Goose Creek District Newsletter

December 2012 Volume 4, Issue 5

reprinted from www.ScoutmasterCG.com, October 31, 2012

Physics and Scouting

Two of the effects physicists describe apply to our work in Scouting:

The Observer Effect
Changes that the act of observation makes on the phenomenon being observed. A tire pressure gauge releases air from the tire thus changing the pressure we are testing.

The Proximity Effect
When two atoms come into proximity, the highest energy, or valence, orbitals of the atoms change substantially and the electrons on the two atoms reorganize.

When we are working with youth leaders both the observer and proximity effects are in play. Because there are two immutable facts about youth leaders:

1. Youth leadership will, nearly always, defer to adults.
2. The presence of adults changes the dynamic between youth leaders and the Scouts they are working with.

Our observation of and proximity to what Scouts are doing effects what they do. These effects are not all negative or unwarranted but we ought to understand their power.

When we are camping and the patrols are set up close enough for adults to see and hear everything that they do a patrol leader really doesn't have a fighting chance of exercising much leadership. When we sit at a table with the patrol leader's council they haven't much chance of talking and debating openly. When we stand at the back of the room as a Scout instructs a skill or leads an activity they have one eye on us and one eye on the work they are doing.

Please don't mistake this advice as being an either/or choice – I am not saying that Scouts should always be on their own regardless of the activity or the level of their behavior. When safety or proprietary are in question we step in. We also have to account for age, the nature of the activity, ability and temperament of the Scouts in question. We don't have the same expectations of a fifteen-year-old and an eleven-year-old and we want to have pretty close observation of potentially risky activities.

Once we understand these effects we can challenge ourselves to give our Scouts as much latitude as possible to do their work away from our sphere of direct influence and we'll avoid undermining our youth leadership.

Special Interest:

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Quick Calendar:

- Dec 12 – Roundtable
- Dec 19 – Annual Business Meeting
- Jan 9 – Roundtable
- Jan 19 – BSL Specific Training
- Jan 25-27 – Freeze-o-ree
- Feb 10 – Scout Sunday
- Feb 13 – Roundtable
- Feb 16 – Scout Sabbath
- Feb 23 – Univ. Scouting

Newsletter Key:

Cub Scout Interest

Boy Scout / Venturing Interest

For Everyone

District News

District Website: www.GooseCreekDistrict.org

Goose Creek Annual Business Meeting

To all units – please invite your Chartering Organization Representative (COR) and Institutional Heads to come out to the annual business meeting of the Goose Creek District on Wednesday, December 19th at 7:30 PM, Leesburg United Methodist Church, and vote on the slate of officers for 2013. Rumor has it there may even be refreshments of one stripe or another.

Scouting for Food Results

This year we had 73 units out collecting and brought in over 100,000 lbs. of food to five local food banks.

	2012	2011	2010
LINK	34,033	34,814	38,734
Loudoun Interfaith	37,331	42,997	38,040
Messiah's Market	14,202	9,917	15,761
Seven Loaves	7,838	7,276	4,901
Tree of Life	11,521	11,814	11,043
Total	104,925	106,818	108,480

Individual unit counts are posted on the District Website

Freeze-o-ree

Goose Creek's premier outdoor winter event – the annual Freeze-o-ree - will be held January 25-27 at Banshee Reeks. In addition to the traditional patrol Scoutcraft competitions in fire building, first aid skills, ax throwing, flag football, soccer, speed knot tying, tug of war, chili cookoff, dessert bakeoff, we will again have slingshot paint ball target shooting!! This event is run by the youth members of the Order of the Arrow Goose Creek and we need many OA youth volunteers from all Troops to help run the events.

For registration, fees, and required equipment to bring to the event, please contact OA Chapter Advisor Mrs. Bobbie Scales (***ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com***).

District Positions

The District Nominating Committee would like to announce that the District is seeking good leaders to step up for a couple of different areas. We are looking for Members-at-Large for the Committee to serve the District in one-time or long-term projects. Also, the District needs a number of new Unit Commissioners to serve our units. There is training offered to fill the job as commissioner.

Please contact Mary Gail Swenson at ***me4gop@verizon.net*** for any questions or to volunteer.

OA Troop Elections

For more than 90 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well. Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others. OA service, activities, adventures, and training for youth and adults are models of quality leadership development and programming that enrich and help to extend Scouting to America's youth.

Once each year a Troop may hold a unit election to elect members of their troop to become members of the OA. New members aren't elected only by the OA members in your troop; everyone in the troop votes (thereby insuring that Scouts are elected mostly by people who are not OA members). An OA unit election team, trained in the latest OA election policies, will visit a regular troop meeting at your invitation to conduct the election for you.

Elections normally take about 20 minutes to complete. In order for an election to be held, at least 50% of your youth members must be present (based on your current chartered troop membership) – if less than 50% are present, the election must be rescheduled. Only elections conducted by an official OA election team will be considered valid. Members of your own troop cannot conduct the election.

To schedule your troop's election please contact OA Vice Chief Nicolas Freeman at ***NFreeman1996@aol.com*** (please cc ***ScalesBobbie@yahoo.com***) with your first and second choice of dates. The OA will be scheduling elections on a first come/first served basis so please get your requests in as quickly as possible. If you don't need or want an election, please let Matt know that as well so that he can report your status correctly to the Lodge.

The requirements for election for youth:

- Must be under 21 years old at the time of election.
- Hold at least the First Class Scout rank (this includes Assistant Scoutmasters over the age of 18 but under the age of 21
- In the past two years, have completed fifteen (15) days and nights of camping under the auspices of the BSA. The fifteen days and nights of camping must include one long-term camp of six days and five nights, and the balance of the camping must be short-term (1, 2, or 3 night) camps.
- Have these requirements certified by the Scoutmaster, and be given a general endorsement of the candidate's Scout Spirit by the Scoutmaster, BEFORE the election is conducted.
- To be elected a youth candidate must receive half or more votes of the number of ballots turned in to the election team.
- Elected candidates must complete the Ordeal within 12 months of being elected.

