



The Patriot Press

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



In this Issue of the Patriot Press:

<i>From the District Chairman</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>From the District Commissioner</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Patriot District Events</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Cub Scout Roundtable</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Boy Scout Roundtable</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Need District Popcorn Kernel</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Patriot District YPT Article</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Hooked on Scouting Article</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Recruiting Article</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Registration Forms Article</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>STEM Corner</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>Troop 1131 Eagle Scouts</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Patriot District Day Camp</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>NYLT Article</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Adventure for the Whole Family</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>Spring Recruiting Ideas that Work!</i>	<i>Page 12</i>





From the District Chairman

Summer is here, pools are starting to open, and before we know it schools will be out for the summer. So much to do! Cub Scout Day Camp, summer camp, family vacations; should be a great summer.

To make this summer even greater we need to make sure that the activities we have are well-planned and well-manned. At the Patriot District we have the well-planned down to a fine art, but are still lagging a little on well-manned. This is my appeal to all of you: **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!**

The Patriot District day camp event for 2018 is scheduled for the week of July 9 – 13. It will again be held at Gesher Jewish Day School and again offer many of the Scouts’ favorite activities. BUT...we need volunteers to support the following activities:

BB station - all five days

Slingshots - all five days

Archery - all five days

Scouting Skills - 2-3 days

Climbing Wall - climbmaster should be OK, but we need additional adults

Boy Scouts - we currently have two on board for the entire week

Please reach out to your units and your families and ask them to help. We do not need the same people all week. Even volunteering for one day would help. Please contact Justin Day if you can assist!

We also need volunteers to support our participation in the Celebrate Fairfax Festival on June 8-10. We will be manning a Scout booth at this event to highlight Scouting and promote recruitment. If you can help staff the booth for a few hours, please contact Ashley Felton.

Looking forward to September, we will be holding our 9th Annual (hard to believe it has been that many already!) Patriot District Golf Outing, which will be held on Monday, September 28th. New this year are Hole-in-One prizes, to include a Harley Davidson Roadster!!! Only \$100 to register and all proceeds go to Scouting.

So enjoy the graduation season: Tigers to Wolves, Wolves to Bears, Bears to Webelos Scouts, and maybe with a high school or college graduation thrown in just for fun...and be sure to keep the “Outing in Scouting”.

Steve Smith, Patriot District Chairman



Peace will come when there is realization that only under a reign of law, based on righteousness and supported by the religious conviction of the brotherhood of man, can there be any hope of a complete and satisfying life.

~ Calvin Coolidge (b. July 4, 1872)



From the District Commissioner

As everyone knows, the Boy Scout "year" aligns with the school year. As of June 1st all of our Cub Scouts advance to the next level. Also, with the end of the year comes our District Court of Honor where we recognize those leaders who have done a little bit extra for their unit or the District. This year we had three District Awards of Merit, six Patriot Distinguished Scouter Awards and several Patriot Spirit Awards to present. While we recognize these folks individually, I'd like to thank all of our adult leaders who have given of their time and energies to advance the Boy Scout program. It simply doesn't work without your involvement.

School's just about over for the year, which means summer activities are here. Last summer we had two Packs earn the National Summertime Award. I guess this is an award that doesn't get much advertising. It is available to Packs, Dens, and Cub Scouts and isn't difficult to earn.

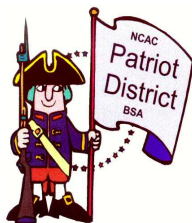
The requirement is to have three summer activities – one each in June, July, and August. The Pack can earn a certificate and ribbon by planning and conducting the three required activities. The Den can receive a ribbon if on average half its Cubs attend these activities. A Cub who attends all three will receive a National Summertime Pack Award pin, which he/she can wear on the right pocket flap of the uniform. Let's see how many of these awards we can present this fall.

