The Fall Camporee for 2016 was held at Camp Snyder on October 28-30. It was a large and well-coordinated multi-district event that included participation by about 1200 Scouts and adult Scouters and volunteers from the Patriot, Bull Run, Sully, and Occoquan Districts in Northern Virginia. In addition, individual troops from Aquia and Zekiah Districts also attended. Participants included 816 Scouts, 32 Webelos, and 350 adults. Patriot District participants included 225 Scouts and 98 adults. Overall planning for the event was led by Rick Ferry of Bull Run District, who worked with a cadre of Scouters from all the participating districts for about two years to help ensure its success. Strong Patriot District planning and execution support was led by Bill Dexter, Patriot District Vice Chair for Program and Camporee Director, together with numerous Patriot Scouters.

The theme of the camporee was Emergency Preparedness in Action. The program focused on a mock transportation disaster scenario involving the crash of a passenger plane attempting to land at Dulles International Airport on Saturday morning. In that scenario, the plane was unable to reach its destination and made an emergency landing in the fields at Camp Snyder, about 10 miles short of the airport. The plane broke apart upon impact, scattering passengers and airplane fragments across a wide area of the camp. Scouts camping for the weekend immediately rushed into action to locate survivors and began to administer first aid until government first responders could reach the scene. Government first responders augmenting the heroic efforts by the Scouts were from the Prince William County Fire and Rescue, Prince William County Police, and Virginia Search and Rescue organizations.

The overall program consisted of two related parts. Following usual Saturday morning camporee opening ceremonies, which featured a Scottish bagpiper from the U.S. Air Force band, Scouts participated in a series of instructional sessions at numerous locations around the camp. These sessions addressed three important topical areas: Emergency Preparedness, Search and Rescue, and First Aid. Interactive instruction sessions involving 20 or more Scouts at a time were led by adult Scouters and ROTC cadets from George Mason University. A number of specific topics were addressed in each category. Emergency Preparedness topics included triage, landing signals, and “Kim’s game – bug out bag.” Search and Rescue discussions included concepts and organization, hasty search and tracking, and map reading with the UTM grid system. First Aid instruction considered hurry cases, including severe bleeding, splints and broken bones, and litters and carries.

Saturday afternoon activities involved putting into practice some of the knowledge gained in the morning instructional sessions. Appropriate make-up depicting a wide of injuries, from severe burns to broken limbs and debris piercings, was artfully applied to more than 100 injured crash survivors, all Scout and adult volunteers. These “accident victims” were then dispersed across more than half a mile of Camp Snyder terrain, and the search and rescue and medical assistance operations began. Over a period of several hours, Scouts searched for survivors, applied first aid, and transported the injured to a central location for presumed dispatch to medical facilities and additional required treatment.
Although most of the action focused on the plane crash response, a number of Scouts elected to participate in a merit badge session on movie making led by Rich Harrington (Patriot District). He was assisted by Izzuddin Abdul-Rashid. These Scouts learned many fundamental aspects of movie making, then created a movie of ongoing accident response events as the central element of their merit badge activity.

Other notable Fall Camporee activities included a cracker barrel on Friday evening (sponsored by the NCNC Endowment Committee) for about 250 Scouters, including Scoutmasters, senior patrol leaders, and camporee staff; Interfaith, Catholic and Jewish religious services; and the Saturday evening campfire, which featured many troop skits, projection of the movie created by the merit badge Scouts, and a U.S. flag retirement ceremony.

Kudos and special thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped to make this camporee another successful Scouting event. Key contributors were Rick Ferry, Camporee Director (Bull Run District); Bill Dexter, Patriot District Director; Aidan Wiecki, Camporee Senior Patrol Leader (Bull Run District); Mike Warsocki, Saturday Morning Program (Sully District); John O’Neal, Saturday Afternoon Program (Patriot District); Irwin Lazar, Administration and Logistics (Bull Run District); David Seitz, Budget; and Jim Whipple, Facilities. Special thanks also to the numerous first responders from Prince William County and Virginia Search and Rescue, and to the ROTC cadets from George Mason University. Outback Steakhouse provided a great lunch and prep/serving staff for 250 volunteers on Saturday.