As long as the unit successfully elects one youth member to the Order, the troop then may also nominate (not elect) an adult for membership. Large troops may nominate one adult for every three youth elected to the Order. Where youth membership is given by his peers as recognition for service, adults are nominated and accepted if their membership will enrich the Order of the Arrow experience for the youth, or provide some service to the Lodge, the Camp, or the Council. Adult membership should not be given solely as a recognition or honor.

Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony

The 11th Annual Arrow of Light Recognition Ceremony will be conducted by the Order of the Arrow (OA) on Thursday March 7, 2012 at 7:00, location TBD. This very impressive Ceremony is presented by the Goose Creek OA ceremony team, wearing handcrafted native Powhatan Indian regalia.

This event does NOT replace your own pack Arrow of Light ceremony, nor will the Webelos receive their actual Arrow of Light patch at the ceremony. The Ceremony honors their achievement in a unique way by the older Scouts who are waiting to welcome them into their troops and all of the fun and adventure they will have along the Trail to Eagle Scout! The Webelos will receive a special OA-Arrow of Light Ceremony badge, designed by the OA chapter for this event.

Registration will be required to attend this event though there will be no registration fee. Information on how to register will be available in February.

Day Camp 2013

This year's Day Camp theme will be Wild Western Adventure.

Activities vary from camp to camp but most will offer traditional Scouting activities like archery and BB gun instruction, crafts, nature study, games, and fishing. Tiger Cubs through Webelos are eligible to attend day camp. Packs must provide one adult per five boys plus an adult partner for each Tiger to escort the adventurers through camp. All adult leaders must be Youth Protection Trained!

Online registration will begin mid-February, 2013. Cost per Cub is:

- Registered on or before April 16, 2013 – $165
- Registered on or before May 17, 2013 – $185
- Registered after May 17, 2013 – $205

Goose Creek's Day Camp: June 17-21, at Morven Park (41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg).

- Day Camp: 9 AM – 4 PM, M-Th; 9 AM – 2 PM, Friday
- Twilight Camp: 6:30 PM – Dusk, M-Th

Want To Be on Day Camp Staff?

Parents serving full-time on camp staff get one free registration for their Cub Scout! Registered youth members ages 14+ can earn $75 towards their week at Goshen Scout Reservation!

Loudoun Parks, Recreation, & Community Services Activity Guides

Loudoun's Parks, Recreation, & Community Services (PRCS) publishes four seasonal Activity Guides and a Summer Camp Guide each year. Copies of the Activity Guide and Camp Guide can be found at PRCS centers and parks, as well as County libraries. Only the fall issue of the Activity Guide is mailed to Loudoun households. The current 2012 Winter Activity Guide can be found at: ***www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?NID=2448***

Pinewood Derby Time

It's that time of year again. In schools and churches and community centers around the globe, Cub Scouts are gathering to put their building skills to the test in the annual Pinewood Derby race. There are a lot of sites out there that will tell you how to put together that 'winning' car. Below are some of the main tips that they all agree on:

- First, check your pack rules before you start building the car. And if you plan on winning and going on, check the district rules. Cars can be disqualified if they don't meet the requirements, especially for wheels and axles.
- Put all of your weight in the back. Much has been written about the physics of pinewood derby cars, and this is one rare case in racing where heavy = fast. Aerodynamics have little effect in such a short race, but weight does and putting the weight at the back of the car will make your car faster on the flat of the track. Tungsten weights, in most cases, are best because of their high density.
- Lube the car at the body/wheel friction point. Do not paint the car on the small semicircle point where the wheels meet up with the body (where the wheel well is on the car in your driveway). Rather, sand this point to a smooth finish with very fine sandpaper. Next, after masking off the body's paint, gently massage some dry graphite into the wood. This will reduce friction and increase wheel speed.
- Spend a fair amount of time on axle prep. Using a file and fine sandpaper, make sure you remove any burrs and defects from the axles, near the head of the nail. Some people will put a number of axles in a power drill and spin them to find the axles that are most straight (and eliminate any with noticeable wobble).
- Make sure your wheels are ready. You can also massage powdered graphite into the wheel edge to further reduce friction. There are plenty of vendors who sell improved wheels, but these are usually outlawed by packs and definitely outlawed for the district competition. You can also polish (with graphite again) the wheel's bore. Once your axles and wheels are finished, a good rule of thumb is that, with a flick of a finger, they should be able to freely spin for 20 seconds.
- Finally, once your wheels are mounted, check their alignment. Find a long board and mark off a racing lane, about 6 inches across. Put the board on a very slight incline and allow your car to roll a few feet. If, at the end of this test run, your car has moved significantly to one side or the other (or the wheels have moved in or out), move the axle up or down to adjust your alignment.

The most important thing to remember about the Pinewood Derby, however, is that there are two types of winners. One is the super-fast car that wins the race but was designed and built entirely by the parent for the Scout. The other may not win a trophy but is a car where the parent worked with the Scout and taught him how to design and use the tools to make the car. One gives you a trophy that needs to be dusted off and is thrown away in later years, the other gives the Scout confidence and a set of skills that they keep for a lifetime.

District Championship Pinewood Derby

Goose Creek District Pinewood Derby will be holding the 2013 district championship Pinewood Derby race (hosted by Venture Crew 7070) where only the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in individual pack events are eligible to participate. Trophies will be awarded to the top three fastest cars in each rank, Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos. Overall trophies will also be awarded to the top three cars for all ranks.

This year there will be an additional race for a 'rank' called 'Cow Cub'. All non-Scout brothers and sisters are eligible to be Cow Cubs and to race their car against the Chic-fil-A Cow's car. Come see if the Cow still has the fastest moo-ver of all Cow Cubs.

Important: All cars must meet the District's Derby construction rules (available on the district website in the 'Cubs' section). Just because a car passed the pack's inspection does not mean it will pass the district inspection. *Take special note of the wheels and axle rules!*

The derby will be held Sat, **March 9, 2013** at Tolbert Elementary School (691 Potomac Station Dr NE, Leesburg 20176). Watch the newsletter for more details and announcements in the next two months. Registration will open soon.

Cub Scout Uniform Closet

Pack 71 is stepping up to coordinate a District-level Cub Scout Uniform Closet. We're building a supply of Scout uniforms and accessories to be able to help boys throughout the District who want to be part of the wonderful experience of Scouting, but just can't quite afford the uniform.

