email. Please include a contact person for your unit. Thanks,

Mike and Scott
Michael J. Turell and Scott Lindsay
Swim Meet Coordinators

2016 Frederick County Spring Aviation Camporee

Estimate 2? \$ for each
Scout Attending,
includes,
Registration, Patch,
your own plane,
Movie.....

AT THE
FREDERICK
AIRPORT

Boy Scouts of
America

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

Supported in part by:
The US Army, US Navy/Marines, US Air Force, US Coast Guard,
Landmark Aviation, The Experimental Aviation Association,
AOPA, Frederick Flight.



Philmont 2016 12-Day Expedition Openings

Ready to relive the history of the west? Why not climb a spar-pole, tour a mine, build a railroad, fire a .30-06 rifle or head for the high country and climb 12,441ft Baldy Mountain. You and your crew could do all of

these things on a 2016 Philmont expedition! We have over 70 crew slots available. Email camping@philmontscoutranch.org to register.

Register for TREK Today <http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/~link.aspx?id=DA2125B7939848499B01770577D50C69&z=z>

2016 Individual Trek Openings



Experience Philmont through individual opportunities!

Want the Philmont experience, but don't have a crew to come with? No problem! Here at the Ranch we offer a wide variety of individual treks that range between 6 & 21 days of backcountry program and wilderness adventure.

[Register for a 2016 Trek today!](#)



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 1,100 positions. Internships are available!

[Apply to Work at Philmont!](#)

Philmont Training Center - National Training Center of the Boy Scouts of America A vacation for the whole family!



Engage in one of over 80 world-class Scouting conferences while your whole family enjoys PTC's selection of age-specific program activities. When sitting down for meals throughout the week family members may recall activities such as, horseback riding, day hikes, the raft-lodge, dancing and much more!

[Register for Summer 2016 - Philmont Training Center](#)

camping@philmontscoutranch.org
philmontscoutranch.org
[facebook.com/philmontscoutranch](https://www.facebook.com/philmontscoutranch)
[youtube.com/philmontscoutranch](https://www.youtube.com/philmontscoutranch)
toothoftimetraders.com

twitter.com/philmont



Bubble Soccer

On December 29th 50 youth and adults gathered at the Frederick Indoor Sports Complex for Bubble Soccer. It was a great deal of fun for all involved. The event was sponsored by the FCVOA and Sea Ship 37. To read the article and view lots of great photos of the event, go to <https://app.box.com/s/0aj2v26k0evpw96otzum1mdpim4cj0nc>

**Boy Scouts of America
National Sea Scout Support Committee
February 10, 2016**

Sea Scout News!

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America has approved a resolution establishing Sea Scouts, BSA as an independent program of the Boy Scouts of America-- in full company with the other BSA programs: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturing. Likewise, the Board made corresponding amendments to the BSA Charter and Bylaws.

While the changes in the text of these documents are modest, mostly the inclusion of the Sea Scout program in several clauses and paragraphs, the changes will be significant; providing Sea Scouting with access to the full range of attention and support at the National Council and throughout the BSA organization.

This is a significant milestone for Sea Scouts, BSA.

The National Sea Scout Support Committee, the National Director, and the National Commodore are already working to use this new status to improve and expand Sea Scouting. Plans for 2016 include emphasis on membership growth, providing additional resources to support existing ships and help increase the number of Sea Scout Ships (units) throughout the country.

Another emphasis area for 2016 will be improved communications and enhanced use of electronic media. Check out the new Sea Scout website at: www.SeaScoutBeta.org.



2017 Sea Base Lottery

NEW AND IMPROVED RESERVATION SYSTEM

How to Register for the 2017 Sea Base Lottery

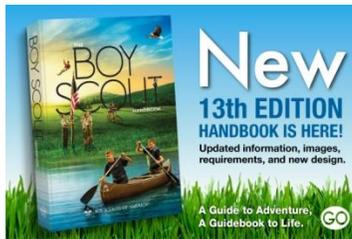
The 2017 Sea Base Lottery registration opens at midnight (EST) on January, 14, 2016 & closes at 8:00 a.m. (EST) on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 and is hosted at www.bsaseabase.org.

To access the Sea Base Lottery registration form, you will need your My.Scouting username & password, unit type, unit number & unit ID. If you do not have a My.Scouting account, please go to My.Scouting.org and follow the directions to create an account. If you do not know your Unit ID please contact either your local council or the BSA Member Care Contact Center at 972-580-2489.

