Please Congratulate our Patriot Silver Beaver Class of 2016.

David Astle, Kristin Chioma, Janet Ramos

All are welcome to come to the Council Dinner on April 26th, where they will be recognized.

NCAC Court of Honor

Tuesday, April 26, 2016, Tyson’s Corner Marriott
6:00 PM Reception and 7-9 PM Dinner
Cost: $75 per person

NCAC 2016 CLASS OF SILVER BEAVERS

- Melanie Anthony
- David L. Astle
- Peter Bielak
- Kristin Chioma
- Anthony D. Crenshaw
- Jonathan Etherton
- W. Scott Gray, IV
- Peter Karl Lagerberg
- Steven Wayne McDanal
- J. Michael McKinney
- Janet Ramos
- William Shakelton
- Margaret Smith
- Joseph H. Swartz
- Edward A. Weeks
- Randy D. Wilson
- Robert D. Wood
- Randolph Sailer Young
From the District Chairman:

Scouts and Scouters of Patriot District,

Wow! It’s March and Spring is almost in the air! We may still have some cold weather – and possibly snow – but perhaps Punxsutawney Phil was correct this year.

The 2016 Friends of Scouting campaign is well under way, and I know that there will be many FOS presentations over the next few weeks when you have a Blue and Gold or Court of Honor. Please consider supporting Scouting with your treasure as well as you what you already give in talent and time. Steve Smith and his committee will work with you on this. For the most impact, try to schedule your FOS presentation at an event when lots of parents will be around. Even Camping trips are good.

Out Spring Awards Banquet is in the planning stages. Mark your calendar for the 24 May.

Our Spring Camporee is just around the corner – the 29th April to the 1st of May, and it’s gonna be HUGE…and maybe a bit wet!!! The theme is canoeing. Come out with your Troop, and call Bill Dexter if you can volunteer for the staff.

Rechartering is complete! Thanks to the Unit Leaders and the District Commissioners for their great work. I’m told that we are the first district in the Council to complete the registration process.

I always ask you to Share Scouting! Please share this Patriot Press with at least one other Scouter or Scout Family this month. Then send the e-mail address to Robert Mason so they will be permanently on the distribution list. If you know a Scouter in the District that is not getting Patriot Press, please send their name to Joe Osborne (joe.osborne@cox.net).

As always, this is for you! Thank you for what you do for our Scouting movement. And thank you for your support to for Patriot District’s program.

After you’ve packed up all the canoeing gear, from the Spring Camporee, start planning for Summer Camp! If you need a Tour Plan approved, submit via the NCAC and BSA websites. Summer is right around the corner…

Yours in Scouting,

Jack Campbell, District Chairman
wjcampbell1@verizon.net

Without a struggle, there can be no progress.

~ Frederick Douglas (b. February, 1808)
Unit Leaders / Unit Scribes /Scribe Advisers

Please Report Your Camping to the District

The District, as well as units, achieve JTE levels based on several criteria. One of them is Unit Camping/Outdoor experiences. We used to be able to glean this from Local Tour Permits, however there are now a number of exceptions to the requirement for Tour Permits, so we are missing a lot of them.

We are working on a more formal, convenient on-line way to record your unit's camping/Outdoor experiences. Until then please let us know the following about your Unit's Camping:

- Inclusive Dates
- Number of Leaders
- Number of Scouts
- Theme, if any
- Location
- Highlights – focusing on the positive, include a photo or two

Until we get the on-line capability set up – which may take a while – please send this in an email to the Camping Chair, John Merchant: merchantj@verizon.net. Please see this as an opportunity to "brag" a little and to give your unit visibility within the District. We will not publish any of the particulars without the express permission of the Unit Leader.

In the coming months, I will try to get information out on the new Camping and Outdoor awards. There is a new unit annual award, replacing the old National Camping Award and several levels of new individual awards for youth in Scout and Venture Units. Let's keep the "outing" in Scouting.