- Uniform shirts (long or short sleeve)
- Pants, Neckerchiefs, Slides, Hats, Belts
- Anything "uniform" a Cub Scout or Pack could need
- ALL SIZES… but please, gently USED or NEW

For more information: Contact Brian Kale at ***BKale@ekale.com*** or 703-443-9648

Looking for 'Foster Packs'

One of the great joys and experiences of being a Webelos Scout is being able to go to Goshen for summer camp. One of the great disappointments is finding out you can't go because of family or other commitments the same week that your pack is going. Well there is an answer to this problem – go with another pack!

If your pack is going to Goshen this summer and would be willing to 'foster' a Scout or two from another pack (and most likely their parent) we would like to hear from you. Just send to us, ***GCProgram@verizon.net,*** your pack number, a contact point (name and phone # or email address), the week you are going, and which camp (PMI or Ross). We'll post this information in upcoming newsletters and on the district web site for others to see and contact you to make arrangements.

Siege of Mafeking

On Nov 11-12, over 300 Boys Scouts from the thirty-five Loudoun County Boy Scout Troops traveled to a farm just outside Purcellville, VA to compete in the 12th annual reenactment of the Siege of Mafeking, hosted by Boy Scout Troop 961 of Western Loudoun.

Mafeking, South Africa, which a British garrison defended during the Second Boer War (1899-1900), was the birth place of Garrison Commander Col. Robert Baden-Powell's vision of Scouting. During the defense of the City against the Boers, Baden-Powell decided to use young men, between the ages of 11-18 to act as orderlies, run messages and other supporting jobs so that soldiers could be free to defend the City. Baden-Powell would later return to England and form the Scouting Movement in 1907. Over one hundred years later, the Siege is reenacted here in Western Loudoun as a game with a purpose of testing the skills of Scouting.

On Saturday night, each Loudoun Troop submitted two teams (called Patrols) consisting of young Scouts to compete, while the older scouts operated the challenge stations. On a moonless night, under the cloak of darkness and flashlights, the Chairman of the Mafeking Competition (Eagle Scout Austin Raney, Troop 961) gave each patrol their orders to find and complete their first challenge station. Along with the hikes and stations, patrols could encounter patrolling "Boers" (Eagle Scouts) that could stop and ask Scouting-related questions. Should the patrol answer incorrectly, points could be removed from the score card.

Patrols must work as a team using a compass to orient their way through the woods to the station. After completing the station's puzzle, the patrol would receive a score, being graded on teamwork, communication, leadership and outdoor scouting skills. The patrol then would have to return back to base camp with a challenge station prize symbolic of the turn-of-the-century battle, e.g., cocoa powder representing "Gun Powder" or Bowling Balls representing cannonballs. At base camp and only after stocking up on hot drinks and snacks, i.e., apple cider, cookies and kettle corn to name a few, the patrol would receive their next orders. A total of six stations had to be completed before the boys could crawl in to their warm sleeping bags. Competing Scouts were tested on their skills in First Aid, Orienteering with a compass, fire building with only two matches, and lashing a ladder with rope.

The following morning, one Troop's patrol was crowned the winner and stories of the adventures that took place throughout the night were shared over breakfast with many discussions about next year's competition.

Col. Baden-Powell (played by Training Chair Walt Johnson) and Mafeking Chairman Austin Raney, Eagle Scout

First Eagle Scout Argonaut

This year, William Alex Overman was selected as the first Eagle Scout Argonaut. Alex is a member of Troop 962 in Lovettsville and a 2012 graduate of Old Dominion University, with a degree in Ocean and Earth Sciences. He was chosen via a national competition organized by the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA), open to Eagle Scouts ages 15 - 25. This is a first for the Boy Scouts of America program as they venture into uncharted waters as a part of the STEM initiative.

Alex's achievement went far beyond the Nova awards. It was the chance of a lifetime to work aboard a research ship and to shadow scientists and oceanographers. Adding to the excitement, the particular ship happened to be the E/V Nautilus, captained by Dr. Robert Ballard, discoverer of the HMS Titanic. The entire trip was funded by the Jason Project, an organization that promotes study in the marine sciences for middle and high school students and adult mentors. Alex's adventure began with a tour of the Inner Space Center at the University of Rhode Island. Afterwards, he joined four other Argonauts, and flew to Istanbul, where the Nautilus was awaiting.

While aboard the Nautilus, Alex shadowed the crew and scientists. He learned how the scientists go about their day, what experiments they were going to be performing, and how the ship generally runs. The Nautilus has been in the Black Sea for the past few years studying various oceanographic properties, discovering ship wrecks (old and new), and mapping the sea floor. The ship lowers a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), called Hercules, into the depths to video the sea floor, collect samples, and even pick up artifacts from sunken ships! A week before Alex got on; the Nautilus had just discovered a ship wreck dating to 400 BCE.

While aboard, Alex participated in a live question and answer session, in which people back in the States could pose questions to the Argonauts while watching a real-time video feed. One question Alex did not anticipate came from the president of the National Eagle Scout Association, Bill Steele, at whose behest Alex explained why he was wearing his Scout uniform, and how he came to be selected for the voyage!

Since the trip, Alex has been sharing his adventure with local youth, and giving presentations to Scout troops and civic clubs, to promote the Argonaut program and the Scouting STEM initiative. If you are interested in having Alex engage with your Scout troop or a class of students about his exploration of the Black Sea, as well as the merits of Scouting, you may contact him at ***WAOverman@gmail.com*** or by phone at 571-262-9709.

Goose Creek Email Distribution Lists

Goose Creek District maintains a number of email distribution lists that we use to provide for quick dissemination of information to our Scouts, Scouters, and families. This includes notices of upcoming events and important district news such as rechartering, JSN, camporees, this newsletter, etc. Here are some of the mailing lists currently available:

PACKS – Cub Scout Packs
TROOPS – Boy Scout Troops
CREWS – Venture Crews

There's no limit to the number of people from a unit that may subscribe to the lists, so multiple leaders from each unit should subscribe. It's strongly recommended that at a minimum, each unit have the following leaders on the list for their unit; Unit Leader, Advancement Chair, Committee Chair. This will enhance the exposure to three critical portions of the unit's operation, and eliminate any single-point-of-failure in getting time-critical communication into the hands of the right people.

