



Volume 20
Patriot District

The Patriot Press

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press>

October 2017
National Capital Area Council



Issue 10
Boy Scouts of America

Patriot District Fall Camporee

October 13 – 15, 2017
Montpelier, Orange, Virginia

As of September 30, 2017

The theme for the Patriot District Fall 2017 Camporee is President James Madison, the United States Constitution, and Montpelier. We will camp on the grounds of Montpelier, the plantation home of President James and Dolley Madison. Montpelier is a National Trust Historic Site administered by the Montpelier Foundation. All participants will see a short film in the visitor's center and have a guided tour of the mansion.

Boy Scouts can follow a structured merit badge program or participate in open activities. The merit badges offered are Archaeology, American Heritage, Citizenship in the Nation, Photography, and Space Exploration. Each Scout can take only one merit badge.

Other historical/cultural/environmental activities include visiting Mr. Madison's Temple, the South Yard Slave Quarters, the Archaeology site, the Gilmore farm (a Freedman's home) and the Madison family and Montpelier Slave cemeteries. Additionally, participants can visit the Annie DuPont formal garden, William DuPont gallery, or the Joe and Marge Grills Gallery. Montpelier has numerous hiking trails with natural and historical sights. Examples include a walk through the Montpelier demonstration forest or a tour of African American History. Units or individuals (buddy team) can pick their own hikes. On Saturday we will set up several skill and fun activities, including air rifle marksmanship, archery, sling shot shooting, dodgeball, as well as STEM and NOVA projects.

Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts can camp on their own or partner with a Boy Scout troop. We will have separate Webelos Scout and Arrow of Light Scout programs. In addition to touring the mansion, each Scout will attend a "Team Building" activity, complete advancement requirements, and play dodge ball. Additionally, Cub Scouts can participate in all above listed Boy Scout activities but they cannot take a merit badge.

At this camporee, all units will participate in a two-hour service project on Sunday morning to support Montpelier. We will conduct maintenance on their trails under the leadership of Order of the Arrow Scouts. As thanks, the Montpelier Foundation is allowing us to camp on their grounds for free. As always, the camporee will have the traditional events that bring us together as a District: Opening and Closing ceremonies, outdoor church services, a Saturday night campfire, and a Senior Patrol Leader/Scoutmaster cracker barrel.

The camporee will be held from Friday night, October 13, through about mid-day on Sunday, October 15, 2017. There will be an extended program on Sunday for Troops desiring to remain on Sunday afternoon. The cost is eighteen dollars (\$18) per Scout or adult. All Scouts must pay the registration fee. Adults only attending Saturday and not camping can attend free of charge. **This is a change from earlier letters. Each Scout and adult needs to bring seven dollars (\$7) to tour the mansion. They will pay the seven dollars at the Visitor's Center when they purchase their ticket for entrance to the mansion.** Also, there is an additional charge of ten dollars (\$10) to purchase a rocket for Scouts taking the Space Exploration merit badge.

Units must provide a tentative registration by Tuesday, October 3, 2017. It is important that units notify Pat Ring by e-mail that they plan to attend the camporee and indicate the number of Scouts that want to take each merit badge. His e-mail is pring978camporee@gmail.com and his phone number is (703) 674-6178. Final camporee registration and payment will take place Friday evening on-site as units arrive. Units and individual staff members are asked to pay by check made out to NCAC-BSA. Additionally, the camporee staff is in need of adult volunteers and assistant merit badge counselors to support the different events. Please contact the Camporee Director, Bill Dexter, if you can volunteer at wtdexterjr@gmail.com or (h) (703) 978-2632.



From the District Chairman:

Scouts and Scouters of Patriot District,

We've got a great Fall coming up. There are so many things that your units can do for training, advancement, Scouting for Food and just plain FUN! It is also absolutely great weather for camping!

I would like to thank the Golf Committee for another great event. We raised over \$4,100 for Scouting in the NCAC. Hope to see more of you out there next year.

