SAMOSET "He walks over Much"
Occoquan District Newsletter

Communicating at the Water's end

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 1, 2010

District Chairman's Update

I would like to note with sincere regret that John Furry, our District Commissioner, has stepped down. John has been a valuable asset to scouting and our district and his absence will be felt. Please join me and all district scouts/scouters in thanking him for his dedicated service and wishing him well. As a temporary replacement, Garry Lewis has agreed to be our Acting District Commissioner until a permanent replacement is found. Garry, who is the Assistant Council Commissioner for the Virginia South Service Area, is actively engaged in supporting units.

Keith Roberts and Edgar Vega will be joining the Commissioner Corps. Keith will become a new unit commissioner. Edgar has agreed to establish a Hispanic outreach program in our District and is also an NCAC Climbing Director .

If the attendance at the December committee meeting is any indication, good things are happening. We are still lacking chairpersons for several district committees but with attendance up and renewed interest being shown, I am positive about the future and our ability to fill these vital district positions.

The Nominating Committee is formed and is looking for dedicated volunteers. If you would like to volunteer or bring someone's efforts to the Committee's attention, please contact Warren Aldrich at 571-436-3612 or Warren@professionalcollision.com.

Finalization of the District's Strategic Plan will take another step forward in Mid-January. A team of interested scouters will be meeting to establish critical plan milestones and tasks. Finalization should occur in the spring.

Passing of Former District Chair Phelps

According to family friend Jim Young, Troop 964, Mitchell (Mitch) Lee Phelps, passed away on January 3.

Mitch was an avid supporter of scouting, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, a member of the Order of the Arrow, and served as the District's Chairman. He served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict. Mitchell was a real estate broker in the Woodbridge area for over 40 years.

Mitch is survived by his wife, Myrna, 8 children, 17 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren along with many nieces, nephews and wonderful friends who will miss him dearly.

Please remember him and his loved ones in prayer. Funeral services will be held on January 8 and internment at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Fredericksburg, VA.

2010 Family FOS Campaign Status

The new year has begun with a blast as the Occoquan District has gotten its Family Friends of Scouting (FFOS) Campaign off the ground. A record amount of contributions and pledges were received the first week of Jan. The district total stands at $4,510 from eight units. That is four times the amount the district received last year January. Two units have stood out again this year as pacesetters and it appears that other units will also become pacesetters. Six more units (T189, T1378, T1352, P108, P1364, and P295) have selected specific dates for presentations.

If your unit has not already received its FFOS presentation or is not listed, contact Pete DeSalva, 2010 FFOS Campaign Coordinator. The priority support goes to packs who schedule their Blue & Gold dinners in February, which is the premier family event and an excellent time to receive FFOS presentations. Presentation materials and trained district-level presenters are available through Pete. If your unit has not yet been contacted by your area coordinator, contact Pete (at 703-772-5797 or desalvapn@earthlink.net) so he can schedule an FOS presentation.

Friends of Scouting

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- Train Show & Merit Badge Workshop
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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., prepares to deliver his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to a crowd of 200,000 marchers in Washington, DC on August 28, 1963.

Quotes of Great Leaders

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
American Clergyman,
Civil Rights Leader and
Recipient of the 1964
Nobel Peace Prize
at age 35

Boy Scout/Varsity Roundtable

BSA 2010 - Celebrate Scouting Stamp

In 2010, the year of our 100th Anniversary, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) will receive an incredible honor from the United States Postal Service (USPS) in the form of a "Celebrate Scouting" stamp. A tribute to the impact of a century of Scouting on the American landscape, the stamp will become widely available during the summer of 2010.

Continuing BSA's long tradition of service and good turns since 1910, scouts can bring deeper purpose to the Celebrate Scouting stamp by sending letters and care packages to the military men and women serving our country overseas. Also included in this effort are the many veterans who have honorably served our country throughout the years. The design, created by Craig Frazier of Mill Valley, Calif., depicts the spirit and outdoor adventure of Scouting through a backpacking Scout and a large silhouette of a Scout surveying the landscape. The stamp was championed by U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions and supported by a bipartisan group of more than 300 Congressional members.

United States Postal Service commemorative stamp celebrating Scouting's 100th anniversary

Scouts, BSA staff, volunteers are invited to explore the available resources and tools to help each scout develop a thoughtful letter or care package that reminds our troops how much we appreciate and value their service.

NCAC Membership Continues to Grow

The NCAC, Boy Scouts of America was organized in 1911 and today stands as one of the oldest and largest councils in America.

In 2008, traditional membership of 50,087 youth combined with 17,484 enrolled in Learning for Life for a total of 67,571 youth served. There were 1,717 traditional units (packs, troops, crews, ships) chartered, 107 Learning for Life programs supported and a record 1,273 youth attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Our district had a 4.1% scout growth in 2009.