John Merchant, merchantj@verizon.net

Rechartering rosters for 2016 and Cub Scout-to-Boy Scout crossovers

Processing of unit recharters has been completed by BSA, and unit leaders should have received their recharting rosters, along with the 2016 charters and membership cards, in the mail by now. Please check the rosters carefully against your recharter submissions. There is a certain amount of manual effort in the process, and errors can occur. And of course, each member of the unit Key-3 can review the unit’s roster at any time through the Member Management tool in my.scouting.

For Cub leaders – this is the season when your senior Cubs will be crossing over to Troops. Important to their history in BSA records is entry into Internet Advancement of their earning the Arrow of Light. Please make sure that those entries are made as soon as possible after completion. Once a boy’s application to join a Troop is submitted and processed, the Pack’s ability to make advancement entries for him will disappear.

Lee Cass
Assistant District Commissioner

You can post pictures to: https://www.facebook.com/PatriotDistrict
The Patriot Press

Volume 19 March 2016 Issue 03

Patriot District Events
Web Calendar: http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/

March 2016
5 Life-to-Eagle Seminar
5 District Pinewood Derby
8 Commissioner Meeting
10 Roundtable
11 OA Chapter Meeting
12 Commissioner College
19-20 Wilderness & Remote First Aid (Big Mac)
19 BCOLS (classroom)
22 District Committee Meeting
27 Easter Sunday

April 2016
3 Patriot Press Deadline – April
8-10 OA Lodge Spring Fellowship (Snyder)
9 SPST (formerly BSLST)
9 COR training
12 Commissioner Meeting
14 Roundtable
14 OA Chapter Meeting
16 CPST, SPST, VCPST, VAPST, plus Den Leader, COR, and Pack and Venture Committee Chairs training
16-17 BCOLS (overnight)
22-30 Passover (eve-to-eve)
24 Early Bird registration deadline/Goshen
26 PD Committee Meeting
29-1 May Spring Camporee
29-1 May Wood Badge (weekend #1)

May 2016
1 Patriot Press Deadline – May
8 Mother’s Day
9 JSN training & distribution of materials
10 Commissioner Meeting
12 Program Launch & Roundtable
12 OA Chapter Meeting
20-22 OA Conclave (Goshen)
24 District Awards Dinner
29 Goshen payments due
29 Patriot Press Deadline – June

Legend
BCOLS Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills
CPST Cubmaster Position-Specific Training
IOLS Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
JSN Join Scouting Night
NLE New Leader Essentials
OA Order of the Arrow
SPST Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
VAPST Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training
VCPST Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training
VOA Venturing Officers Association

4 of 20
CUB SCOUT ROUNTABLE!

All Cub Scout Leaders, Come on 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:
1. To provide the skill to do—skills, techniques, information, program ideas—the know-how that makes for successful unit operation.
2. 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, March 10, 2016
Where: Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church; 9203 Braddock Road
Midway: 7:30pm – 8 pm
Roundtable: 8pm – 9pm

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, March 10, 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: Campfire Programs, International Scouting, Webelos-to-Scout Transition, Mining in Society MB

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

Steve Polchek – 703-978-1309, sapolchek@verizon.net
The theme for the Patriot District Spring Camporee is canoeing. Also, several alternative programs will be available. Scouts will have the opportunity to canoe, kayak, or tube the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers. Two trips are available, a challenging trip that includes rapids and an easy gentle water experience. Webelos can only participate in the gentle water canoeing. Units that are canoeing must administer the BSA swim test to any individual, Scout or adult, who will be on the water. Additionally, each unit must have a current “Safety a Float” adult present for water activities. Troops will be canoeing as a unit water event, not a district water event.

Patriot District will camp at a 46 acre commercial campground along the river. We have reserved the entire campground for the camporee. Before and after canoeing Scouts will have numerous choices to challenge themselves and have fun. They include dodge ball, marksmanship with air rifle shooting, archery, fishing, and rock wall climbing.

The camporee will feature two other unique merit badge programs. The merit badge programs will take up the full camporee and preclude Scouts from canoeing. The first is Cinematography. Scouts will make a movie during the camporee that will be shown at either the camporee Campfire or Closing Ceremony and at the Patriot District May Roundtable. Requirements for this merit badge are listed on-line. Scouts taking this merit will meet Friday evening and then work on it all day Saturday. The program is open to 30 Scouts. The eminent business owner, Rich Harrington, is the merit badge counselor. The second merit badge program is American Heritage. It will focus on the rich historical environment in the Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville areas.