Fall Camporee: The committee has a very exciting Fall Camporee planned for the weekend of 13-15 October at Montpelier, the home of President James Madison and Dolley Madison! President Madison was the Father of the Constitution and Architect of the Bill of Rights.

RECHARTERING is coming! It's really close! Be sure you are comfortable with the process!

Do you have volunteers in your units that would be interested in helping out at the district level? Please ask them to contact Dave Astle or me. We would love to talk with them and share opportunities at the District level.

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 their e-mail address to Robert Mason so they will be permanently on the distribution list.

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

Yours in Scouting, Steve.

Steve Smith, Patriot District Chairman



All Unit Leaders

There will be a meeting for all Patriot District Scoutmasters/Venture Advisors/Cubmasters/Committee Chairs immediately prior to the October Roundtable. **Attendance is highly encouraged!!** There are several things that the District Chair, Steve Smith, needs to communicate, and we have decided holding this meeting is the best approach.

This meeting will be held from 7-7:30 pm on Thursday 12 October at our usual Roundtable site, St Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Rd, Burke, VA 22015.



From the District Commissioner

It's October and that means our annual rechartering process has begun with the online rechartering portal now open. This is a process that is actually straight forward and not that difficult, but typically gets moved down the priority list for a unit until the turn-in date is approaching or past. Here are three things the Key 3 can do to facilitate a smooth rechartering: (1) Review the Member Manager for both youth and adults to make sure everyone they expect to be there is in fact there, (2) Review the Training Manager to see what adults are delinquent on YPT and have them get it done now, and (3) Don't sit on any applications for either youth or adult. Turn in applications to either Lee Cass or myself as quickly as you can after receipt. One bit of information we put out earlier has now been changed. Lion and Tiger Partners *will not pay* the \$6 insurance fee we previously said they would.

Last month I made a pitch of why it's in your unit's best interest to attend our monthly Roundtable. I tried to make it clear that Roundtable is where you can get news as to what's going on in the District and Council, but more importantly to get ideas regarding how to have a better program for your Scouts and to exchange ideas with other leaders. We don't want our leaders to feel like they're on their own because they aren't. Here's the background to my appeal to Roundtable.

We have 23 Packs in our district and 8 have had no one from their Pack attend a Roundtable this year. Eight have a better than 50% attendance and the remaining 7 are somewhere in between. Our Troops aren't much better. We have 24 troops and 5 have never attended a Roundtable this year; 11 have a better than 50% attendance. The remaining 7 are again somewhere in between. We realize not every leader can make every Roundtable, but surely one of your adult leaders can ensure your unit has someone attending every Roundtable. Please don't view Roundtable as just another meeting.

Two significant events are now on the horizon. Calling all Cub Scout leaders... POW WOW is Saturday, Oct 28th at Annandale High School. For the new Cub Scout adults, this is an opportunity to have a day of training you can use as you build your own schedule from the offered courses. It's an opportunity for new leaders to get charged and seasoned leaders to get recharged in bringing the Cub Scout program to your Cubbies. Registration can be found at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-14898>. The next event is our annual Scouting for Food. The bags should be available at the October Roundtable and will be distributed on Nov 4th and pick-up is on Nov 11th. We've historically filled three trucks with canned and boxed items. Perhaps we can do even better this year.

Dave Astle, District Commissioner



Just like Saint George of old, the Boy Scouts of today fight against everything evil and unclean.

In preparing for battle I have always found that plans are useless, but planning is indispensable

~ Dwight Eisenhower (b. October 14, 1890)

Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot



October 2017

- 6 Third Popcorn Order Due
- 6-8 OA Chapter Fall Ordeal (Verdun)
- 7-9 Wood Badge (weekend #2)
- 10 Commissioner Meeting
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13-15 Fall Camporee
- 21 Third Popcorn Distribution
- 21-22 BCOLS (Overnight; Commons Community Center)
- 24 PD Committee Meeting
- 26 Den Leader Specific Training
- 27-29 V3 Hike-o-ree (4-H Center, Front Royal)
- 28 Pow Wow (Annandale High School)
- 28 Rocket into Scouting (NVCC Annandale)
- 29 Patriot Press Deadline – November