Numerous volunteers from the Patriot District played important roles in conducting this activity. Cooking duties for Patriot staff members were handled by Don Northcutt and Pat Ring. Patriot District registration was managed by Joe Casey. Volunteers assisting in program execution included Dave Astle, Kelly O’Malley, Paul Hoffman, Mark Blanchard, John Cavan, John Merchant, John O’Neal, Robert Blumstein, and Jennifer and Abigayle Allred. Bill Snowden hiked what seemed like many hard miles across the fields of Camp Snyder to create a photographic record of the event; an abridged photo record is provided in the images below.

Interfaith religious services were led by Doc Johnson (Zekiah District) and Fatin Taha-Elhajj (Patriot District). Catholic services were led by Father Michael R. Duesterhaus (Arlington Diocese). Jewish Services were led by Cynthia Yellen (Patriot District).
An even larger NCAC camporee (Goshen@50) is being planned for the coming Spring. It will be held at Goshen Scout Camp on Memorial Day weekend 2017. Troops should start making plans to attend and join in a weekend of fun with fellow Scouts from across the Council.

*Bill Snowden, District Deputy Chair*
From the District Chairman:

This is my farewell note to you. I want to thank each of you for making my last three years as the District Chairman, and the last seven years on the District Committee, as outstanding as they have been. I have reached the end of my three-year “tour”, and change at this level is good for the whole district.

I leave the District in great hands. Steve Smith will move up from being Finance Vice Chairman (and Golf Committee Chair), so he knows that the District, the mission, and the activities really well. He’s had about every other job in the District from Scoutmaster to Commissioner, so it is appropriate that he have his time to take the district to higher levels. He will lead Patriot District to another Journey to Excellence Gold award, I’m sure! Please give him the same wonderful support that you have given me.

We also have Dave Astle moving up to be District Commissioner. He has great integrity, knows the Council, District, and Unit leaders, and spends a lot of time improving the district for the youth. He, too, has done it all, and is currently the Council Merit Badge Dean, so we can expect good things from him.

Both of them have agreed to serve our Scouts, and see many opportunities to improve Patriot’s already stellar record. Together, the District has achieved a LOT of milestones. The Council expects more from us, and we give it every single time.

A great District doesn’t just happen. Standing behind me at the Committee is a wonderful bunch of leaders and their families. It takes so many types of talent – and many hours each year -- to make the Program, Membership, Training and Finances successful. Thank you all for your contributions!

I stand in awe of those who stay with Scouting year-after-year to ensure that our youth are given the best program opportunities available in the Nation. For those of you who stay on, long after your youngest ages out of the program, you are the greatest! Thank you, each and every one of you!

As for me, I’ll be near; I’m going to work with the Virginian Central team, and will watch out for Patriot as I go.

Be successful! The youth depend on us…

In Scouting, Jack

Jack Campbell, District Chairman
wjcampbell1@verizon.net

Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.

~ Chief Sitting Bull (d. 15 December 1890)
Scouting Civic Service: Scouting for Food 2016

Great weather and the outstanding efforts of many Scouts and Scouters made the annual BSA Scouting for Food activity a most successful event again this year. This annual community service project involved the efforts of over forty Patriot District Packs and Troops. Thousands of bags were distributed door-to-door throughout local neighborhoods on Saturday, November 5th, with the pickup of filled bags taking place the following Saturday, November 12th. More than 1200 individuals were involved in this activity, including more than 850 Scouts, more than 300 adult leaders, and dozens of non-member youth who worked with their Scout friends. Their combined efforts resulted in over 28,000 pounds of boxed, bagged, and canned goods being donated to the Capital Area Food Bank and local church food pantries for people in need. Over 5,000 bags of food were collected. Troop 1966, Pack 1967, and Pack 1968 collected over 1,950 pounds. Troop 1532 and Pack 115 hauled in over 2,000 pounds. Congratulations on a job well done to all who participated to the great success of this Activities & Civic Service event.