Units that do not want to canoe have several alternate activities they can organize in the Fredericksburg area. They can visit the city of Fredericksburg and tour Colonial or Civil War sites or tour the Chancellorsville Civil War battlefield. At Chancellorsville Battlefield, a challenging event is to hike the route of Confederate General “Stonewall” Jackson’s famous flanking attack – about a 20 mile hike. Additionally, units can take their Scouts to Kings Dominion for a day of fun and adventure.

The camporee will have the traditional events that bring us together as a district; Opening and Closing ceremonies, Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster Cracker Barrel, outdoor church services, a Saturday night campfire, and the Order of the Arrow Call-out. Additionally, Troop 1131 will sponsor a grill-out dinner on Saturday night featuring grilled meats and fish, salad, side dishes, dessert and drinks. For troop wanting to participate, there is a $7 additional charge per meal paid to Troop 1131.

The camporee will be held from Friday night, April 29 till Sunday May 1, 2016. The cost is twenty dollars ($20) per participant. There is no charge for adults that are just helping out on Saturday or Sunday and are not camping for the weekend. Registration for the camporee is open from February 4 until April 11, 2016. It is important that units notify Joe Casey by e-mail or phone by that April 11 date if they plan to attend the camporee. His e-mail is jmccasey@verizon.net and his phone number is (703) 455-9050. Joe Casey will answer every e-mail. Units need to notify Joe of the approximate number of participants. Final camporee registration and payment will take place Friday evening on-site as units arrive. Unit checks should be made out to NCAC-BSA.

There is an additional charge of twenty-five ($25) for participants that are canoeing or kayaking. Troops will make reservations and payment for canoeing and kayaking directly with Virginia Outdoor Center at (540) 371-5085 or info@playva.com, JoEllen Santulli. Units that are canoeing must notify Virginia Outdoor Center by March 15, 2016 and provide a $100 deposit. Final numbers and payment are due by April 15, 2016. To pay, send
a check to Virginia Outdoor Center at 3219 Fall Hill Avenue, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401. The final count needs to include how many participants weigh less than 100 pounds and how many canoes and kayaks you are renting. Only older Scouts and adults with previous paddle experience should rent a kayak.

If it is warm enough, Scouts can tube the river. Tubing reservations need to be made with Steve Miller (540) 735-4182 canoecamp@earthlink.net at Rappahannock River Campground.

Troop 114 will provide the Camporee Senior Patrol Leader and the Flag Detail for the Opening and Closing ceremonies. The Camporee Senior Patrol Leader is responsible for conducting the Camporee Opening and Closing ceremonies and acting as Master of Ceremonies for the Saturday night campfire. This is a great opportunity for a senior Scout to display his leadership abilities. Also, the camporee is looking for at least two Scout buglers or trumpet players. As always, the camporee staff is in need of adult volunteers to support the different events. Volunteers should phone William Dexter, the Camporee Director at (703) 978-2632 or send an e-mail to wtdexterjr@gmail.com.

Patriot District will not conduct an Introduction to Outdoors Leader Skills (IOLS) training course at the camporee. The IOLS training course will be conducted on another weekend. The director for the IOLS training is Philip Sternberg. He can be reached at phil.sternberg@gmail.com or (703) 960-0205.

William Dexter, Camporee Directory
(703) 978-2632, wtdexterjr@gmail.com

Patriot District Spring 2016 Camporee Grill-Out

When:  Start – 5:00 pm, Saturday, 30 April 2016

Who:  All Scouts and leaders attending the Camporee are invited to enjoy dinner cooked by members of the Patriot District Staff and Order of the Arrow.

Where:  Rappahannock River Campground.

What:  Sign up to have a great dinner cooked for you after a hard day on the river. We will grill hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and salmon, and we’ll have a great salad selection and lots of great side dishes, ice tea, lemonade, and great desserts. The district will provide paper plates, bowls and cups, and disposable knives forks and spoons.