To be subscribed to one or more mailing lists, send an email to our Communications Committee at ***Communications@GooseCreekDistrict.org***. In your message, please include your name, unit affiliation(s), and the list(s) you wish to subscribe to. You can unsubscribe to a list by sending an email to the same addresses.

Winter Neighborhood Safety

As we go through the snowy season of the year we would like to advise all of our Scouts to help keep their neighborhood safe by doing the following:

- Make sure the hydrant in your neighborhood is visible. Adopt your fire hydrant. It needs to be uncovered from snow and there needs to be a clear path for access. In the instance of a fire, firefighters need to be able to quickly locate the fire hydrant, or lives and property could be lost.
- Make sure your address is visible. Fire and Rescue responders use maps to get them to the area, but they need to be able to see house numbers to ensure they are at the correct location.
- Make sure you have at least two clear exits out of your house. Keep an eye on snow build up. When the snow melts and refreezes, it could prevent you from being able to open the door and exit from your house.
- Check on your elderly neighbors. Do a good turn and make them a path through the snow to the street and to their mailbox.

"Onward and Upward"

On the Advancement Trail

New Eagles

Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagle Scouts:

Gabriel Arturo Bermudez-Guerrero - Troop 997
Sean Michael Bills - Troop 163
Matthew J Busbee - Troop 1910
Jacques Deaver - Troop 969
Patrick O Fields - Troop 1158
Andrew J Gonzales - Troop 1910
Matthew D Lancaster - Troop 1910
Nicolas D Logan – Troop 1158
Alexander F Lowman - Troop 1558
Connor A Olivier - Troop 1159
Ciaran Spencer Salas - Troop 2970
Vaibhav R Tadepalli - Troop 961
Stephen P Taylor - Troop 2970
Michael A Thompson - Troop 997
Ethan James Watts - Troop 961

Sustainability Merit Badge

Upon its release during the summer of 2013, Sustainability becomes available as an option with Environmental Science as an Eagle-required merit badge. The Sustainability merit badge, in essence, takes conservation and environmental science to another level. The protection, preservation, and management of wildlife and natural resources involved in conservation provide a foundation for what we call environmental science. The latter integrates physical and biological sciences such as ecology, biology, soil science, atmospheric science, and others in order to generate solutions to environmental issues. Sustainability takes off from there by taking responsibility for balancing long-term environmental, social, health, and economic needs with progress and development. It further suggests that development, while meeting the needs of the present, cannot compromise the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The requirements for Sustainability have not yet been finalized, but initial discussions include the following topics:

- What is sustainability?
- Examining our current needs and our choices in meeting them, with attention to extraction, production, distribution, consumption, and disposal
- Impact on our natural resources
- Problems we must address, including plastic, electronic, and medical waste; species extinction, and climate change
- New habits to adopt, including green chemistry, recycling, zero waste, and sustainability-conscious citizens
- Careers related to sustainability

NESA Scholarships - 2013

Do you know an Eagle (or soon-to-be Eagle) who is graduating high school and entering college in 2013? The time has arrived for Eagle Scouts to apply for 2013 National Eagle Scout Association scholarships.

First, see who's eligible for up to $446,000 in scholarships:

- An Eagle Scout having passed the board of review on or before Dec. 31, 2012.
- A graduating high-school senior (for academic and merit scholarships) or an undergraduate college student no later than completion of his junior year of college (for merit scholarships only).
- A NESA member.

The third requirement of NESA membership is new this year. If a new Eagle isn't currently a NESA member, he must first join the organization to be considered for NESA scholarship. (Within the first six months of an Eagle Scout's board of review, a "special" one-year NESA membership is $20.)

Investing in a NESA membership opens the door for Eagle Scouts to earn up to $446,000 in college scholarships.

The applications are now "live" at ***www.NESA.org/2013_scholarships.html***. Applications are due Dec. 31, 2012.

Go to ***http://blog.ScoutingMagazine.org/2012/10/04/eagles-apply-now-for-2013-nesa-scholarships/*** for a full list of the available 2013 NESA scholarships.

VFW Scout of the Year

Who Can Enter: Scouts who are registered, active members of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, or a Sea Scout Ship who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Silver Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award. Scouts must be 15 years of age and have demonstrated practical citizenship in school, scouting and the community. Scouts must be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.

Note: All applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified.

How To Enter: Scouts should submit the completed VFW Scouting Scholarship form, resume of high school activities, scouting record, community service record and letters of recommendation to a local VFW Post no later than March 1.

Note: A Scout can enter through ONE VFW Post only.

How The Contest Works: Local VFW Posts select one winner from the entries received. Posts then submit their local winner to their respective VFW Department (state) by April 1. From there, the Department selects a winner and forwards the entry to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1 for national-level judging. First Place - $5,000, Second Place - $3,000, Third Place - $1,000

To find the application form and for a listing of VFW Posts go to: ***www.VFW.org/Community/Scout-of-the-Year-Scholarship/***

The Dr. Juergen Reinhardt Memorial Scouting Scholarship

Dr. Juergen Reinhardt was a Boy Scout as a youth. As an adult, he served as Assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster, Troop Committee Chairman and Camping Advisor. He believed strongly in the Scouting program and felt that all youth, regardless of their strengths and weaknesses, could profit from participation. He worked closely with all members of his troop to ensure that each would achieve his greatest potential and carry with him the highest level of adherence to the Scouting principles.

Thanks to contributions from his many friends, associates and family, this scholarship (a minimum of $1,000) has been established in perpetuity.

Criteria: The applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Be graduating senior who plans to pursue additional education beginning in the Fall of the same year.
2. Be a resident of Loudoun County, Virginia.
3. Be registered in the Boy Scouts of America as an active member of a Boy Scout troop/Explorer post or be registered with the Girl Scouts of America as an active member of a Girl Scout troop.
4. Demonstrate a commitment to education, Scouting and the community.

This application should be returned to the Selection Committee, Dr. Juergen Reinhardt Memorial Scouting Scholarship, c/o Michael Moye, 424 Mosby Drive, SW, Leesburg, VA 20175. The deadline for applications is April 1. An announcement of the scholarship recipient will be made by July 1.