For more information, visit our council's website at: www.boyscouts-ncac.org

Train Show & Merit Badge Workshop

2010 will be the biggest and best Model Railroading Show and Merit Badge Workshop hosted by Troop 964. This years' show and workshop will be held Saturday, March 13 and Sunday, March 14. The general admission is $7 for adults, $3 students/seniors, Under 5 free. The 10th Annual show, sponsored by Troop 964, represents the largest DCC-HO modular layout assembled in Virginia. The cost for Boy Scouts wishing to sign up for the Railroading Merit Badge will be $20 which includes admission and supplies. Registration and payment must be made by mail. Contact Terrell Parker for more information at 703-730-5387 or through e-mail at terrell.parker@us.army.mil.

Boy Scout and Varsity Roundtable (BSVRT)

January BSVRT. The New Year has begun and we are in the middle of a DEEP FREEZE. Sounds like a good time to get warmed up with some Scouting fellowship and fun.

The BSVRT breakout session program theme for January is "Citizenship" and Janene Lyman (Team 1374) has invited a guest speaker (Captain John Ritter USCG) to speak on citizenship and the importance of teaching our scouts about it. Mike Green (Team 1374) will give a presentation on "Woodbadge: Advanced training for Scouters". There will also be a couple of surprise information "shorts" you don't want to miss.

BSVRT Commissioner:
Peter DeSalva (Troop 35)
703-772-5797
desalvapn @earthlink.net

BSVRT Staff:
Mike Green (Team 1374)
703-794-9766; mikeandheidigreen@yahoo.com
Janene Lyman (Team 1374)
703-791-7937; Lymanfamily1@msn.com

District Order of the Arrow (OA) Chapter

2010 promises to be an exciting year for the District, Council and Chapter. Our members will have opportunities to see and participate in events that will never occur again - Boy Scouts 100th Anniversary.

Fellowship is at the heart of our Order. Your Chapter officers are excited to see how the Chapter meeting attendance has grown. So come by and see what we're doing. Meetings are conducted during Roundtable.

The Chapter's annual elections process is underway. Those Troops and Teams that wish to have their members recognized in time to participate in the Spring Service Weekend are requested to schedule and complete their elections by the end of March. Adult nominations for membership must be into the Chapter Advisor by March 1. Additional details will be posted on the Chapter's website or your unit may contact either Jacob Mosser (Vice-Chief Elections) at Gcjbmosser@aol.com or Rob Deziel (new Chapter Advisor) at rdezieljr@comcast.net.

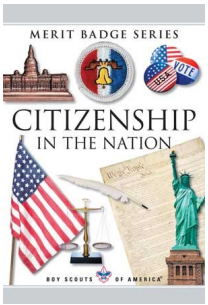
A special thanks goes out to **Joe Wileman** for all the assistance he provided the Chapter during his tenure as the Chapter Advisor.

Occoquan District OA Chapter

2010 District Merit Badge Day

The overwhelming response from district boy scouts to sign up for Merit Badge Day classes in January has organizers working many long hours getting prepared. The count is up to 266 scouts who have pre-registered to work on 462 Merit Badges. Merit Badge Day will be held on January 18 (Martin Luther King Holiday) at the Lake Ridge LDS Church at 3718 Old Bridge Road which has hosted it continuously for over 15 years.

Since walk-ins will not be allowed this year to eliminate long registration lines, scouts who pre-register will be issued E-tickets for their merit badge classes. The E-tickets will be issued to each troop's coordinator for distribution to scouts at troop meetings prior to Jan. 18. A new folder was been established in the YahooGroups files section titled 2010 District Merit Badge Day which contains rosters, class lists and applicable workbooks. Classes this year include merit badges for:



Citizenship in the Community

- Athletics & Sports
- Aviation
- Bugling and Music
- Citizen In the Community
- Citizen In the Nation
- Citizen in the World
- Climbing
- Communication
- Computers
- Emergency Preparation
- Environmental Science
- Family Life
- First Aid
- Nuclear Science
- Oceanography
- Personal Management

For more information contact the MB Day Coordinator, Ed Fairbairn (Troop/Crew 43) at fairbairn8@comcast.net or the Advancement & Recognition Chair, Tim Beaman (Troop 1356) at ecotim@hotmail.com.

100th Anniversary Scout Law Breakfast

Come celebrate 100 years of Scouting and the Scout Law with an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet at Camp William B. Snyder in 2010. This is an open-to-the-public event and the entire family is welcome to attend! All proceeds to benefit Camp Snyder, NCAC and BSA.

Time: 7AM – 1PM

Location: Camp Snyder

Cost: $10 Online Pre-Registration or $12 At-The-Door (Cash & Checks Only). Registration available online at www.BoyScouts-NCAC.org

Dates:

- Trustworthy - Jan. 10
- Loyal - Feb. 7
- Helpful - Mar. 7
- Friendly - Apr. 4
- Courteous - May 9
- Kind - Jun. 13
- Obedient - Jul. (Evening event with menu, date, time & cost TBD)
- Cheerful - Aug. (Evening event with menu, date, time & cost TBD)
- Thrifty - Sep. 19
- Brave - Oct. 3
- Clean - Nov. 14
- Reverent - Dec. 12

Menu:

- Pancakes
- Eggs
- Sausage
- Fruit
- Coffee
- Cereal
- Milk
- Juice
- Tea

District Training Update

Extensive training will be held at the Occoquan District **Thursday Night Training (TNT)** session, Jan 7, 14, 21 & 28 Jan at the Grace Baptist Church. Most classes are two hours in length. For new scout leaders needing training, this is an excellent opportunity to get your training certification and get ready for the summer ahead. Flyers will be handed out on Jan. 11 at the District Roundtable.