We had proposed May as a let's take the new YPT month. We didn't have a lot of success with that as only about 20% of our scouters have completed it. Please understand you may currently show as not having your YPT expire until sometime in 2019; but if you have not taken the new course which went online on February 1st, you cannot renew your registration for 2019. A YPT expiration date prior to 2/1/2020 means you have not yet complied with the requirement to complete the new Youth Protection Training. Please do your unit recharter processor a favor and get this done before September. He/she doesn't need the added aggravation of having to chase people with delinquent YPT in order to complete your recharter.

While on the topic of rechartering, we have several Troops that have not yet submitted any applications for Cubs bridging to their unit. We need to get ALL of our bridging Cubs registered in their new Troop so they can get credit for any of their summertime advancements. The one requirement for a Scout to do anything with advancement is he be registered. Recharter time is not the time to discover a Scout hasn't yet been registered. Whether a Pack, Troop or Crew, submit an application to your Unit Commissioner as soon as you have the leader's signature. Don't sit on them until you have a stack to submit.

We're having a lot of turnover with Key 3 leaders. As soon as you know who is replacing your current unit leader or committee chair, have them complete an adult application and get it submitted. All of our District communications are sent to the unit Key 3's for their use and distribution within the unit as necessary. Early last fall last we were sending stuff to people who had left the area 4-5 months earlier and not sending to the ones needing the information. This results in a communication system that doesn't work very well. I'm sure my discussing paperwork is annoying, but the method to my madness is to make rechartering not such a chore for whoever does it for your unit. Please help us help you. Thanks!

David Astle, District Commissioner



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

June 2018

- 8-10 Celebrate Fairfax Festival (Government Center)
- 9 STEM University
- 12 Commissioner Meeting
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 OA Chapter Meeting
- 15 Eid al-Fitr (from sundown on 14th)
- 16 STEM NOVA Day
- 17 Father's Day
- 17-22 NYLT
- 24-29 NYLT
- 26 PD Committee Meeting

July 2018

(No Roundtable or Patriot Press in July)

- 4 Independence Day
- 9-13 Cub Scout Day Camp
- 29 Patriot Press Deadline – August
- 29-Aug 3 NYLT

August 2018

- TBD OA Chapter Cook-Out
- 5-10 NYLT
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 JSN Training at Roundtable
- 14 Commissioner Meeting
- 28 PD Committee Meeting

BALOO Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	NYLT National Youth Leadership Training
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

*A great nation cannot abandon its responsibilities.
Responsibilities abandoned today will return as more acute crises tomorrow.*

~Gerald R. Ford (b. July 14, 1913)

Cub Scout Roundtable!



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: June 14th, 2018

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

Midway: 7:30 – 8 PM

Roundtable: 8 – 9 PM

Mike Stonkey, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner
mstonkey@verizon.net



Boy Scout Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Patriot District Boy Scout Roundtable

Thursday, June 14th, 2018

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

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

Topics: Program Review/2018-2019 Planning/Cake!

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

Asst. Boy Scout RT Commissioners: Steve Polchek, Joe Margraf, Rick Priest



Minute Man Sam And His Uncle Need You!!

Patriot District is in need of a Popcorn Kernel. Who wouldn't want a cool title like that?? You get to be the Point of Contact between the Patriot units and the NCAC Popcorn Team, which is led by the NCAC Popcorn Kernel. This includes verifying unit orders in September, October, November, and December.

You also support the unit kernels by (1) answering their questions, which if necessary you can pass along to the Council Popcorn Kernel for an answer, (2) arranging for show and sales at various local stores, and (3) creating an online signup process for the Patriot units. We've used sign-up genius in the past. Other responsibilities include promoting the popcorn initiative throughout the District, for example, setting up a popcorn table at the monthly Roundtables from 7:30 PM -8:00 PM.

Other Patriot District volunteers will help you distribute the orders to units at the pickup location. There will be four pickup dates in the middle of the following months: September, October, November and December. Pickup takes three hours on a Saturday morning. You also get to provide a brief popcorn update for the monthly Patriot Press.

There is no formal training to be a popcorn kernel. **And you don't have to do this on your own!!** You learn from information provided at the Council Popcorn Kickoffs, asking the Council Popcorn Kernel, asking the prior Popcorn Kernel, and the online manual. Our District Executive, Ashley Felton, and a previous Kernel (Pat Ring) will assist and be on hand to assist and sub for the Patriot Kernel on an ad hoc basis.