November 2017

- 3 Final popcorn Order Due
- 4 Scouting for Food Bag Distribution
- 4 Commissioner Basic Training (Patriot District)
- 4 Unit Recharter Turn-in to Unit Commissioner (*last date*)
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Scouting for Food Collection
- 11 Life to Eagle Seminar
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 16 CPST
- 18 Final Popcorn Distribution
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

December 2017

- 3 Patriot Press Deadline – December
- 8 Final Popcorn Payments/Prize Orders/Scholarship Forms Due
- 12 Hanukkah begins (sundown)
- 12 Commissioner/Committee Joint Mtg.
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 25 Christmas
- 31 Patriot Press Deadline – January

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



Patriot District Joint Cub/Boy Scout Roundtable - Oct 2017

The Patriot District Boy Scout and Cub Scout Roundtables will be hosting a Joint Roundtable this October the 12th from 7:30-9:00 pm at Saint Stephens UMC, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. We encourage all Webelos and AOL leaders to attend in addition to our usual Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Committee Chairs.

Our intent is to facilitate Pack and Troop discussions on joint topics and needs such as AOL requirements, joining requirements, joint camping opportunities, and den chiefs.

If Packs have any dens that are looking for Den Chiefs, please fill out the attached form and bring some copies to provide to Troops.

We plan to open up with a social from 7:30 - 8pm and **need Pack and Troop representatives to sign up** to bring an item from the sign-up genius below. We will add more slots as requirements fill up.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c48afad2e5-patriot>



Patriot District Joint Cub/Boy Scout Roundtable - Oct 2017

We plan to open with a social 7:30pm-8:00pm and need attending Pack and Troop representatives to sign up to bring an item from the list below for everyone's enjoyment

Date: 10/12/2017 (Thursday)

Time: 7:30pm - 9:00pm EDT

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

Depending on feedback, we hope to make this a regular Oct Roundtable event to benefit both the Packs and Troops. Come find out all the reasons we need each other and how to enhance those relationships.

Michael Stonkey, Patriot District CSRTC, 703-509-9725

Randy Witter, Patriot District BSRTC, 703-323-5220

All Roundtable Attendees (District Commissioners and Committee too!),

Please sign-up below to bring something to Thursday's roundtable social! We hope to see you there.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c48afad2e5-patriot>

Den Chief Request Form

Pack Number: _____

Pack POC: _____

Pack Meeting Date/Time: _____

Pack Meeting Location: _____

Wolf Den Meeting Day/Time: _____

Wolf Den Meeting Location: _____

Wolf Den Leader Contact: _____

Bear Den Meeting Day/Time: _____

Bear Den Meeting Location: _____

Bear Den Leader Contact: _____

Webelos Den Meeting Day/Time: _____

Webelos Den Meeting Location: _____

Webelos Den Leader Contact: _____

AOL Den Meeting Day/Time: _____

AOL Den Meeting Location: _____

AOL Den Leader Contact: _____



Training Corner

Welcome to the October 2017 training updates. This month's update begins with the news that the Outdoor Webelos Leader (OWLs) training has been discontinued and rolled into the Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO) training. The BALOO syllabus has been updated to incorporate some of the information from OWLs. Packs are still required to have at least one individual with BALOO training in attendance at Pack or Webelos Scouts overnights. The Patriot district training team is reviewing the syllabus and is planning to offer the training in the Spring of 2018.

This month sees a couple of exciting training opportunities for leaders in the District.

First, the District training team will be offering Den Leader Specific training on October 26, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:30. The training will again be offered at the Commons Community Center in Burke (next to the VRE). If you are interested in signing up, please go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4aa8a92aaaf58-patriot>

Finally, NCAC is offering the annual Pow Wow training day for Cub Scout leaders. Pow Wow is taking place at Annandale High School on October 28. Pow Wow presents courses all day long and covers a wide variety of Cub Scouting subjects. Early bird registration is currently open. Please go to the following link to register: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-14898>

As always, if you have any questions about the various trainings offered by the District or about Scout training in general please feel free to reach out. And don't forget that we always need good Scouters to help support the training team!