Each unit may enter the lottery once.

IMPORTANT!

The My.Scouting account must be linked to the current BSA membership number of the person completing the form. For more information, go to <https://scoutnet.scouting.org/mml/a/mml2/activity/proxy.aspx?Method=LoadMessage&MessageCode=E7E91485BA32443BA52F473467673325>



New Boy Scout Handbook

You can purchase your **NEW 13th Edition Boy Scout Handbook today**. Updated with important advancement changes, plus great new info on physical fitness, service, environmental stewardship, and more... this is your latest, most complete handbook to date! Still the go-to guide for every Scout, keeping Scouts better protected and always prepared, this new edition features updated images and design.

At your [Scout Shop](#) and online at ScoutStuff.org, the New 13th Edition Boy Scout Handbook is currently available in Perfect Bound (621131) and Coil Bound (621132). Spanish version will be available in March 2016.



Arrow of Light Ceremonies

The Catoctin Mountain Order of the Arrow Ceremonies Team does various Arrow of Light ceremonies for Packs across the District. If your Pack would be interested in having the team perform at a meeting, you can contact the OA Ceremonies Chief at snicholasv@gmail.com.



Leadership is much more than standing in front of the group giving directions. There are four ways every Scout is a leader -

First you lead yourself, second you follow cooperatively, third you help your fellow Scouts, and fourth you shape the directions and plans for your patrol and troop. You may be all four kinds of leader at once, other times you may be focused on a particular way of leading, all four ways are equally important.

1. Self-Leadership

Self-leadership means being prepared in whatever you do, having personal initiative and character, taking care of yourself spiritually, mentally and physically.

If you are prepared, you'll be able to participate actively and help your fellow Scouts. Being prepared means you don't have to depend on others so that others can depend on you.

Examples of self-leadership:

- When you go camping you have the gear you need, and know where to find it.
- You have practiced the skills required to take care of yourself and help your fellow Scouts.
- During any activity you are focused on participating rather than just watching.

2. Cooperative Leadership

Being cooperative means supporting each other in working towards a goal.

Examples of cooperative leadership:

- Listening attentively to directions, and asking questions when you don't understand.
- Being patient and cheerful when things are difficult.
- Doing your best to contribute to the activity, being active and aware of what is going on around you.

3. Supportive Leadership

Supportive leaders actively assist their leaders and fellow Scouts by being kind, friendly and helpful at every opportunity.

Examples of supportive leadership:

- Help another Scout carry out a task.
- Share your skills and knowledge with other Scouts.
- Help a fellow Scout when they are discouraged.

4. Directive Leadership

Once you can lead yourself, follow cooperatively and help your fellow Scouts you are ready to guide your patrol and troop. You will help direct them during activities and make plans to help your troop and patrol.

Examples of directive leadership:

- Plan a camping trip, patrol meeting, or other activity.
- Direct your fellow Scouts so they have fun and get the most out of what you have planned.
- Work with each kind of leadership in every Scout.



Leave No Trace Trainer Course

April 8-10 (Germantown) or March 4-6 (Virginia) or
April 8 and April 16-17 (Virginia)

What is the purpose of this class? The Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout programs all include outdoor stewardship, care for the environment, and Leave No Trace as part of their programs. This course is

offered to train adults and youth aged 14+ to serve their units and districts as Leave No Trace Trainers and as Outdoor Ethics Trainers. Every Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, and Sea Scout unit should have at least one Leave No Trace/Outdoor Ethics Trainer. A Boy Scout must complete this course before he can serve in the Troop Leave No Trace Trainer position.

Who should attend? Venturers, Sea Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Boy Scouts aged 14+; adult Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout leaders; and District and Council leaders and trainers.

What will I learn? This course is designed to enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace practices and outdoor ethics, and to increase your level of expertise and confidence in teaching Leave No Trace skills. This class is both active and highly interactive. You will be introduced to concepts and methods that will advance your knowledge of Leave No Trace issues in both developed and high adventure environments, expand your repertoire of low-impact skills, and increase your effectiveness in teaching these important skills to others.

The class is being offered three times this Spring in NCAC. The next offerings of this class in NCAC will be in October, 2016.