Contact:  Each unit must send the following information to Philip Sternberg by Friday, 15 April 2016:
- Unit Point of Contact: Name, Mailing Address, Email Address, home and cell phone numbers, and unit type and number
- Send the estimated number of Scouts (under age 18) and the estimated number of Leaders (age 18 and older) who will be eating dinner.
- Email information to <phil.sternberg@gmail.com>

Cost:  Seven dollars ($7.00) per person due by Friday, 22 April 2016.

Checks should be made out to “Boy Scout Troop 1131” with memo line “Patriot District Spring 2016 Camporee Grill-Out.”

Send checks to Philip Sternberg, P.O. Box 4052, Alexandria, VA 22303. Sign up as soon as possible.
Leader Position Specific Training

Join us on Saturday, April 16th from 8:30am to 1:00 pm for a time of fun, comradery, and learning.

Patriot District and George Mason District are joining teams to offer all Scouters training in their specific positions. Not only does this training help you, the leader, bring a greater quality program to your youth, it enables you to wear the “TRAINED” patch.

Class Offerings:
- Den Leader Position Specific Training
- Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster Position Specific Training
- Scoutmaster (and Assistant Scoutmaster) Position Specific Training
- Varsity Coach Position Specific Training
- Venturing Advisor Position Specific Training
- Pack Committee Challenge
- Team Committee Challenge
- Crew Committee Challenge
- Chartered Organization Representative Training

To be held at:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
4911 Ox Road
Fairfax VA 22030

For more information, please contact your District Training Chair

University of Scouting

February 27, 2016, was a great day for the National Capital Area Council. Nine hundred and sixty (960) Scouters from around the area attended the University of Scouting – with 8 Staff Members and 43 Participants coming from Patriot District.

The University of Scouting offered each participant, in addition to meeting vendors in the midway, the opportunity to take up to six different classes in and/or across Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Adventure Scouting (Team, Crew, Ship), and District Operations. There were several new classes offered this year and more new classes are being developed for next year.

Our special thanks go to David Astle, Kristin Chioma, Alan Deter, Julia Farr, Bob Green, Mike Meenehan, John Merchant, and Chris Watkins for working on staff. Whether you attended this year or not, please plan now to attend the next University of Scouting program on February 26, 2017.
WOOD BADGE

Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training and provides you with the tools to be a superior leader. The leadership skills taught are for leaders from all Scouting areas including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing, and the District and Council. The 1st half of the course utilizes a classroom environment and practical exercises to teach the essentials of leadership. You’ll learn what makes leadership work for you in Scouting and your personal life. The 2nd half offers classroom and outdoor experiences to help you learn the application of leadership skills. Finally, you will write and complete a “Ticket” that consists of five written goals. These goals connect your new leadership knowledge to your role in Scouting.

Any Scouter who has attended basic training for their registered position and serves in a leadership role in Scouting or in a position that directly supports a unit can attend.

2016 Wood Badge Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N6-82-16-1</td>
<td>29 April – 1 May and 3 – 5 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N6-82-16-2</td>
<td>9 – 11 September and 8 – 10 October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(You are required to attend both weekends of the course.)

http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/wood-badge/

If you have any questions please contact Kristin Chioma, chioma@msn.com

Merit Badge Counselors Needed

Thought I'd share with all of you the upcoming annual DC Merit Badge University at Catholic University of America. It will be held April 9-10, 2016. The organizers are in need of merit badge counselors! This program has been a smash hit among Scouts in the Council in the past and the organizers are hoping it will be a great one again. They are anticipating 400 Scouts at the event again, so lots of counselors on various topics are needed. So far, there is no list of the specific badges for which counselors are needed, so all counselors for all badges are invited to register.

I ask that you please share this information with our District's Scouters. An additional announcement on the event regarding how Scouts can register will come up, and when it does, I will share it with everyone here.

Lani Azahari, Communications and Training Vice-Chair
Assistant District Commissioner, Washington, DC District
Email: lani.azahari@muslimscouting.org, Phone: 703-598-0408
American Red Cross

Wilderness and Remote First Aid (WRFA) Certification

When:
Start – 9:00 a.m., Saturday, 19 March 2016
End – 4:00 p.m., Sunday, 20 March 2016

Who:
BSA High Adventure trip adult leaders and Scouts (14+). Others may sign up subject to space-available. Class size is limited; all participants must have and bring their current First Aid and CPR certification.