*Justin Day, Vice Chair, Training
patriottrainingbsa@gmail.com*



Pow Wow

Calling all Cub Scout leaders. The annual day of fun, fellowship, and training that is known as Pow Wow is here again. The training will again be held at Annandale High School on **Saturday October 26th** from 7:45 am to 5 pm. As always, the event will feature a variety of classes, including Den Leader, COR, and Den Chief training. Registration is now live, and the early bird pricing is \$36. You can register at <https://scoutingevent.com/082-14898>

Additionally, don't forget that the Patriot District is offering monthly leader training with Den Leader training being offered in October and November and Cubmaster training being offered in December and January. We only request an optional \$5 donation to help cover the cost of materials. If you are interested in one of these training sessions, please sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4aa8a92aaaf58-patriot>

Remember, every Scout deserves a trained leader.

Yours in Scouting,

Justin Day, Patriot District training chair

**BSA Religious Knot
For 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders**



Contact Mary Walker: walker5405g@gmail.com

Interest meeting October 22, 2017

PRAY Program: God & Church
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
5114 Twinbrook Road
Fairfax, VA 22032

INTEREST meeting:

Sunday, October 22, 2017, 7-8pm

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Cost: \$25

OPEN TO: Any child in 6th -8th grades. This program **satisfies all the requirements** for Scouts to complete their religious knot. Girl Scouts and non-Scouts are also welcome.

Curriculum Goals:

- To strengthen young people's relationship with Christ;
- To challenge young people to learn about and participate in the worship and ministry;
- To have young people make a plan for daily Bible reading and memorize a creed or statement of belief or passage of scripture;
- To provide the opportunity for young people to experience the joy of serving others.

General Description

The three parts of the journey are: (1) meeting Jesus, (2) worshiping God, and (3) witnessing and ministering for Christ. Participants will create a photo album to share what they have learned on their faith journeys. Young people will have the opportunity to work with their pastor or other Christian adult as they study the church's structures and objectives and participate in service projects that will give them a better understanding of the mission of the church.

***While this program focuses on PROTESTANT faiths, ALL ARE WELCOME to this program, including those who are not affiliated with any church, mosque or synagogue.



Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat

~ Theodore Roosevelt (b. October 27, 1858)



Look back at your Camping Year -- an Opportunity to Brag

It is that time of year when the District needs to collect camping stats to report for District and Council Journey to Excellence (JTE). We understand that most of the units have had a robust year of camping -- both weekend and long-term. Several Scouts also participated in the National Jamboree last July, and a number of units participated in Regional and National High Adventure programs. Look for an email within the next few days, tailored for Cub, Troop, and Team and Venture units requesting the numbers of Scouts who participated in these experiences, including counts of those who served on staff. Camping is one of the primary methods of Scouting, and it is that part that produces most of the learning experiences and opportunities for personal growth and fond memories.

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 two Sundays prior to Roundtable. Using MS Word, articles may be emailed to the editor at joe.osborne@cox.net.

Key District Contacts

Kyle Molldene	District Executive	Kyle.Molldene@Scouting.org
Work:301-214-9128; Cell: 407-301-6622		
Steve Smith	District Chairman	smithfamilyzoo@cox.net
Dave Astle	District Commissioner	dave.sonia@verizon.net
Phil Sternberg	Deputy Chairman	phil.sternberg@gmail.com
Bill Dexter	Vice Chair, Program	wtdexterjr@gmail.com
John Stewart	Vice Chair, Membership	john.r.stewart.civ@mail.mil
Mark Greer	Vice Chair, Finance	mgreerv@verizon.net
Robert Mason	Vice Chair, Communications	robert.l.mason@gmail.com
Justin Day	Training Chair	kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com
Kristin Chioma	Advancement Chair	chioma@msn.com
Robert Cohn	OA Advisor	patriotchapter@wipit470.org