Application:
http://cmsweb1.loudoun.k12.va.us/site/Default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=123&PageID=1914&ViewID=7b97f7ed-8e5e-4120-848f-a8b4987d588f&FlexDataID=7953

Bill of Rights Eagle Scout Competition

The Bill of Rights Institute is excited to announce the launch of their new Eagle Scout competition. The competition is open to high school students who are Eagle Scouts, or Life Scouts planning or implementing their Eagle Scout project. Applicants must answer several questions tied to the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge and their Eagle Scout project (or proposed project) for a chance to win $1,000! The winner can choose to receive the prize either entirely as a scholarship, or as a combination of scholarship and funding to put towards his Eagle Scout project. As a bonus, the winner's unit will receive $500! The deadline is Sunday, February 10, 2013.

Apply online at ***www.BillOfRightsInstitute.org/EagleScout***. Deadline is Sunday, February 10, 2013

For questions or more information, email Brittany Byrd:
bbyrd@BillOfRightsInstitute.org

MITRE Scout Engineering Day

The MITRE Corporation is hosting its second MITRE Scout Engineering Day in February 2013. Classes are open to registered Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venture Scouts, Varsity, Crews or Ships who are 11 years of age (10.5 for Boy Scouts). The event will be based on Boy Scout Engineering related merit badges:

- Aviation
- Computers
- Electricity
- Electronics
- Energy
- Engineering
- Nuclear Science
- Robotics

When: February 9, 2013 from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Onsite Check-in will begin at 7:30 AM

Where: Event will be held at MITRE Corporation, 7525 Colshire Drive, Mclean, VA 22102

Registration: Registration will open Jan 5 and close Feb 1. If you are interested in attending, keep a lookout for more information as the date gets closer since certain classes have a limited number of openings and fill quickly.

Cost: $25, includes all materials, snacks and lunch

Class schedule: Some classes are only offered in the morning, some in both the morning and afternoon, and some classes are All Day classes. You can complete one or two classes (Merit Badges), based on which you ones you select.

Prerequisites: Scouts must read the Merit Badge books for the classes they register to attend.

E-mail Contact: ***npesce@mitre.org***

Bryce Resort's Scout Snowsport Program

Bryce Resort in Basye, VA is sponsoring a 2013 Special Scout Snow Sports Program. Scouts can earn the Snow-Sports Merit Badge on selected Sundays in January/February. This special Snow Sport Merit Badge Clinic program is offered to beginners and advanced skiers or snowboarders.

Dates: January 6, 13, 27 and February 3.

Cost: $74 per scout for a group of 15 scouts or more. This includes all mountain lifts, rentals and Merit Badge clinic (1½ hours and test). There is an additional lunch cost of $6, including tax.

For reservation please contact: ***GroupSales@BryceResort.com***

For information about the resort: ***www.BryceResort.com/Home.aspx***

Council / National News

Council Website: www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

COPE is Back at Snyder

After a while being out of commission, the COPE program at Camp Snyder is again accepting activity / program requests from units. COPE stands for Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience. It is great for team building and leadership development. A COPE course presents a series of challenges to Patrols and Crews who must then work together to complete the challenge or overcome the obstacle. A number of instructors have recently been trained, and units may sign up for half-day sessions in Mar, Apr and May 2013. Training for additional facilitators and instructors will be offered next spring. Contact the Council office for available dates.

2013 Goshen Summer Camp Availability

Key: Available Almost Full Full

Camp (as of 11/06/2012)		Week 1	2	3	4	5	6
	Bowman (Patrol Cooking)						
	Marriot (Heater Stack)	LDS Week					
	Olmsted (BS Dining Hall)						
	Lenhok'sin High Adventure						
	PMI (Dining Hall)						
	Ross (Dining Hall)						

Week 1 – 6/22 to 6/29
Week 2 – 6/29 to 7/6
Week 3 – 7/6 to 7/13
Week 4 – 7/13 to 7/20 (National Jamboree week)
Week 5 – 7/20 to 7/27 (National Jamboree week)
Week 6 – 7/27 to 8/3

Specialty Week will be held during week 6, July 27 to August 3, at Camp Marriott. Trail to Eagle, Beach & Yacht, and Field & Stream are the featured programs for this year. Scouts attend these specialty programs provisionally, rather than with their home troops and will spend the entire week earning merit badges and participating in activities focused around the program theme. Specialty week is open to Scouts ages 13 and up.

You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You go on a family walk around the block and you take a map and a compass along.
- Instead of teaching your one year old son his ABC's, you teach him the Scout Law and the Scout Oath.
- You spontaneously break into strange songs in public.

Call for Goshen Staff

Goshen is always looking for excited Scouts and Crew members to be a part of the Goshen staff family. As a staffer, you learn how to overcome challenges, work with adults and youth, be a part of a team, manage projects, and earn your keep. Our staff members have become leaders in their high schools and universities, with teachers and professors commenting on the fervor with which Goshen staffers are able to work and produce meaningful results. If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity, interviews will take place January 5 from 12 noon to 4 PM and January 12 from 10 AM to 1 PM.

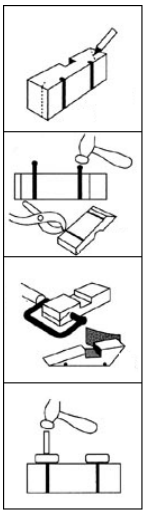
For more information or to schedule an interview, send an email to GSR Camping Director Gary Carroll (***Gary.Carroll@Scouting.org***).

The Get-Started Guide for New Scouting Leaders

The people at Scouting magazine have been where you are, and they understand just how intimidating the job can be. So they created a handy guide to help you through the first months of your Scouting career. Half of the tips in it stem from their own experience; the other half come from Scouters across the country who responded to survey questions on their Facebook page.

http://scoutingmagazine.org/2012/08/the-get-started-guide-for-new-scouting-leaders/

Dremel and Lowe's Pinewood Derby Days



The 2013 Dremel Pinewood Derby Days Program, brought to you through Lowe's Home Improvement Stores, aims to provide you with a source for all of the materials and know-how you need to create a winning Pinewood Derby car you can be proud of – regardless of your skill level. Every Lowe's store will be hosting Pinewood Derby car clinics for the experts to share their tips and tricks for making the fastest cars on race day. Everyone who attends an event will be given a BSA-approved badge and a 10% off Dremel coupon.