Where:
Camp Big Mac, 12647 Moss Hollow Road, Markham, VA. Directions: I-66 West to Exit 18. Left onto County Road 688, take tunnel under Interstate, cross Route 55 to Leeds Manor Road. Turn right on Leeds manor Road. Continue about two miles to Moss Hollow Road. Turn right onto Moss Hollow Road (gravel). Pass Camp Moss Hollow and enter Big Mac through gate.

What:
Participants will earn the American Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid (When Help is Delayed) certification. BSA High Adventure crews must have at least two certified WFA members, and as with CPR, however, it is a good idea to have several people certified. Please eat breakfast before you arrive. Our first meal is lunch Saturday, we have a cracker barrel Saturday evening, and the last meal is lunch Sunday

Bring:
Camping gear in a backpack. Pack as you would for a high adventure trip. This can be a tent camping event, but there also are small cabins available too.

Contact:
To Register, please send the following information to Philip Sternberg
• Name, Mailing Address, Email Address, home and cell phone numbers, BSA unit type and number, and BSA Personal ID number (on your membership card).
• Email information to <phil.sternberg@gmail.com>
• 703-960-0205 (Phil’s Cell Phone)

Cost:
Sixty dollars ($60.00) covers the cost of American Red Cross fees and classroom training materials, and Camp Big Mac fees. Checks should be made out to “Boy Scout Troop 1131” with memo line “Wilderness First Aid Training.” Send checks to Philip Sternberg, P.O. Box 4052, Alexandria, VA 22303. Sign up as soon as possible

Freedom is not the sole prerogative of a chosen few, but the universal right of all God’s children.

~Ronald Reagan (b. February 6, 1911)
Introductions to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC)

Check out the new version of Introductions to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC)….

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/511-013(16)_WEB.pdf

Also, for all of your leaders and committee members who still need to be trained, it just got easier. My.scouting.org just released the new online training modules. Go check it out.

VenturingFest 2016

VenturingFest 2016, the first national gathering of Venturers at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, Glean Jean, West Virginia is coming your way this summer from July 31 to August 5. This special Scouting event will be the first ever national gathering of Venturers at a BSA high-adventure base.

It is a special Scouting event – unlike any other before – that is open to registered Venturers, Scouts, and adult leaders across the U.S. This six-day high-adventure festival invites participants to explore the best the Summit has to offer. We’re talking rock climbing, skateboarding, BMX biking, water sports, shooting sports, zip lines, challenge courses, and so much more.

As if the adrenaline-pumping activities weren’t enough, festival goers will also get to jam out to concerts and meet new friends in Venturing at the event. What more could a Venturer want?

- Registration Fee Youth: $400 per person
- Registration Fee Adult: $300 per person
- $300 deposit per group due upon registration.

Fees include meals (Sunday dinner through Friday breakfast), campsite (w/showers, dining flies & Wi-Fi), and all program equipment

Registration information is at http://www.summitbsa.org/venturingfest/

Before anything else, preparation is the key to success.

~ Alexander Graham Bell (b. March 03, 1847)
National Youth Leadership Training
SUMMER 2016 NYLT
19 – 24 June 2016
10 – 15 July 2016
31 July – 5 August 2016
REGISTER TODAY!!!

Early Bird cost for the Course will be $225 until 1 June 2016, then the cost is $270. All courses will be held at the American Legion Youth Camp at 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD. In order to attend the course each participant must certify that they have now (or will have by June 1st) met the following qualifications to attend NYLT:

- Attained First Class Rank if in Boy Scouts
- Completed Unit Leader Training
- At least 13 years of age (With the Course Directors approval)
- Youth 12 years of age and younger will not be able to attend
- Home Unit Leader approval

What is NYLT? 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.

While it remains the responsibility of 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!

Remember, “Scouting is a game with a purpose.” — Baden-Powell

There are also staffing opportunities for youth who have attended NYLT in the past. If you have questions, please contact Kristin Chioma, chioma@msn.com
All things Knots

Ever wonder what those knots are on someone's uniform? How did they get it? Below are some of the most popular knots you are recognized with just for doing training and your job. If you have questions about these or other awards please contact Kristin Chioma, Patriot Advancement and Recognition chair, chioma@msn.com.