Halloween Ghost Tour

- When: Wednesday, October 25, 2017
Leave St. Stephen's at 5:30 pm, Return around 9:00 pm.
Meet in Old Town Alexandria at the Market Square (corner of King Street and North Fairfax Street) Tour starts at 6:45 pm
- Who: All Scouts and Leaders, Families and Friends Welcome
AOL Scouts and Families: Please join us for this fun event.
- What: We'll visit Old Town Alexandria, and take a guided walk with a professional guide to see where strange things have happened, and hear the stories about where people died and where other unexplained events occurred. Check out the URL: <http://www.alexcolonialtours.com/>
- Bring: Bring snacks and a water bottle. Wear good walking shoes, and rain gear if appropriate. Bring a flashlight to explore graveyards.
- Cost: \$10.00 due Wed, Oct 18, 2017
- Contact: Philip Sternberg, phil.sternberg@gmail.com, 703-960-0205



Rocket into Scouting Launch Days Are Coming Soon!



3... 2... 1... LAUNCH!

Start your school year with a **BLAST!** Every new Scout who registers by October 31 will receive a free model rocket! This will help both their Scouting career and a lifelong love of STEM "take off". Launch Day events are being planned at multiple sites around our Council; find the one that's most convenient for your family. <https://www.ncacbsa.org/blog/2017/08/05/rocket-into-scouting/>

Our Rocket Into Scouting Launch Day for the Virginia Central Service Area is scheduled for 1-4 pm on Saturday, October 28th, 2017, at the Annandale Campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) located at 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003. It will also feature other fun events, such as rocket-building stations, agility courses, punt/pass/kick challenges, fish-casting practice, scavenger hunts, and more!

Each NEW Scout will receive a free launch engine and additional engines can be purchased (\$3) as desired. There is a \$5 registration fee for each participant (youth and adults); this helps us offset the cost of the event and materials. The entire family and current Scouts are welcome and additional rockets kits can be purchased online (\$8) and built at the event.

Anyone not going on the Hike-O-Ree is invited to volunteer as Staff helping to run the Rocket Into Scouting event. Report time for Volunteers is by 12:30 pm. Thanks for your support!

Online applications are available through <https://beascout.scouting.org>

**BSA Venturing Crew 80 Is Once Again Offering An
Amateur Radio License Course**

WANT TO BE AN AMATEUR (HAM) RADIO OPERATOR?

Scouts can earn the BSA Radio Merit Badge

Qualify for a Technician Class Amateur Radio License from the FCC

No Morse Code Required - Open to the Public

Sponsors: BSA VENTURING CREW 80 and MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

When: Saturdays in January and February 2018 - a 2 hour orientation and materials distribution plus three seven hour classes, including the FCC license exam:

- January 13 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Orientation and Study Materials Distribution)
- January 20 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction)
- January 27 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction)
- February 3 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Instruction, Review for Exam)
- February 10 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (FCC Exam)

Where: First Christian Church, 2723 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302

Cost: \$50 (Cost of Materials - textbook and CD-ROM - Yours to keep).

Age: No Limit (parental accompaniment recommended under age 14)

Instruction Method: Reading assignments and personal and video instruction and computer-based practice exam question review. You keep the textbook and CD-ROM.

Course Description: Everything you need to know to get an Amateur Radio Operator Technician Class license: Fundamentals of electricity, electronic circuit theory, electronic components, radio theory and electromagnetic wave propagation, antennas, feed lines, amateur radio operating procedures, practices, equipment, FCC rules and regulations.

How to Sign Up: Pre-register anytime, but no later than January 5, 2018:

By email to k4bsa@verizon.net or by phone at 703-820-2534 (H) between 6-9 PM. Provide Name, Address, Phone Number and Email address. The registration fee (cash or check) will be due at the first session on January 13, 2018. Scouts and Venturers passing the FCC Technician licensing exam will meet the requirements for the BSA radio merit badge and can have their blue card signed by the course instructor. CERT members are also encouraged to attend.