Kudos and a hearty thank you to Tim Ryder for serving as SFF Coordinator this year. Thank you to Robert Cohn, Alan Deter, John Merchant, Tim Reyman, and members of the Order of the Arrow who provided the heavy lifting for sorting, loading, and hauling away used bags. Special thanks to Mark Greer for his organizing efforts and for providing donuts and pizza for volunteers. Thank you as well to Safeway on Burke Centre Parkway for once again allowing us to use their parking lot as the collection point.
3…2…1… Launch! An Exciting “Rocket Into Scouting” Event in Annandale

On Saturday, the 29th of October, rockets roared into the sky above the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College as over 200 participants attended the NCAC’s Virginia Central Service Area “Rocket Into Scouting” event. Newly registered Scouts received a free model rocket to build as part of Scouting’s emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities. A brilliant sun shone across the “launch” field with a slight breeze occasionally stirring. In this setting, new Scouts and their families built rockets, participated in agility courses, saw a real astronaut suit, listened to information about the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA), and launched their rockets. After the rockets were built, the new Scout rocketeers were given a free launch engine, with the opportunity to get additional engines if desired. Most Scout rockets were successfully launched hundreds of feet into the deep blue sky. It was a beautiful afternoon to build, launch, watch the trajectory of the rockets, and observe their eventual return to earth. All-in-all, it was a great Scouting event supported by a lively number of volunteer Scouters and Scout parents. Many thanks to our Area Field Director, Sue Hart, for organizing the event.
Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

December 2016
8 Roundtable
8 OA Chapter Meeting
11 Final popcorn payments/prize orders/scholarship forms due
13 Commissioner/Committee joint mtg. (Potluck at VFW Hall)

January 2017
1 Patriot Press Deadline – January
7 OA Lodge Banquet
10 Commissioner Meeting
12 Roundtable
12 OA Chapter Meeting
14-16 NYLT (IMPEESA)
16 First Aid/CPR/AED training (St Stephen’s)
21 Red Cross CPR/AED Certification Class (St. Stephen’s UMC)
24 PD Committee Meeting
28 PD Committee Training
29 Patriot Press Deadline – February

February 2017
9 Roundtable
9 OA Chapter Meeting
14 Commissioner Meeting
18 University of Scouting
18-20 NYLT (IMPEESA)
26 Patriot Press Deadline – March
28 PD Committee Meeting

Legend

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<th>OA</th>
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<td>SPST</td>
<td>Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training</td>
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<td>Venture Advisor Position-Specific Trng</td>
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<td>Join Scouting Night</td>
<td>VCPST</td>
<td>Varsity Coach Position-Specific Trng</td>
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<td>NLE</td>
<td>New Leader Essentials</td>
<td>VOA</td>
<td>Venturing Officers Association</td>
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</table>

I not only use all the brains that I have, but all that I can borrow.

~ Woodrow Wilson (b. December 28, 1856)
CUB SCOUT ROUNTABLE!

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

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

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

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

When: Thursday, November 10, 2016

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

Midway: 7:30 – 8 PM

Roundtable: 8 – 9 PM

Brian Behlke, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner
bbehlke@hotmail.com, 662-812-3496

Boy Scout Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Patriot District Boy Scout Roundtable

Thursday, December 8th, 2016

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

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

Topics: Retention, 2017 JTE, Troop Websites

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

Steve Polchek: 703-978-1309, sapolchek@verizon.net
Every Scout Deserves a Trained Leader

Are you an experienced leader looking to share your passion and knowledge about Scouting? Do you like training activities?

If you answered yes, please consider volunteering to help the Patriot District training team. We need leaders from all program areas to share their knowledge and passion with other leaders in the district.

You will be given plenty of support and help with organizing and running any classes for which you volunteer.

If you are willing to help with training, please contact Justin Day at kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com.

Please remember that every scout deserves a trained leader!

2017 Wood Badge Courses

Wood Badge is an advanced Scout leader training course that was established in 1919 by Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Scouting and Wood Badge’s first director. The course came to America in 1948, and it has been frequently updated over the years to reflect current BSA policies and programs. Incorporating the best techniques available, Wood Badge has become the most advanced leadership training course in Scouting!

Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training. The course provides participants with the tools to be a superior leader. The leadership skills taught are for leaders from all Scouting areas, including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing, as well as at District and Council level. The first half of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercises to teach the essentials of leadership. Participants learn what makes leadership work in Scouting and their personal life. The second half offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help participants learn the application of leadership skills. Finally, each course participant writes and completes a “Ticket” that consists of five written goals. These goals connect new leadership knowledge to each individual’s role in Scouting.

All Scouters who have attended basic training for their registered position and serve in a leadership role in Scouting or in a position that directly supports a unit can attend.

The course dates for 2017 are:
- Spring 2017: April 28 – 30 and June 2-4
- Fall 2017: September 8 – 10 and October 7-9

To register or find out more information, you can visit the NCAC Wood Badge page at http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/

It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn't

~ Martin Van Buren (b. December 5, 1782)
Patriot District Awards

It is that time of year again. Please submit names for the deserving adults in your units for the following awards:

District award of merit: The highest award a district can give to an adult volunteer in the BSA. Submit a one page write up on why this person should get the award. Due December 20th to chioma@msn.com.

Distinguished Patriot scouter award: This is a honor that our district has created to recognize outstanding scouters. Submit a ½ page write up on why this person should get the award. Nominations, due February 1, 2017, should be forwarded to chioma@msn.com.

Kristin Chioma, chioma@msn.com

American Red Cross

First Aid-CPR-AED Certification Class

When: Saturday, 21 January 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Who: BSA High Adventure Trip Leaders and Scouts, e.g. Philmont, Sea Base, Northern Tier, etc. Others may sign up to participate on a space-available basis. Class size is limited.

Where: St. Stephen’s UMC, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke, VA.

What: Participants will earn the American Red Cross First Aid-CPR-AED certification. High Adventure crews must have First Aid and CPR certified members, and it is a good idea to have several people certified, including youth members.

Contact: To Register, send the following information to Philip Sternberg, phil.sternberg@gmail.com

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

Questions: please use email to Phil at phil.sternberg@gmail.com, but if necessary Phil’s cell phone number is 703-960-0205

Bring: Personal lunch and beverage. We will have a working lunch, and we will have drinks and refreshments available in the morning.

Cost: Fifty dollars ($50.00) covers the cost of American Red Cross fees and classroom training materials. Checks should be made out to “Boy Scout Troop 1131” with memo line “First Aid Training.” Send checks to Philip Sternberg, P.O. Box 4052, Alexandria, VA 22303. Sign up as soon as possible.
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for Adult Volunteer Scout Leaders

As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support. As adult volunteer Scout leaders it is incumbent upon us to know how to recognize and respond to the signs of mental illness and duress. This knowledge can literally be the difference between life and death.

Several years ago Fairfax County schools had a string of devastating teen suicides...and some of the boys we lost were from our local troops. In response, we are now partnering with the Fairfax County Health Department to offer a training course in Youth Mental Health First Aid to help prevent teen suicide. This is the same training that is mandatory for every Fairfax County School System teacher, administrator and staff member to complete. The same instructors from the Fairfax County Government's Health & Wellness Department that teach them have agreed to provide that training to us and to also customize it to the specific needs of Scouting.

We're excited to report that our second Youth Mental Health First Aid training will be at the Holy Spirit School (intersection of Woodland Way and Braddock Rd) in Annandale. It will take place on Saturday, January 28th from 8am-5pm. Coffee and snacks will be available and there will be a lunch break, but lunch is not provided. So be prepared to either bring your lunch or buy it.

The cost is for the training is $30 per person and covers all course materials and instruction. Space is limited and we are accepting no more than 30 participants for our initial training. Upon completion of the course, all participants will receive a Youth Mental Health First Aid certificate of completion and a NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating achievement.

Don’t miss out! Don't Wait! Be among the first to register for this essential training. To register, please email Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net. Mark can also answer any questions you may have.

ATTENTION ALL TROOPS
Scoutmaster Position Specific Training

The Patriot district will be offering a Scoutmaster Position Specific training this December. This is a great opportunity to help get new leaders trained for their "trained" strip and for your unit's JTE goals.