Leadership & Training Awards

**Den Leader's Training Award** - One year of tenure and other requirements. It includes the following. Can be earned three times.
- Tiger Cub Den Leader Award
- Cub Scout Den Leader Award
- Webelos Den Leader

**Scouter's Training Award** - Basic Training and other requirements. Various requirements, depending on the program
- Pack Trainer Award
- Cub Scouter Award
- Boy Scout Training Award
- District Training Award

**Scouter's Key** - Various requirements, depending on the program. - Commissioners, Scoutmasters, Venturing Advisors, and others.
- Cubmaster Key
- Scoutmaster Key
- Coach Key
- Adviser Key

**Unit Leader's Award of Merit** - Earned by Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Varsity Team Coaches, and Venturing Crew Advisors meeting the requirements. It requires 18 months or more in the position along with nomination from the committee or youth.

Check Out NCAC's New Website!

In January the National Capital Area Council moved to a new website content engine. We believe the new design will make it easier for you to find information and easier for us to make that information available. In addition to the new website, the event registration engine has also changed. You will find the calendar and registering for events has been streamlined. We are currently in the process of populating information on the website and calendar. If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, or praises, feel free to send them to PatriotDistrictWebmaster@muslimscouting.org. We invite you to check out the new NCAC site at http://www.ncachsa.org/Patriot/.

We also invite you to follow us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/PatriotDistrict. If you have any good news stories or photos that you want to contribute, please feel free to post it to our District Facebook Page.
Looking for a Few Good Scout Tales

Do you have Scouts working on journalism merit badge? Or maybe you would like to share about the great work your unit is doing for the community. Tiger Days, Webelos outings, Eagle projects, and high adventure stories are all welcome. Send your successes and even trials to the editor of the Patriot Press and you likely will inspire other good actions by other Scouters and Scouts.

Patriot District would share our monthly letter with our great Packs, Troops and Crews, hopefully sparking imagination and activity. If the community is recognizing your unit, we would love to share the good news. Send your stories and pictures to joe.osborne@cox.net. Please keep the stories to about a page or less with pictures using 11 point font, first names preferred for youth. It also helps if you reduce picture size to less than 1 MB.

I have enclosed pictures from days long ago with Troop 1345 at the Burke Centre Festival and Earth Day cleanup to spur ideas. We would love to hear about your winter activities.

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Take time to deliberate; but when the time for action arrives, stop thinking and go in.
~Andrew Jackson (b. March 15, 1767)
Philmont-sponsored advisor training at NCAC April 9 and 10

Scouters:

Philmont is sponsoring two separate 10 hour workshops for future Philmont adult attendees at Council's Marriott Service Center on Saturday, April 9, and Sunday, April 10. The program is called PASS (Philmont Advisor Skills School). The cost is $25, and includes a Philmont-style trail lunch, PASS materials, and a PASS patch.

You can register for either Saturday or Sunday at the following link (you would only need to attend one session):

http://www.scouting.org/Philmont/TrekPreparation/~/link.aspx?_id=4E69DAC272B840E4AD46FA0DF8E8C717&_z=z

Minimum age is 18. This course is for those adults attending Philmont this coming summer, or for those contemplating attending Philmont. The course is taught by a member of the Philmont ranger staff.

This is a new course that is making its way to various Councils across the U.S. This class is in response to the tragedy that happened last summer. It is only going to be offered to about 10 councils this year. Don't send your adults to Philmont knowing less than they should know (that would be unfair to them, and to the crew). Attendees will be able to share their newly-gained information with their crews.

As it is unclear how often this effort will be repeated, you should not assume that this opportunity will be available again next year.

From now on we'll live in a world where man has walked on the Moon.
It's not a miracle, we just decided to go.

~James Lovell, Eagle Scout (b. March 25, 1928)
Leave No Trace Trainer Classes, April 2016

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.

On completion of this course, participants will be registered as Leave No Trace Trainers with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics and with the BSA. Students will receive Leave No Trace teaching materials, a certificate of course completion, a Leave No Trace Trainer lapel pin, and a BSA Leave No Trace Trainer card.