If you'd like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact the Vice Chair for Finance, Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net or 703-300-4876.



May and June are Patriot District YPT Months

BSA is committed to providing a safe, secure environment for youth and adults. On February 1st, BSA came out with a greatly enhanced version of Youth Protection Training. All registered adults are required to take the new version by October 1st, and no leaders will be rechartered for 2019 without having taken the new version. This is true even if the previously-taken version of YPT is still "current."

To simplify YPT management, **Patriot District Key 3 designated May and June as YPT Months.** Since every adult must retake the new YPT, everyone should take the training now. Everyone will be complying with the mandatory 1 October date, and units will not have to chase YPTs during Charter renewal. In May 2019, only those who transferred into the unit will need to retake YPT. In May 2020, we'll all retake YPT again to meet the every two-years rule.

New this year, any adult attending a Scout activity of more than 72 hours (such as summer camp), must be officially registered and have taken Youth Protection Training. So, if you missed the May opportunity, please take your YPT training in June.

Protecting our youth is everyone's responsibility. Parents, you do not need to be officially registered to take YPT. Help keep us all safe!

Pass the word now! We want everyone in Patriot to be 100% YPT trained by the end of June!

To take the updated YPT course, log in to your training account at <https://my.scouting.org/>

Looking for an Event Organizer for Council's O-Fish-cial Hooked on Scouting Event this Fall



Come one, come all to one or more of the Council's soon to be announced Hooked on Scouting events to be held at a lake or other fishing hole near us. This fall our recruiting theme is Hooked on Scouting so we want to get organized for new visitors, Dens, Families, Packs, Patrols, Troops to get "caught" by what Scouting has to offer our boys and girls.

NCAC will host five Hooked on Scouting Events. We are looking for an event organizer for the NCAC Virginia Central Service Area to lead coordination efforts (determine location, date, agenda) of our area's Hooked on Scouting event. Another excellent way for a family to spend some time together while participating in a Scouting event.



Troops, Crews, and Posts can help staff the event as well as interested Leaders and parents. As the event particulars become known you are encouraged to use these events as potential outings for your unit to participate in with newly recruited members and/or families that just want to check out what Scouting is all about. We would love to have any semi-avid or avid anglers from our greater Scouting Family help at these events this fall. If you are an angler of any experience level feel free to contact John Stewart at john.r.stewart.civ@mail.mil to express your interest so we best utilize your talents.



Recruiting is not a once a year EVENT, It CAN BE AN every meeting EVENT.

Statistics show that units who conduct Spring Join Scouting events have bigger successes in the fall at their Join Scouting events than those that don't. Try to connect with your potential target audience now before everyone disappears for the summer. Your well-planned Den meetings and outings, Pack Meetings, Patrol meetings and outings, Troop meetings and camp outs are all opportunities to attract new members and help them get the Scouting "hook" firmly set so that they will want to keep coming back from more. Sometimes life gets in the way of the original meetings plan, and that is OK. But meeting Plan B may be just what everyone needs to provide an extra bit of spontaneity and have that much more fun while learning.



Thanks to all of you Youth and Adult Leaders who deliver the Scouting Program each week to America's future leaders. The Scouting Program currently reaches about 20% of the potential youth who might be interested in joining in the fun and all the other benefits of Scouting. What a difference it could make if we could reach just a few more boys and girls and expose them to the character, ethical, and moral development that Scouting has to offer. If you know of a school, neighborhood, or locale in the great Patriot District that appears to be under/not served by a Scouting unit please contact john.r.stewart.civ@mail.mil. Also, if you have any contacts in those areas that could be contacted by John and our District Executive, Ashley Felton, to see if we can open a door for a new unit, please let John know. Thanks again for all that you do for our youth and Scouting.