When: Saturday, December 17th
Time: 8am - 12pm
Location: VFW post 8469 located on Vogue Rd off of Rte. 123 and behind the Gold's Gym shopping center
Cost: $5 per person (payable at the door)
Signup: Contact Justin Day at kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com (only until Dec 10) or Dave Astle at dave.sonia@verizon.net
National Youth Leadership Training

What is NYLT? NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training) is the National Capital Area Council’s presentation of the National Youth Leadership Training. The objective of our NYLT program is to equip our young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their scouting program and in LIFE. NYLT brings together scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice the leadership techniques in a risk free, scout friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.

The course is presented primarily using a Boy Scout model as the vehicle which allows all attendees to SEE how leadership skills fit into the scouting program. These Leadership skills are applicable to all scouting programs.

Why go to NYLT? While it remains the responsibility of the unit leaders to train the youth leaders, this course is designed to supplement the adult leaders’ role in the training process. NYLT skills build on the fundamental leadership skills presented in the unit basic leadership training in their home unit. This training conference has six specific objectives:

- To give participants the confidence and knowledge to run their unit.
- To give participants the most contemporary, successful, and useful leadership tools available and allow them to “experiment” with them to help them better relate these skills to their unit responsibilities.
- To give participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with Scouts from other scouting programs.
- To create an atmosphere where Scouts will experience Scouting at its best.
- To enhance the relationship between the participant and their adult leaders.
- To have fun!

2017 NYLT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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| (Camp William B. Snyder)  
14 – 16 January and 18 – 20 February 2017  
**REGISTER NOW** | 18 - 23 June 2017  
Course Director: Tony LaCava  
(tjklown@gmail.com) |
| Summer             | Summer                       |
| 25 – 30 June 2017  
Course Director: Yong Ho Halt  
(yhhalt.ncacscouting@gmail.com) | 31 July – 5 August 2017 (Sunday Friendly)  
Course Director: Kristin Chioma  
(chioma@msn.com) |

Requirements to attend:

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Unit Leader Training
- At least 13 years of age
- Home Unit Leader approval
- For more information go to [http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/national-youth-leadership-training/](http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/national-youth-leadership-training/)
Popcorn Kernel

The official popcorn campaign for 2016 has come to a close. Special thanks to the participating Pack and Troop kernels and Scouts for their hard work, which helped the Patriot District to exceed its goal of $170,000. Units can continue to sell popcorn throughout the year and earn the 30% base commission. Below are the preliminary sale results by unit. Kudos to Packs 1865, 1346, and 873 for their blue, red, and gold ribbon achievements.

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I will be stepping down as the Patriot Popcorn Kernel. I have prepared a lesson learned document and will assist the new Kernel for the 2017 campaign.

Patrick Ring, Patriot Popcorn Kernel 2016
patriopopcorn2016@verizon.net

People have forgotten how to tell a story. Stories don't have a middle or an end any more. They usually have a beginning that never stops beginning

~Steven Spielberg, Eagle Scout (b. December 18, 1946)
FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

We are commencing our 2017 Friends of Scouting (FOS) in December. It will run until every unit has had a chance to contribute. Please contact Mark Greer to schedule your presentation. Courts of Honor are ideal occasions for Troops to schedule their presentation, while Blue and God Banquets are best for Packs.

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

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

We derive a lot of benefits from FOS and our council. So please take a moment to schedule your presentation and encourage your families to contribute. If you have any questions, please ask me! This is our turn to help – please be generous.

Mark Greer, Patriot Vice-Chair, Finance
mfgreer@verizon.net, 703-300-4876

OA Storage

The OA cooking and outdoor gear used to support various Patriot District events has been moved from the Mini U Storage in Fairfax Station to the Camp Snyder barn (last stall on the right). To gain access, you will need to contact Don Durbin, NCAC Director of Camping Services, 301-214-9188, don.durbin@scouting.org

Available items include: Three Burner Stove (1), Propane Oven (1), Two King Canopies (10 by 20 ft) with Side Covers, Pop Up Canopies (4), Five Gallon Drink Coolers (4), Large pots (4), Multiple Cooking Utensils, Various Spices, Frying Pans (4), Heavy Duty Cast Iron Griddles (2), Propane Lanterns (3), 150-quart Cooler Ice Chests (2), Tables (3), Coffee Percolators (2), 64-oz Hot Thermos (1), Propylene Flag Poles (4), Plastic Cutting Board (2 ft by 1 ft), Walkie Talkies (3 pairs), Paper and Plastic Goods, and Multiple Tarps.