This course is instructed by nationally designated Leave No Trace Master Educators and Trainers. Attendance for the entire duration of the training is required.

NCAC Outdoor Ethics web page: http://www.ncacbsa.org/training/outdoor-ethics/

Class locations, dates, and contacts:

Maryland Class
Where: Izaak Walton League Rockville Chapter, Germantown MD
When: Friday April 8 (5:00 pm) through Sunday April 10, 2016 (10:00 am) (Sunday friendly may be possible for students; please contact Paul to discuss)
Class director: Paul Schimke, paul@schimke.org, 301 906 0069 (cell)
Registration page: https://scoutingevent.com/?LNTTrainer
Enrollment closes Sunday 3/27/2016

Virginia Class
Where and when: Falls Church, Friday evening April 8, 2016 AND Sky Meadows SP, April 16 (9:00am) through April 17 (10:00am)
Class Director: Victor Bienek, vbieneik@gmail.com, 703 855 8428 (cell)
Registration page: https://scoutingevent.com/?LNTTrainerApr2016
Enrollment closes Wednesday 3/27/2016

Liberty may be endangered by the abuse of liberty, but also by the abuse of power.
~James Madison (b. March 16, 1751)
Health & Safety - Poison Ivy

Poison ivy is not your friend. All parts of the plant (leaves, stems, roots, berries) contain a toxic oil that binds to your skin, or your coat, shoes, dog fur, or anything it comes in contact with. It causes a nasty rash and blisters that can be spread all over your body by scratching, and can last for weeks. The toxic oil can be washed off with soap and water immediately after contact, but if it stays in contact with your skin for more than a few minutes it becomes chemically bound and cannot be washed off. There are several products on the market that are more effective for removing the oil than regular soap, if used promptly. If you get it on your clothing, boots, gloves, etc. it will stay there for a long time – a year or more – so you can "catch the itch" long after you have been in the woods. Some people seem to be "immune" to its ill effects, but beware – anyone can become sensitized, even if you have not been sensitive before. The best strategy is to learn to recognize this plant in all its various forms, and at all times of year, and AVOID IT!

Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills (BCOLS)

This course is aimed at all adults working with older youth regardless of program (Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Explorer). This training IS NOT recommended for Cub Scout leaders. All participants must have completed Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, as well as the position-specific training for their program area (Venturing or, Varsity or, Boy Scout) prior to attending this course and be able to meet physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Register for the Saturday 19 March 2016, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM session at: https://scoutingevent.com/?bcols2016

2016 NCAC Commissioner College

When: Saturday, March 12, 2016
Where: Huntingtown High School , 4125 Solomon’s Island Road, Huntingtown, MD 20836
Contact: Dean of College, Julia Farr, farr.scouts@gmail.com, 703-965-7013

It does not require many words to speak the truth.

~ Chief Joseph (b. March 3, 1840)
The Boy Scouts of America announces a new informational resource entitled “Counselor’s Compass.” This publication, to be issued as an e-newsletter, will support merit badge counselors in four ways:

- **Things to do.** What new counselors should do prior to counseling a merit badge.
- **Steps for Success.** Helpful tips for both new and experienced counselors as they work with Scouts, such as the importance of using the latest pamphlet and requirements.
- **Glad You Asked.** Articles that address commonly asked questions sent to merit.badge@scouting.org.

**News You Can Use.** Merit badge fun facts and information on new badges. Subscribing to *Counselor’s Compass* is similar to subscribing to *Advancement News*: Send a message to merit.badge@scouting.org, with “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line. Indicate your name, email address, and council in the message text. The *Compass* may also be accessed online at: www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-937_Dec2014.pdf

**B-P Bits**

1908 Handbook: “A Scout is a friend to animals. He should not kill any animal unnecessarily, even if it is only a fly.” “I have said the hunting or going after big game is one of the best things in Scouting. I did not say shooting or killing the game was the best part; for as you get to study animals you get to like them more and more, and you will soon find that you don’t want to kill them for the mere sake of killing.”