Demo Dates: Jan 7, Jan 21, Feb 4, Feb 18. All demos are from 11 AM – 1 PM. Please contact your local store prior to the event.

Important!!! Before building your car check your Pack's construction rules. If your car is to race in the District derby then it must also follow the District's Derby Construction rules posted on the district website.

SCUBA Training Scholarships

The Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI) has a scholarship program that awards various levels of grants to individual Scouts/Venturers and Scout Troops/Venture Crews for PADI diver training courses. The scholarships applications must be submitted to BSA national Office no later than December 31, 2012. The forms are available on the NCAC website forms and document page.

International Spirit Award

The International Department of the Boy Scouts of America has discontinued the Council based International Activity Badge and has announced the BSA level International Spirit Award. This award may be earned by all Scouts and Scouters and is a great way to learn about Scouting outside the US. The requirements may be found at ***www.scouting.org/filestore/international/pdf/130-044_WB.pdf*** and applications are being actively reviewed. Scouts may submit the form to their Unit Leader for consideration and Scouters may submit it to the International Committee of the NCAC for review.

Questions and Comments may be directed to Mike Sierra at ***Mike.Sierra@GooseCreekDistrict.Org***. Scouts actively engaged in pursuing their International Activity Badge may continue to do so until December 2013 or as supplies run out (whichever comes first!)

Uniform Questions?

A new, easy-to-use uniform Web site (***http://BSAuniforms.org/#/home***) targeted at new Scout families has just debuted, courtesy of the folks in BSA's Program Impact and the Supply Group.

Click on the appropriate Scouting program — Cub Scouts, Webelos, Boy Scouts, Venturers, Leaders, and Dress Uniforms (professionals). From there, you're presented with a list of required and awarded patches that you can drag and drop to where they belong on the uniform. It's simple and fun.

What you're seeing now is Phase 1, which gives you an idea of what's possible with this useful tool. The next step is to include everything found in the Guide to Awards and Insignia. It's a working project that will get better over time.

Now if only they can find a way to sew the patches on for you, as well!

New Recruiting Materials

The first step's always the hardest. And when it comes to recruiting future Scouts, that first step is simple awareness. If a boy (or Venturing-age girl) in your area doesn't know about your Scout unit, how can you recruit him or her?

Thankfully, you don't have to do all the work yourself. The BSA's marketing team has your back with a treasure trove of fliers, billboards, posters, yard signs, door hangers, bookmarks, postcards, Web banners, PSAs, and e-blasts. And it's all available in three flavors: English, Spanish, and bilingual.

New this month are Tiger Cub recruiting materials, which join the high-quality Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing materials already available.

Simply download the PDFs, add info about your unit's meeting location, Web site, and contact info, and then print/post/publish wherever boys and girls are found.

Find all the National Recruitment Campaign materials at the BSA's marketing site: ***www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Marketing/Recruiting.aspx***

Best Troop First Aid Kit

The right troop first aid kit is large enough, but not too large, arranged for easy access, outfitted with components to meet the most common needs (cuts, scrapes and burns) and won't break the bank. Campmor's Advanced Medical Kit is the best option Scoutmaster Clarke Green (***www.Scoutmastercg.com***) has found.

A good quality kit costs less than the sum of its parts – you'll spend more buying the components than a complete kit. The Advanced Medical Kit is currently priced at $54.99. It has an excellent selection of basic and advanced first-aid supplies and the carrying bag has plenty of room to add whatever components you like. The kit has extra room to add additional components. Supplies are arranged in heavy-duty zip-lock bags by category for easy access.

Weight: 24 oz. Size: 8 in. x 6.5 in. x 4 in.

Available at ***www.Campmor.com***, Item #: 82853

Arlington National Cemetery Wreath Laying

To volunteer your time to place wreaths at Arlington, please join us at the Memorial Amphitheater on the Third Saturday in December (Dec.15) at 9:30 a.m. for the Opening Ceremony. The ceremony will provide some introductory remarks and a short briefing to provide basic information to volunteers. After the ceremony, volunteers will move to the designated areas of the cemetery where they will participate in the laying of wreaths on headstones. We want to remind you that when you place the wreath, you may be the first person to visit that particular grave in years, so we hope you will take time to read the stone and honor the memory of that hero.

At 11:00 a.m. there will be a wreath laying at President Kennedy's grave followed by an 11:30 a.m. wreath laying at the USS Maine Mast Memorial. The final ceremony will take place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at noon.

We highly encourage Metro use. While the Arlington Cemetery stop on the Blue Line stops at the cemetery entrance, you can access various parts of the Cemetery from the Rosslyn, Pentagon, and Pentagon City stops via only a short walk. To support our Metro traveling volunteers, we will have multiple gates open to provide pedestrian access to the ceremony. In addition, we will have parking spaces at the Pentagon, Navy Annex, Fort Myer, as well as the parking garage at the main cemetery entrance.

Look to our Facebook page: ***www.facebook.com/ArlingtonWreaths*** and website ***www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org*** for more details, driving directions, etc. There will be free parking is available in the visitors parking lot at Arlington from 8:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Clean up volunteers are always needed too. Clean up at Arlington National Cemetery will take place on January 26, 2013. For more information contact Mr. Wayne Hanson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at ***driftabit@aol.com***.

No formal registration or sign-up is required. Just show up at the designated time and place.

STEM: NCAC Seeking Supernova Mentors

The introduction of the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Nova and Supernova awards brings a fresh opportunity to volunteer! A Nova counselor can be any registered adult age 21 or older.

Supernova mentor is a new position requiring a separate registration and adult leader form. Mentors must be 21 or older, be a subject-matter expert in a STEM field, have current Youth Protection Training, complete the Supernova Awards Mentor Information application and be approved by the Council STEM Committee. This is a non-unit position that requires no fee.

Mail your completed mentor application, adult application and youth protection certificate to the NCAC STEM Committee at 9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814 or email to ***James.Hamlin@Scouting.org***.