Oh, those registration forms –

NCAC looks to charge your registration account for new registrations based on the entries on the form. If the form is for a transfer (i.e., currently registered elsewhere), that needs to be clearly identified with as much information (previous Member ID, previous unit, previous council or location) as possible. If an existing registration can't be identified, the unit ultimately gets charged. And if a Scout transferring into your unit is already receiving Boys' Life from his previous registration, don't mark the Boys' Life block on the form.

Q1 – When an adult registration form is submitted for a new Chartered Organization Representative, who is authorized to sign the form for the unit?

A1 – Only the head of the chartered organization/executive officer.

Q2 – For applications by other adults, the form says it is to be signed by “the chartered organization head or representative.” Who may sign as the “representative?”

A2 – Only the Chartered Organization Representative.



STEM Corner:

STEM University
Saturday June 9, 2018
Microsoft Technology Center (MTC)
12012 Sunset Hills Rd
Reston, Virginia 20190

STEM Nova Day at Microsoft
Saturday June 16, 2018
Microsoft Corporation
5404 Wisconsin Ave
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

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

Table with 3 columns: Name, Title, and Email Address. Includes contacts for Ashley Felton, Steve Smith, Dave Astle, Bill Dexter, John Stewart, Mark Greer, Robert Mason, Justin Day, Kristin Chioma, and Robert Cohn.

Troop 1131 Eagle Scouts

Two new Eagle Scouts from Troop 1131, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Burke, are Elias and his younger brother, Jose.



In the photograph are: Elias, Gretchen Tackaberry, paternal grandmother, Rowene Kroesen, maternal great grandmother, General Frederick Kroesen, maternal great grandfather, Jose, Rick Tackaberry, father of the two Eagle Scouts and an Eagle Scout, Nicole, sister, COL Kief Tackaberry, paternal grandfather and an Eagle Scout, and Armando, brother, a rising freshman at Annandale High School.

Both new Eagles Scouts live in North Springfield and attend Annandale High School. Elias plans to join the US Army Infantry next month, after graduating from high school.

Jose is a rising senior at Annandale High School.

The National Rifle Association (NRA) hosted the ceremony and also gave a tour of the NRA American Heritage Museum. A reception and dinner, hosted by COL and Mrs. Tackaberry, grandparents, was held in the NRA Cafeteria.

Patriot District Day Camp

The Patriot District Day Camp event for 2018 is scheduled for the week of July 9 – 13. It will again be held at Geshar Jewish Day School and again offer many of our Scouts' favorite activities. We are currently completing the program for the camp, but we already know that we will again needs lots of help from both adult and Boy Scout volunteers. Please keep us in mind when making your summer plans.

Additionally, Niko Brown, the camp director, is currently making Pack visits to tell Scouts about the camp. If you are interested in having Niko come out and visit your Pack, please sign up and provide at least two date options at the following sign-up genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4aa8a92aaaf58-2018>

We will be distributing more information about volunteer positions and paperwork instructions in the coming months, but please feel free to reach out to Niko Brown or Justin Day with any questions.

Niko Brown: (703) 231-8781 nikobrown@gmail.com
Justin Day: (540) 308-1626 kappahacksaw@yahoo.com

We are more fulfilled when we are involved in something bigger than ourselves.

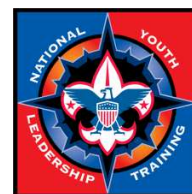
~ John H Glenn Jr (b. July 18, 1921)

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)

NYLT is an exciting, action-packed program designed for youth members of the Boy Scouts of America to learn and practice leadership skills to help them succeed in Scouting, in their careers, in their place of new worship, in their family, and in their personal lives.

NYLT integrates the best of modern leadership theory with the ideals of Scouting. Courses are delivered by a highly-qualified group of youth and adult trainers in a troop setting with an emphasis on immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Participants engage in a wide-range of games, challenges, exercises, and adventures to develop their skills, attitudes, and confidence. Through these activities, participants gain exposure to the same leadership techniques taught to today’s corporate executives. NYLT participants learn many valuable skills including how to:

- Create a vision of success
- Set goals and make plans
- Listen and solve problems
- Make ethical decisions and resolve conflicts
- Teach and lead others effectively
- Put the needs of others first



All of these skills are applicable to every part of life and will follow the participants into adulthood, enabling them to be the most effective leaders—and followers—in any setting.