Prince William Forest Park (Dumfries, VA)

March 4-6, 2016

<https://scoutingevent.com/?LNTTrainerMar16>

-- or --

Germantown, MD (Right here in Seneca District!)

April 8-10, 2016

<https://scoutingevent.com/?LNTTrainer>

-- or --

Northern Virginia

April 8 (indoor evening in Falls Church) + April 16-17 (camping)

<https://scoutingevent.com/?LNTTrainerApr2016>

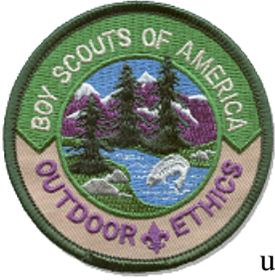
Questions? Contact Paul Schimke, paul@schimke.org or 301 906 0069 (c)



International Scouting News submitted by Shawn Youngberg

The February issue of International Scouting News is available at

<https://app.box.com/s/91rvvrub7ubvj8skgae8b0uricq2qy41>



Outdoor Ethics Orientation/Leave No Trace 101 Combined Course

February 13 or March 19, 12:00 - 4:00 pm
IWLA, Germantown

This 4 hour class is designed to help **youth and adults** at all program levels to understand the general principles of Leave No Trace and how to apply them in the BSA outdoor program.

It is also designed to give youth leaders and adults the confidence to assess youth understanding and skills when signing off on Scout rank requirements or Venturing award requirements.

- In addition to introducing students to the Leave No Trace program, this class includes the BSA Outdoor Ethics Orientation class and will provide an overview of the role Outdoor Ethics plays in Cubs/Scouts/Venturing and the ways the BSA is integrating Outdoor Ethics into its programs. It also provides an introduction to the Tread Lightly! program and the Land Ethic.

This particular offering is intended to serve youth and adult leaders who wish to learn more about the BSA Outdoor Ethics program and help to implement that program in their unit or district.

Youth

- Scouts First Class and up who are Troop Outdoor Ethics Guides or would like to become one
- Troop Instructors
- Scouts preparing for a high adventure trip
- Venturers

Adults

- Adult leaders for Cubs, Scouts, and Venturers.

Scouts not yet First Class are welcome if their Scoutmaster sends a note of recommendation to paul@schimke.org.

Sign up for the February 13, 2016 class at: <http://bit.ly/1P98iQt>

Sign up for the March 19, 2016 class at <http://bit.ly/20hQM0n>

Questions? Contact Paul Schimke, paul@schimke.org or 301 906 0069 (c)



Citizenship Merit Badge Day

Citizenship Merit Badge Day will be held on Saturday May 21, 2016 at the LDS Church, 1811 Latham Dr., Frederick, MD beginning at 7:30am. For full details including requirements and registration information, go to <https://app.box.com/s/kwkbtkw7hlq4i7tkq889g6vgxrd1svag>



First National Gathering of Venturers

On behalf of all of our Venturing officers across the country, I would like to personally invite you to join us at VenturingFest 2016. This special Scouting event at the Summit Bechtel Reserve will be the first ever national gathering of Venturers at a BSA high-adventure base.

Spread the Word

With this event less than six months away, we need your help to spread the word within your council and among your friends. We are encouraging councils to send contingents to VenturingFest 2016, and your leadership will be key in helping gather Venturers to attend this historic event.

Be a part of history. For more details, visit summitbsa.org/venturingfest.



STEM-University--Adult training in STEM

Submitted by Scott Rippeon District STEM Chairman

Date: Sunday, June 12 1-4 PM

Where: Camp Snyder in Haymarket, VA

Who: Leaders and Parents

Learn about STEM in Scouts!

Have fun with Hands-on activities that YOU can bring home to your Cub, Boy Scout & Venturing units!
Get trained as a Nova Counselor or Supernova Mentor!

For more information and registration: <http://ncacbsa.org/stem>

National Nova Supernova Adults How to: <https://app.box.com/s/0lta931yqe0vi1xgu6w18eo2phfpdvsh>

STEM in NCAC flyer: <https://app.box.com/s/ebpvpoga3zg4b6o74xbkyxxbadtovpbq>

STEM Program 2016: <https://app.box.com/s/0z5bajmgpwsiedx1d4q3ytn88c6yoru5>

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 all 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 and sign up again

Disclaimer

The Catocin 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.