**Virginia Scout Shop**

Located at 5234 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA, in the Ravensworth Shopping Center just before the beltway on Braddock Road. Phone: 703-321-4836

**Store Hours:**

- Monday-Friday 9 AM - 7 PM
- Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

They carry uniforms, Scouting equipment, badges, and literature, and they will accept most Scout advancement form turn-ins. (Turn in Eagle forms at NCAC, Bethesda.)
Spring 2016 Eagle Events

Here are some social and networking opportunities for local Eagle Scouts coming up this spring:

- **Eagles on the Hill**: March 2. As part of the annual Report to the Nation, NESA and the Congressional Scouting Caucus are hosting a Gathering of Eagles on Capitol Hill.

- **NOESA Honors Dinner**: March 31: Join us as we honor 15 local business men who have been selected to receive the NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award.

- **Eagle Scout Happy Hour**: April 21: Join us for fun and fellowship at Bullfeathers.

- **Eagle Career Day**: May 21: All Eagle Scouts, Quartermasters, and Venturing Silver Award recipients under 21 years old are invited to receive mentoring in their chosen career fields.

- **Networking Lunch**: 2nd Thursday of Each Month: Guest speakers, fellowship, & good food at Seasons 52 in Tysons Corner.

**National Eagle Scout Association (NESA)**  
**Outstanding Eagle Award (NOESA)**

NOESA Honors will be held Thursday, March 31st, 2016 at the Army-Navy Club on Farragut Square in Washington DC.

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**STEM-University**  
**Adult training in STEM!!**

**Date:** Sunday, June 18 1-4 PM  
**Where:** Camp Snyder in Haymarket, VA  
**Who:** Leaders and Parents

Learn about STEM in Scouting!

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

**Digital Technology MB**

March 16, 2016    Microsoft Montgomery
April 5, 2016     Microsoft Tysons

*This is part of BSA’s ongoing partnership with Microsoft; more dates will be scheduled for these workshops and posted on the www.ncacbsa.org/stem page*
From the

Omaha Beach Camporee

In the spirit of peace and brotherhood, the Transatlantic Council invites Scouting youth, families, professionals, volunteers and veterans to the Omaha Beach Camporee in Normandy, France for an unforgettable opportunity to recognize the sacrifices of American and Allied soldiers, who fought and died fighting for freedom and peace in 1944. This historic event takes place from April 21-23, 2017 and offers an array of historic and Scouting activities unlike any you’ve ever experienced.

“Our goal is to create the possibility of meaningful experiences that will touch our youth and help them to understand the magnitude of what happened on June 6, 1944 and the battle to defeat Fascism,” explains Transatlantic Council Scout Executive Vince Cozzone. “More than a battle, we hope that youth understand how the sacrifices made by our ‘Greatest Generation’ have influenced the world we live in today and that they will lead tomorrow.”

The program combines large group activities with personal discovery in and around the landmarks of Normandy. Live reenactor groups and WWII gear displays transport attendees back to 1944, offering a firsthand look at that monumental day in history. Not your typical Scouting event, the Omaha Beach Camporee offers youth and adults a chance to personally reflect and appreciate how the first day of the Invasion of Normandy shaped history.

Any registered member of the Boy Scouts of America in any council and their family are invited to attend. Any family members who have served in World War II are also highly encouraged to attend. Council contingents, Scouts, and Scouters from all over the U.S. are welcome as individuals or patrols.

To start planning your trip and learn more about camporee updates, fees, and how to register, please reach out to Vince.Cozzone@Scouting.org. For a glimpse at what attendees will experience at the Omaha Beach Camporee, watch the video below to see how the 2014 event commemorated the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

Safeguard Personal Information

As a reminder, it’s a policy of the BSA to protect personal Identifiable Information required and received from various applications to conduct official activities. This includes SSNs or foreign national IDs, date/place of birth, medical records, banking info, credit card #s, etc.

With exception of what is required for official activities and fundraisers, districts and units must not be collecting and storing this type of info, but must be vigilant and focused on safeguarding the personal information of children in their charge, especially online and in other digital and paper formats. By the way, it is always best practice to ensure that completed medical forms are to be returned to the applicant/parent at the end of the official BSA event.