NYLT is not like summer camp and is not designed for rank advancement or earning merit badges. NYLT is an intense and challenging hands-on program that parallels Wood Badge training for adults. It is essential that NYLT participants be physically, emotionally, and mentally prepared to handle the demands of this advanced training. In order to get the maximum benefit from this unique experience, participants must exhibit emotional maturity, a positive attitude, proficiency in basic camping and outdoor cooking skills, and ambition to serve in leadership roles.

Participants must meet the following requirements before the start of the NYLT course:

- Registered youth member of a troop, crew, ship or post
- Current BSA Health and Medical Record form parts A, B, and C
- 14 years of age or older, or 13 years of age with Course Director’s prior approval
- Have at least one year of camping and outdoor cooking experience
- Completed Intro to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Crews (ILSC), or Ships (ILSS)
- Attained First Class rank if registered in Boy Scouts
- Approval from Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, Skipper, or Post Advisor
- Commit to attending the entire six-day course

All NYLT courses in the National Capital Area Council are presented as either a continuous six-day program in the summer or as two three-day weekends in the winter. Below is a list of upcoming NYLT courses.

Course	Dates	Location
18-2	17-22 Jun 2018	American Legion, Cheltenham, Maryland
18-3	24-29 Jun 2018	American Legion, Cheltenham, Maryland
18-4	29 Jul-3 Aug 2018	Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Virginia
18-5	5-10 Aug 2018	Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Virginia
19-1	19-21 Jan and 16-18 Feb 2019	Camp Snyder, Haymarket, Virginia

To register for NYLT visit myNYLT.org. Follow online for additional news and information about NYLT. Follow online for additional news and information about NYLT.



ADVENTURE



For the Whole Family!



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

www.BeAScout.org

Spring Recruiting Ideas that Work!

Fall isn't the only time to recruit. With many packs doing both Lions and Family Scouting for the first time this fall, now is the time to sign new families up. This will give your pack time to get the new families organized over the summer rather than scrambling to get them going in the fall.

Where and When? Simple, just invite interested families to your last pack meeting/event of this program year. Do you have a June pack picnic? That's a perfect time! Your Scout district can send someone to support you by talking with the parents who are new to Scouting while the new Scouts participate in the fun.

How do you promote your recruitment night or roundup when the school that you recruit from:

1. No longer sends flyers home
2. Only accepts a digital flyer
3. Will not allow you to do in-school Scout talks

The answer: you become super creative! Here are eight proven ideas that work, from leaders like you:

1. **Scouting uniform** – Have the boys in your Pack wear their uniform to school a couple of days before your roundup night.

2. **Peer-to-peer invitation** – Have your current Cub Scouts write invitations to your roundup and give to their friends at school, etc.

3. **Word of mouth** – Ask parents in your Pack to: share your roundup info at the next PTO or PTA meeting, tell other parents about how much fun they're having in Scouting as a family, announce your roundup info at the next Rotary or other civic club meeting, etc.

4. **Display cases, bulletin boards, and newsletters** – Post information on Scouting at school, your chartering organization, church, or your place of employment. Ask if you can post your roundup information on your internal bulletin board at work. Ask your chartering organization, church, or employer to include your roundup information in their next newsletter, and display some Scouting items in their display case.

5. **Flyers, posters, and yard signs** – Printed with your roundup info, give a couple of flyers to the families in your pack and ask them to post them around town, work, or church. The posters can be posted at the school. Your families can also take yard signs and post them outside their home or at businesses in the community (be sure to ask for permission first).

6. **Set up displays, tables, or booth** at work, church, school open houses, back-to-school night, carnivals, ice cream socials, parent teacher conferences, etc. Make sure Cub Scouts and leaders are wearing their Scouting uniform.

7. **Newspaper ads and TV/radio announcements** – Contact your local newspaper and TV or radio station to promote your roundup night.