OA Chapter meetings are now being held at the same place as Roundtable. They will begin at 7 PM at St. Stephen’s United Methodist Church on Braddock Rd. Combining with Roundtable should help the TOARs get information to their Troop leadership.
BSA and the VFW: Scholarships, Scholarships, Scholarships

**Background:** The mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is to foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts; serve our veterans, the military, and our communities; and advocate on behalf of all veterans.

The vision of the VFW is to ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country. In **achieving the mission and vision**, the VFW is the Charting Organization to more than 1,000 Packs, Troops and Crews nationwide. Several, annual scholarship awards recognize outstanding youth and adults.

**Adult:** VFW Wood Badge Scholarship Program http://bsaseabase.org/home/media/relationships/vfwwoodbadgescholarship.aspx

Through a cooperative effort with the Boy Scouts of America, the VFW national headquarters offers Wood Badge scholarships to assist selected chapter members in acquiring skills that will better equip them to serve the youth of their communities.

**Youth:** Scout of the Year http://www.vfw.org/Scout

High school students who are at least 15 years of age; registered, active members of a Boy Scout Troop or Venturing Crew; have received either the Eagle Scout Award, the Venturing Silver Award, or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award; and have demonstrated practical citizenship in school, Scouting, and the community are invited to apply.

 Deadline is March 1, 2017 to a local VFW Post. Girl Scouts also compete in this award category.

 This **must** be submitted through a local VFW Post. Membership in VFW **not required** of the parent.

 Scouts without an existing connection to a local VFW Post through a family member can still submit through one of the local Posts: Post 5412 in Burke, or Post 8469 in Fairfax.

 Use the link to get full details and review previous winning entries.

 Terry Meehan, Patriot district VFW liaison, can provide applications to interested Scouts, parents or unit leaders, as well as advise on preparation of the application and provide contacts for local VFW Posts, if needed.

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**Scoutmasters/ Cubmasters/ Committee Chairmen:**

Please make sure that we are tracking and reporting all service hours. The deadline for reporting these hours is approaching, so please have a report on service hours for the year at the next Roundtable. Some helpful links to get you started in reporting service hours are provided below!

 JTE information: http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Awards/JourneyToExcellence.aspx

 Service hours reporting site: https://servicehours.scouting.org/UI/Security/Login.aspx

 Service hours reporting help: https://servicehours.scouting.org/includes/files/popHelp.htm

*Kyle Molldene, Patriot District Executive*

Kyle.Molldene@scouting.org
Learn How New Cub Scout Advancement Modifications Offer Greater Flexibility

The BSA announces modifications to Cub Scouting that make the program more flexible for busy parents, den leaders, and Cubmasters.

As you may be aware, with one year of experience, feedback suggests that the new design of the Cub Scout program did successfully address many original concerns, but also indicates an opportunity for further modification. The fine-tuning reflects the BSA’s three-step approach to new programs: Launch. Learn. Modify.

Some Den Leaders are having difficulty fitting all the Adventures required for advancement into their program year given their number of Den meetings. This is resulting in boys not advancing. After a thoughtful and deliberate review, the modifications are being implemented to address this concern. These modifications, approved today by the BSA’s Executive Committee, are designed to ensure that Adventure requirements are achievable by today’s Cub Scout dens within a program year and achievable by Cub Scouts from a wide range of backgrounds and socio-cultural experiences.

Most modifications involve the number of requirements to be completed, reducing the mandate to a number achievable within the limited time available to many dens, while retaining rich program options that allow leaders to build strong programs adapted to local needs and situations.

The transition will be seamless, with leaders choosing to use revised requirements as the den begins any new Adventure.

Visit scouting.org/programupdates for more information or to review the entire program. The following "Bryan on Scouting" blog post will be the lead source for these changes.

Similar communication will be going to every registered Tiger Leader, Den Leader, Webelos Leader and Cubmaster, as well as various other constituent groups like Commissioners, Training teams, and others but please forward/share this information with any group or via any communication system as you see fit.