Questions? Please call or e-mail the following:

Demi Pulas K4BSA 703-820-2534 or k4bsa@verizon.net

More details at <http://w3bsa.org/Course07.htm>



Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.

~ John Adams (b. October 30, 1735)



American Red Cross

First Aid-CPR-AED Certification Class

When: Two class sessions:

Session #1 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Sunday, January 14, 2018

Session #2 - 6:30pm to 9:30 pm Monday, January 15, 2018

Who: 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. Class dates and times reflect the needs of Jewish Scouts and Scouters.

Where: VFW Post 8469, 5703 Vogue Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

What: Participants will earn the American Red Cross *First Aid-CPR-AED* certification. Scouts attending High Adventure programs must have First Aid and CPR certified members in their group; it's a good idea to have several people certified, including youth members.

Register: Please send your contact information as soon as possible 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).

Bring: For Session #1, bring personal lunch and beverages. We will have a working lunch, and we will have drinks and refreshments available in the morning. For Session #2, eat before you arrive, or bring food with you.

Cost: Fifty dollars (\$50.00) covers American Red Cross fees and classroom training materials. Make checks out to "Jewish Committee on Scouting," and write "ARC First Aid Training" on the memo line. Payment due by Friday, 22 December 2017.

Send checks to Philip Sternberg, P.O. Box 4052, Alexandria, VA 22303.

Those with a financial need, please contact Philip Sternberg <phil.sternberg@gmail.com>.

Patriot District



Find us on
Facebook

You can post pictures to: <https://www.facebook.com/PatriotDistrict>



ATTENTION ALL NCAC SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS

Venture Crew 80 – W3BSA

60th Annual Jamboree On-The-Air – October 20-22, 2017

Camp William B. Snyder, 6100 Antioch Rd. Haymarket, VA 20169

Venture Crew 80 invites all Venture Scouts, Scouts and Scouters, as well as licensed amateur (“ham”) radio operators to participate with our Venture Crew in the 60th annual world-wide Jamboree-On-The-Air (“JOTA”) beginning 6:00 PM Friday evening October 20 through 12:00 noon Sunday October 22, 2017. Crew 80 will be manning several amateur radio stations at Camp Snyder adjacent to the Hylton Training Center near the entrance to the Camp.

JOTA is the largest Scouting event in the world and utilizes amateur radio to link Scouts/Scouters around the world, around the nation and the local community. At the Crew 80 ham station, Cubs, Souts, and Venturers will be able to communicate by voice directly over the air, or combined with the internet in a form called “echolink.” The communications may include such information as the station’s location (called “QTH” in ham-speak), Scout rank, age, hobbies and scouting activities. The stations you will be communicating with can be across the world, other parts of the U. S. and Canada or Mexico, or locally throughout the DMV. The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2016 JOTA had nearly 1.3 million scouts participating from over 130 countries from more than 30,000 locations throughout the world.

Participation by Scouts will result in completion of requirement 7 (participation in an **emergency service project/drill**) for **Emergency Preparedness** Merit Badge, and requirement 9a (live amateur radio communication contacts) for **Radio Merit Badge**.

Crew 80 will be operating on emergency power with portable antennas. The operation w is also designed to test our emergency preparedness in the field. During JOTA, the Crew will attempt to contact as many Scout-sponsored amateur radio stations as possible throughout the U.S. and worldwide. If you would like to join us for great for all or just a part of the weekend, the Crew would welcome your participation.

If you would like to find out more about JOTA, please visit the K2BSA official website at www.K2BSA.org. If you would like to find out more about Venture Crew 80 and its activities related to amateur radio and wilderness medicine training, please go to the Crew website at: www.w3bsa.org. For further details on this event, please contact Demi Pulas, Advisor, Venture Crew 80 at (703) 820-2534 (H) or k4bsa@verizon.net.