8. **Utilize Google** - Updating your pack's business profile on Google is an easy add to your recruitment quiver. 93% of purchase decisions start with a Google search (e.g., Googling "Cub Scout Packs near me"). While that search may bring-up BeAScout.org, it could also be bringing up packs that really aren't near to the parent or give a false impression that local opportunities are more limited than they really are. It's free, only takes a few clicks, and it gets your pack on the map: <https://www.google.com/business/>. Don't forget to use a favorable photo of your meeting location as well.

Special events – Host a pinewood derby at a shopping mall and invite families from your school and neighborhood. You can also do this, or a rain gutter regatta, at your school year-end event where all the boys and girls can participate. Have flyers ready with your Pack info to give to the parents, and "Hooked on Scouting" stickers to give to the kids.

The National Capital Area Council makes a variety of materials available to packs to assist you in your recruiting efforts.

Applications Youth and adult applications are available from the Unit Commissioner, your District Executive, at the Marriott Scout Service Center, or at the Northern Virginia Scout Shop. Make sure you have enough for each recruitment event or community event you attend. It is good practice for the unit leader to have some available at all Scout functions should a new Scout family ask for one.

Flyers and Stickers Customized flyers are typically sent out to Cub Scout-age students in schools. Please see your district membership committee or district executive order these flyers for the schools in your area. Flyers can also be used as handouts at public events, distributed on pizza boxes or in other effective ways. Stickers are given to each child during the “Scout Talk” to remind them to show the flyer to their parents.

Scout Talks (in-school recruiting) While flyers and stickers have their place, they work much better when accompanied by personal communication. One method of achieving this is by arranging Scout Talks in local schools during the school day. Scout Talks are the opportunity for a Scouting volunteer or staff to talk to students at their school as part of their daily program. You can contact your local principal directly to setup a Scout Talk. These events have the most impact when a local leader is available to be part of the Scout Talk as he or she can give more detailed information on Scouting in your area.

BeAScout.org The BeAScout.org site is the official national recruiting website for local units. Cubmasters, Committee Chairmen and Charter Organization Representatives can logon to their units’ BeAScout profiles at www.my.scouting.org. Those leaders can then customize their unit’s profiles so that families interested in Scouting can contact unit leaders directly and even register online. It is very beneficial that every unit make sure their profile is up to date.

General Recruiting Tips & Guidelines

Be Creative. While a table with information and application on it may have a chance of bringing new Scouts to your unit, it can be made much more successful by adding an activity such as a photo display of your unit in action, such as Raingutter Regatta or a Pinewood Derby track.

Don’t Recruit Kids...Recruit Families! While at an event or sign up night, make sure you pass both a Youth Application and Adult Application to each adult/youth pair that approaches you. Encourage parents to fill out both and explain to them that Scouting is a volunteer-run organization and that the success of your local group depends on the wiliness of parents to help out in some roll. You can finalize how they will help and what role they will fill (Committee, Den Leader, etc.) at a later time.

Respect Parents Time. Parents who are interested in signing their children up for Scouting don’t always have to be sold on Scouting. In fact, they are usually used to the same procedures that sporting programs use – they arrive at the recruitment night ready to fill out the application and pay that night. Make sure they receive an application the first time you engage them and make every effort to collect the application from them at the same event. If the application is completed, signed, and paid for as soon as possible, their child can jump immediately into your program and you won’t waste your time or the parents’ time tracking down applications and money.

Once the application is complete, turn it into the National Capital Area Council as soon as you can. If one of your unit leaders can’t turn them in quickly, a Commissioner or member of the Field Staff will make arrangements to pick it up for you. This will ensure that the Scout is invited to all the summertime activities and covered under BSA’s insurance should an incident should occur. It also allows for the council to immediately being assisting the pack with advancement tracking.

Use the Uniform. Scouting has a great tool in the uniform as it is widely recognized among the public. Having leaders and Scouts in their field uniform will make it clear what you are representing at recruiting events. Always consider having your Scouts wear their uniform to school the day of a Scout Talk or recruiting event to raise awareness and attention.

Help spread the word and share the adventures of Scouting!