For more Information about STEM or to download the mentor application go to: ***www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/stem***

Patch Police

I'm sure you've met one by now. He might just make a quiet comment to you that your new square knot is sewn upside down. Or, he might point out paragraph 4 on page 5 of his Insignia Guide where it says that patch hanging from your right pocket button is 1/4 inch too wide. Or, he might complain to others when you're not around about how your 5 medals and all those knots are excessive. He's the Patch Police.

Recognition of efforts by volunteers is important. And, of course, we should follow the guidelines when displaying recognition. But, those people with experience and knowledge about the guidelines should use empathy and tact in a helpful manner when a discrepancy is noticed. If you find it important enough to correct others, please do it respectfully and off to the side.

Many new volunteers receive recognition items but no immediate guidance regarding proper display. If your role includes distributing recognition, make it a point to also provide instruction about placement of the recognition item. Even if you don't present the items, you can always ask "Do you know where that goes?" when you congratulate the recognized volunteer. This will solve nearly all patch police cases before they occur.

Did you know the BSA actually does have a Patch Police program? Well, it's actually Patch Patrol, but close enough. The program is intended to promote BSA licensed patches rather than unauthorized knock-offs. And, it's a simple way to get another patch to add to your collection.

Officially endorsed BSA patches have a special backing so you just "Flip It" to see if it's official. If you send the BSA an email telling them what you're doing to teach others to "Flip It", they'll send you a free "Real Deal" patch. See ScoutStuff (***www.ScoutStuff.org/media/content/docs/pdfs/Flip_It_ad_for_Boys_life%20_finalcopy.jpg***) for the address and details. The program has been going since last year, but they might still have patches left.

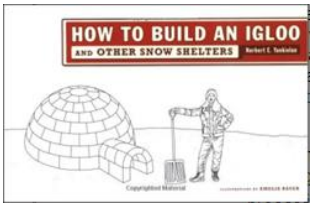
Winter Camping

Winter camping is an advanced and challenging adventure. The winter camper has a respect for nature that the summer camper will never have. But as with most things in life, the most rewarding experience is the one that takes the most effort. If it were easy, then the personal reward and satisfaction that a winter camp out gives would not be the same. A Boy Scout has a unique opportunity to experience this first hand.

Check out some of the following sources on how to prepare for winter camping:

- ***www.ScoutScan.com/resources/winter.html***
- ***www.bsatroop640.org/Camping_high-adventure/Cold_Weather_Camping.pdf***
- ***www.princeton.edu/~oa/winter/wintcamp.shtml***
- ***www.inquiry.net/outdoor/winter/gear/***

How to Build an Igloo: And Other Snow Shelters



How are the ice blocks of igloos so perfectly formed and fitted, and able, it's been said, to withstand the weight of a polar bear? How can you determine if the fresh snow that's fallen outside your front door is as good for making a slab shelter as a snowman? What is a slab shelter, anyway? For that matter, what are drift caves, spruce traps, snow block walls, and bivy bag shelters, and how would you go about building them, whether for winter fun or protection from the weather?

In this instructive, whimsical, illustrated manual, Norbert E. Yankielun, a seasoned cold-regions explorer and researcher, takes readers step-by-step through the process of constructing and inhabiting a range of useful snow structures—from the most basic to the more complex. Whether you're a veteran backcountry skier or a backyard builder, this is one book you won't want to be without.

Available from Amazon, $12.

AMC Guide to Winter Hiking & Camping

Exploring the outdoors in winter is exhilarating, when you have the right skills. If you want to experience the special allure of hiking and backpacking during the snowy season, the AMC Guide to Winter Hiking and Camping is for you. This new guide from the Appalachian Mountain Club will help you plan your next trip, with a focus on preparation, safety, outdoor stewardship, and fun.

Inside you'll find:

- Recommended gear, clothing, and food for winter travel
- Safety tips for dealing with weather and preventing injuries
- Instructions for building a winter campsite or snow shelter
- Hints for hiking with kids, and more!

Available from Amazon, $15.

Recipes for Chilly Weather

Trail cooking and the Outdoors blog offers Recipes For Chilly Weather (***http://blog.trailcooking.com/2011/10/26/recipes-for-chilly-weather/***). Hearty beverages, dinners, snacks and other great recipes from Sarah Kirkconnell. Sarah and is also the author of Freezer Bag Cooking: Trail Food Made Simple – a fantastic book for Scouts about trail food.

Calling All New BSA Lifeguards

If you or a member of your unit completed BSA Lifeguard, Swimming and Water Rescue, Paddle Craft Safety or BSA Lifeguard Counselor course at camp this summer, please send a note to Mike Mennehan (***MMMenehan@cox.net***) so we can ensure that the NCAC Aquatics Committee has documented your achievements. This is especially critical if you completed them at a camp outside NCAC.

Scout Camps USA – A Guide to BSA Camps, Camping & High Adventure

The third edition of Scout Camps USA (***www.ScoutCampsUSA.com***, $19.95 plus shipping, Pfairco Publications), offers more valuable information than ever for Scout units planning high adventure trips, special summer camp experiences, weekend outings, and many other kinds of activities and adventures.

The 352-page nonofficial guide lists nearly 800 BSA council and national camps, ranches, reservations, aquatic bases, high adventure bases, and Cub Scout Worlds across the nation, with locations noted on large state maps.

Also included are more than 60 military installations with camping opportunities, 46 historic ships with overnight programs, 200 non-BSA campsites and programs, plus visit reports on many locations and articles on topics from "How to Buy Canoes" to "Collecting Camp Patches."

Campfire Potatoes

Here's a great idea for making campfire potatoes wrapped in foil. Alternating slices of onion and potato? Why didn't I think of that?

Ingredients: large baking potatoes; whole onions, red or yellow; dill; parsley; bacon bits

Directions: Slice potato almost all the way through, but leave enough to hold it together. Slice the onion, and put one slice in between each potato slice. Sprinkle with bacon bits and a little dill. Wrap well with heavy aluminum foil and bury in the coals of the fire. Leave untouched for about 45 minutes, and test for doneness by piercing with a fork – the fork should lift out without lifting the potato. Cooking time depends on size of potatoes and strength of fire. Serve with pat of butter and a few sprigs of parsley.