Please send all questions and comments to: communications@scouting.org.
Winter Merit Badge Program

What: The Troop 1131 Winter Merit Badge Program offers scouts the opportunity to earn merit badges in sessions with classes that meet for 45-60 minutes over a period of up to five-weeks (schedule below). A limited number of spaces are open to scouts from other units to participate. To see if a space is available contact Mr. Patrick Binning, our merit badge program coordinator (see below).

When: Session #1: Nov 30, Dec 7, Dec 14, Jan 4, Jan 11 (you can make up first week)
Merit Badges: Automotive Maintenance, Citizenship in the Community, Communication, Family Life, Public Health
Session #2: Jan 18, Jan 25, Feb 1, Feb 8, Feb 15
Merit Badges: Chess, Citizenship in the Nation, Model Design, Personal Fitness, Robotics

Where: St. Stephen’s UMC, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke, VA
Classes Start at 7:30 pm

Who: First Class Scouts and above

Bring: Merit Badge Blue Card signed by Unit Leader, Wear Class A uniform, Merit Badge Workbook and Pamphlet (optional), Pen and/or Pencils.

Cost: The cost for Scouts from other units is $15.00 for one merit badge, $30.00 for two merit badges.

Register: Email Mr. Patrick Binning, patrick.binning@gmail.com
Include the following information: Scout’s Name, Rank, Age, Troop, Scout’s preferred email address and phone number, Parent’s preferred email address and phone number.

Boy Scout Troop 1131
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Friday, December 9, 2016
6:00 – 8:00 PM
St. Stephen’s United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
9203 Braddock Road, Burke, VA 22015
Enjoy a night off from cooking and let the scouts of Troop 1131 prepare and serve your dinner. Meals include: salad, entrée (spaghetti & meatballs or Spaghetti & Shrimp), roll, dessert and beverage. $7 per person, $25 family of 4
University of Scouting
18 February 2017

The University of Scouting is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouting, Varsity Scouts, District Operations, and Council). Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cubbing, Scouting, and Adventure; leadership training for Venturing, Varsity, and Sea Scouting; Electives courses applicable across the Scouting programs; and District operations courses. For 2016 we will be offering over 150 classes in five colleges – truly something for everyone.

- The College of Cub Scouting provides a wide variety of courses from pack administration to planning for an outdoor program.
- The College of Boy Scouting provides an exciting variety of troop, patrol and outdoor planning supplemental courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience.
- The College of Adventure Scouting is an interesting combination of courses for those who are wish to learn more about Scouting’s “senior” level programs and the challenges of an active high adventure experience.
- The College of Elective Programs offers many “general studies courses” that cut across all the programs. Just about everything from diversity and special needs to using technology can be found in the Elective Programs.
- The College of District Operations provides training to district committee members and Scouters with an interest in district operations. While no degree is conferred, those who take the required three courses are awarded the District Scouter Training Certificate and “Trained” patch.

Standalone Courses are those that are BSA national syllabus courses such as BALOO, VLSC(Y), VLSC(A), VALST, or are courses that lead to certification recognized and/or needed by the BSA. Note that standalone courses do not meet any degree requirements in any College.

Registration to begin soon, keep an eye on http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/

I see a time of Seven Generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the Sacred Tree of Life and the whole Earth will become one circle again.

~ Crazy Horse (b. December 4, 1840)
The National Capital Area Council

Goshen@50

Memorial Day Weekend

May 27—29, 2017

NCAC is commemorating the opening of the Goshen Scout Reservation in 1967 with a council-wide celebration! Mark your calendars for this one of a kind camporee on Memorial Day Weekend 2017.

The Camporee will be a great event for Scouts (of all ages and program levels) and their families. Activities will include waterfront, shooting sports, COPE and climbing courses, as well as a special arena show, campfires and Scouting skill competitions. There will also be Alumni events honoring key contributors to Goshen’s history.