Contact Jack Zeto, District Training Chair, at 703.878.2716 for more information or by e-mail at zetoscouts@verizon.net. The January TNT sessions include:

7 January; 7:00 to 9:00 pm

- This is Scouting - All scout leaders must take this course

14 January; 7:00 to 9:00 pm

- Youth Protection Training- All leaders must take this course

29 January; 7:00 to 9:00 pm

- Intro to Cub Scouting / How We Have Fun

28 January; 7:00 to 9:00 pm

- Chartered Organization Rep
- Cubmaster/Assistant
- All Den Leader Positions
- Pack & Troop Committee
- Pack & Troop Trainer
- Merit Badge Counselor

BALOO Training, Jan. 9

- American Legion Post 274, Lusby, MD.

Trainer's Edge, Jan. 30

- St. Thomas a Becket Church, Reston, VA.

Occoquan District,
National Capital Area Council,
Boy Scouts of America

"A boy carries out suggestions more wholeheartedly when he understands their aim."

Sir Robert Baden-Powell

Occoquan District Key-3, NCAC

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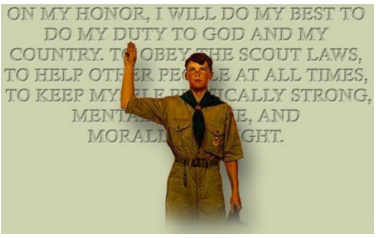
Visit your district website!

Www.boyscouts-ncac.org/Occoquan

Samoset newsletter is edited by Rich Sackett, Occoquan District Communications/Marketing committee. He can be reached at RSackett01@Comcast.net or by phone at 571.274.5340 for comments or articles. Input is due seven days before the end of each month for publication the following month.



The scouting way.

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 TNT Session	8	9
10 NCAC Pancake Bkfst	11 Roundtable	12	13	14 TNT Commissioners Meeting	15	16
17	18 MLK Holiday District Merit Badge Day	19	20	21 TNT Session	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28 TNT Committee Meeting	29	30

THE SCOUT LAW - A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, **Cheerful**, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

The Meaning of the Scout Law: The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout; doing his best to live up to the Law. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries. **A Scout is Cheerful.** A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy .

District & Council Events
90 Day Look-Ahead Calendar

Jan 7 – NCAC High Adventure Committee Meeting – 7:30 pm – Scout Service Center , Bethesda , MD. Scouters interested in finding out about the committee's activities are welcome to attend.

Jan 7 – 2010 NCAC Philmont Advisor & Crew Leader Training, 1– 4:30 PM, Booz Allen Hamilton, 8283 Greensboro Dr., McLean, VA.

Jan 7, 14, 21 & 28 – District Thursday Night Training (TNT) sessions (NLE, Youth Protection, & Leader Specific Training), 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (generally), Grace Baptist Church, Woodbridge, VA.

Jan 9 – BALOO Training, American Legion Post 274 , Lusby, MD, 8:30 am to 5 pm

Jan 10 – Scout Law Pancake Breakfast, 7 am to 1 pm , Camp Snyder; Haymarket, VA.

Jan 11 – District Roundtable & O/A Chapter Meeting, 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm, Grace Baptist Church, Woodbridge, VA

Jan 14 – District Commissioners Meeting, Lake Ridge LDS Church, 7:30 pm to 9 pm.

Jan 23 – 2010 NCAC Commissioner College, Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Alexandria, VA, 8 am to 5 pm.

Jan 28 – Occoquan District Committee (ODC) Meeting, 4001 Prince Wm Parkway, Suite 202, Dale City, 7:30 am to 9 pm, Woodbridge, VA.

Jan 30 – Trainer's Edge , St. Thomas a Becket Church , Reston, VA, 8:00 am to 4 pm.

Feb 7 – Scout Law Pancake Breakfast, 7 am to 1 pm , Camp Snyder; Haymarket, VA.

Feb 20– NCAC University of Scouting (UofS), Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria, VA, 7:30 am to 4 pm.

Mar 7 – Scout Law Pancake Breakfast, 7 am to 1 pm, Camp Snyder; Haymarket, VA

Mar 13/14 – Model Railroad Show & MB Workshop, 10 am to 5 pm (13th) & 1 to 5 pm (14th), Saunders Middle School, Dale City, VA.

This newsletter has been prepared by the Communications/Marketing Committee for the exclusive use of scouts, scouters and scout parents as a means of communicating important information from the Occoquan District Committee, Commissioner Corps and District Executive.