On-Line Resource of the Month

Blogger Steve Karoly is a camp cook in California who shares some great group recipes on ***http://RoundTheChuckbox.blogspot.com/***

Training Opportunities

Wood Badge

Wood Badge is designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of all Scouters, including Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Varsity Coaches, Venturing Advisors, committee chairs, den leaders and other unit, district and council leaders. The Wood Badge course incorporates more than 80 years of traditions while adding the management and leadership training necessary to become a successful leader in the 21st Century.

Please take a minute to read about Wood Badge and to add your name to the next course roster. NCAC's Wood Badge courses fill up quickly so register soon!

Spring 2013 Wood Badge (both sessions are required):

Session 1: Friday, 4/12/2013- Sunday, 4/14/2013 at Camp William B. Snyder, Haymarket, VA

Session 2: Friday, 5/17/2013 - Monday 5/19/2013 at Camp High Road, Middleburg, VA

For more information about Wood Badge go to:
www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org/wood-badge/16143

Still Need Training for Your Position?

If you need training for your new position and missed taking one of the training classes offered by our excellent Goose Creek trainers you can still take a class offered by one of the other districts. Just go to the Council web page and open up the calendar (located at the very top of the page). When you see a class that interests you just click on it for additional information.

University of Scouting

The "University of Scouting" is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Scouts, Varsity Scouts, District, and Council). Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cubbing, Scouting, what we call "Adventuring" (a combination of Varsity, Venturing, and Sea Scout activities), as well as Electives opportunities.

When: Feb 23, 2013, Registration opens in January

Where: Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria

For more information: ***www.doubleknot.com/university-of-scouting-uos/24914***

Backcountry Outdoor Leader Skills

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 prior to attending this course and be able to meet physical requirements of the BSA Annual Health & Medical Record.

The target audience is leaders planning High Adventure treks at backcountry venues not supported by BSA infrastructure; however, units planning to attend High Adventure bases supported by BSA will find this course useful, inasmuch as unit shakedowns will, most likely, take place in venues not supported by BSA infrastructure.

The course is in two parts: one 6-hour classroom session followed by a two-day weekend outdoor session.

Part 1 — Sat. 3/9/2013 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Aldersgate UMC, 1301 Collingwood Rd, Alexandria, VA) — Addresses ways to effectively work with older youth. Covers the detailed preparation and planning that must be done before you go out including risk management. Summarizes the personal and crew equipment used for lightweight camping. Plans the weekend overnight session.

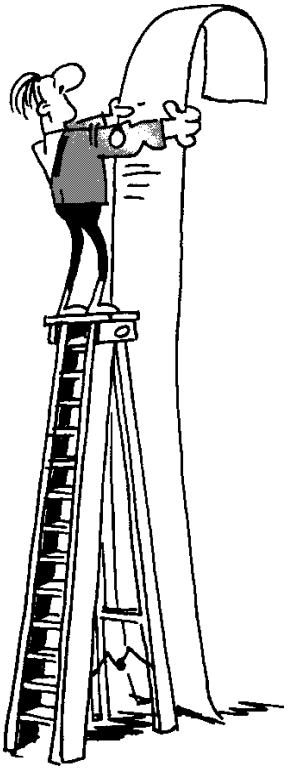
Part 2 — Sat. 4/6/2013, 7:30 AM thru Sun. 4/7, 1:30 PM (Camp Highroads, Middleburg, VA) — Participants will practice core leader skills for the outdoor program — Leave No Trace, navigation (map & compass plus GPS), terrain awareness, expedition menu planning and food preparation, stove and stove maintenance, wilderness first aid issues, expedition health and hygiene, team building.

Scouters planning to accompany a crew to any of the BSA-sponsored High Adventure Camps should also attend the High Adventure Training provided by the Council's High Adventure Committee.

Cost: $40, class size limited to 32.

To Register: Registration opens Jan 1, 2013, closes Mar 8. Registration can be done on the Council website, under Training → Back country Outdoor Leader Skills.

District Calendar



December 2012
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 19 Annual District Business Meeting
- 24 Winter Break Starts

January 2013
- 1 Winter Break Ends
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 18 Moveable School Holiday
- 19 ***Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific***
- 21 MLK Jr. Day
- 23 District Committee
- 25-27 ***Freeze-o-ree***

February 2013
- 10 Scout Sunday
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 16 Scout Sabbath
- 18 President's Day
- 23 Univ. of Scouting
- 27 District Committee

March 2013
- 7 ***AOL Recognition Ceremony***
- 9 ***District Pinewood Derby***
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 25-29 Spring Break
- 27 District Committee

April 2013
- 1 Moveable School Holiday
- 6 ***Training – Den Chief***
- 10 Roundtable
- 10 Venturing Forum
- 11 Commissioner RT
- 12-14 ***Spring Camporee***
- 13 ***Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific (at camporee)***
- 24 District Committee
- 26-28 ***OA Ordeal***

May 2013
- 4 ***Cubmobile Derby***
- 4 ***Training – Boy Scout Leader Specific***
- 8 ***Program Launch***
- 9 Commissioner RT
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18-19 ***Training – IOLS/OLSWL***
- 22 District Committee
- 27 Memorial Day

June 2013
- 1 ***Soda Bottle Rocket Derby***
- 6 Last Day of School
- 12 Roundtable
- 12 Venturing Forum
- 13 Commissioner RT
- 17-21 ***Day Camp***
- 26 District Committee

July 2013
- 4 Independence Day
- 15-24 National Jamboree

August 2013
- 8 Commissioner RT
- 14 Roundtable
- 14 Venturing Forum
- 28 District Committee

September 2013
- 2 Labor Day
- 3 First Day of School
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 Venturing Forum
- 12 Commissioner RT
- 28-29 ***Webelos-o-ree***
- 25 District Committee

October 2013
- 7 Columbus Day
- 9 Roundtable
- 9 Venturing Forum
- 10 Commissioner RT
- 14 Columbus Day
- 19-20 JOTA/JOTI
- 23 District Committee

November 2013
- 2 ***Scouting for Food Bag Distribution***
- 4-5 Student Holiday
- 10 ***Scouting for Food Bag Pickup***
- 13 Roundtable
- 13 Venturing Forum
- 14 Commissioner RT
- 20 District Committee
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Break