For more information, please visit the Goshen@50 Website at: http://www.ncacbsa.org/goshen50/

The Patriot Press, Patriot District
National Capital Area Council

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

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

Key District Contacts

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NCAC Jewish Committee on Scouting

**Tu B’Shevat Celebration - Jewish Arbor Day**

*Plant Juniper Seedlings, Enjoy Tree Food, Conservation-Hornaday Award*

When: Sunday, February 5, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Who: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Venturing Scouts

*All faiths welcome.* Register early, space is limited.

Where: Party Room at Mr. Sternberg’s Home, 5902 Mount Eagle Drive, Alexandria, VA

Phone: 571-490-8834 (home), 703-960-0205 (cell).

See driving directions below.

What: Celebrate the annual Jewish Holiday of **Tu B’Shevat**. Scouts will get Juniper Seedlings in 2” pots to decorate and take home for planting when the weather is warmer. Scouts will learn about Conservation and the Hornaday award. And Scouts will enjoy a **Tu B’Shevat Seder** … food from trees like nuts and fruits.

Register: Send an email to Philip Sternberg, phil.sternberg@gmail.com.

Include the Scout’s name, District, Unit Type (*troop, pack, crew*), Unit Number, Scout’s age, and school grade.

Cost: The event will cost $18.00/per participant-pay at the door.

Questions: Philip Sternberg, phil.sternberg@gmail.com, 703-960-0205

Directions: Take I-495/I-95 (beltway) to exit 177A (use local lanes) onto the Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1) toward Ft. Belvoir. There are two traffic lights between the beltway exit 177A and Mount Eagle Drive: Fort Hunt Road and Huntington Avenue. Turn right onto Mount Eagle Drive (looks like a service road). In about a block, turn right to the **Montebello Condominium** Gate House.

Tell the guard you are coming to the Boy Scout Event in Building 5902. Go through the gate and turn right to the top of the hill to Building #2 (5902). Take the elevator down one floor to the B-1 level to the Party Room.
Training Awards and Unit Leader Key Awards

Trained leaders have the knowledge and self-confidence to provide young people with a quality program. There are two important parts of BSA’s Leadership Training Recognition plan: (1) to honor demonstrated performance and tenure of trained leaders in all areas of the Scouting program involving units, and (2) to encourage others to become trained.

Trained leaders may apply for the knot appropriate to their program level by filling out the Progress Record for that award. Usually one reason why training records are not showing up is because the individual has not linked their BSA Member Number to their myscouting.org account. It is important that this is done so that we can show that our leaders are actually trained. Another error is not obtaining all the signatures required at the unit level. If the form asks for both the unit leader and the committee chairs signatures, then we need both signatures.

TRAINING AWARD FORMS

Below is a listing of the award forms that should be used and the link to the current document.

**Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form** (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor). Don’t forget to include the statement by the unit committee chair on behalf of the unit committee attesting to the nominee’s performance as unit leader. For Scoutmaster nominations, also attach a statement by the troop’s senior patrol leader. For Varsity Scout Coach nominations, also attach a statement by the team captain. For crew Advisor nominations, also attach a statement by the crew president.

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-003_WB.pdf

**Den Leader Training Award** – Adults that serve as Cub Scout Den Leaders may earn this knot by completing the required tenure, training, and performance for the award. Progress Record (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos den leader)

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-052_WB.pdf

**Scouter’s Training Award**—Adults that serve as Leaders in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Sea Scouts, and Venturing may earn this knot by completing the position-appropriate required tenure, training, and performance for the award.

Scouter’s Training Award for Cub Scouts–Progress Record
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-057_WB.pdf

Scouter’s Training Award for Boy Scouting – Progress Record
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-058_WB.pdf

Scouter’s Training Award for Varsity Scouts – Progress Record
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-059_WB.pdf

Venturing Training Award – Progress Record
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-060_WB.pdf

**Scouter’s Key Award**—Adults that serve as Scoutmasters, Varsity Coaches, District Committee members, and Venturing Advisors may earn this knot by completing the required tenure, training, and performance for the award.

Cubmaster’s Key Progress Record http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-053_WB.pdf
Scoutmaster’s Key Progress Record http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-054_WB.pdf
Coach’s Key Progress Record http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-055_WB.pdf
Advisor’s Key Progress Record http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-056_WB.pdf
District Committee Key Progress Record http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/districtcommittekey.pdf