Welcome to the Colonial District, NCAC, BSA

What is the Colonial District?
The Colonial District serves the 75-80 BSA units (Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Venture Crews and Varsity Teams) in the Alexandria, Mount Vernon, and Kingstowne areas. There are more than 2300 registered scouts in Colonial.
Colonial consistently earns recognition as a BSA Quality District. It is one of 20 Districts within the BSA's National Capital Area Council (NCAC).

The principal mission of our District is to support the scouting units in our area effectively deliver the BSA program to the Scouts. Read more to find out how Colonial District enhances the Scouting program for our units.

Who are the Colonial District Leaders?

The "Key 3" leaders of Colonial are:

1. District Chairman (elected volunteer serving a 2-3 year term, leads the District Committee and serves on the NCAC board of directors)
   Henry Ruempler 703-971-3532 shruempler@gmail.com

2. District Commissioner (elected volunteer serving 2-3 year term, leads Colonial's corps of commissioners and serves on NCAC's Comm. Cabinet)
   Doug Brisson 703-864-0800 dbrisson@cox.net

3. District Executive (professional BSA employee at NCAC assigned to Colonial)
   Don Kilgore 301-379-9816 dkilgore@bsamail.org

The Colonial District Committee is made up of approximately 30 volunteers, most serve as at-large members. Members are elected for one-year terms.
In addition to the Key 3 above, selected leaders you will likely meet are:

Linda Hill - Vice Chair for Membership, lhill@diabetes.org
Bob Morgan – VC for Communications, usmcmorg@cs.com
Dominick Caridi – VC for Program,
and chair for all adult training dscaridi@aol.com
Joe Pallone – Friends of Scouting leader, joepallone@verizon.net
Theresa Larsen – Chair of Nominating Committee larsentjk@gmail.com

Volunteers who lead key district-wideactivities often become members of the District Committee. Key events include the Fall and Spring Camporee, Webelos-Ree, Pinewood Derby, Merit Badge Jamboree, Order of the Arrow,Scouting for Food campaign, Friends of Scouting campaign, etc. There is also extensive interaction between our Colonial volunteer leaders and our parent organization,NCAC. Several Colonial leaders serve on Council-level committees. For example, our VC for Membership serves on the NCAC Membership Committee; our VC for Programs serves on the NCAC Mission Impact Committee; our

Camping Promotion leader serves on NCAC Outdoor Activities Committee; and our VC for Communications/Marketing serves on the NCAC Committee for Webmasters.

When and where are the Colonial District Meetings?

Roundtablefor Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts is held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month (except July) at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd. Alexandria, 22308, 7:30-9:00 pm. Venturing roundtable meetings held Sept. Dec., March and June, at same time and place. Roundtable is open to everyone interested in the program. All Scouters are encouraged to attend because Roundtable serves as a key source of communications and discussion ofScouting matters. Scouters meet with their peers and exchange ideas and experiences. Each unit should have at least one adult leader at every Roundtable.

Our current Roundtable leaders are:

Cub Scouts – Linda Hill lhill@diabetes.org
Boy Scouts – Tony Moller tony@aroooo.com
Venture Scouts – Bill Stewart w2bsa@verizon.net

Be sure to introduce yourself to them. They are helpful and friendly.

District Committeemeetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of every month (except May and July) at First Christian Church, 2723 King St., Alexandria, 22302, 7:30-9:00 pm. Meetings are working sessions of the Colonial District leadership, but areopen to all Colonial Scouters. Our Scouter Recognition Reception is held in lieu of our May meeting.

Colonial Communications for Scouters and Interested persons.

Website of the Colonial District is found via the NCAC website www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=370

Mass e-mail lists for Cub Leaders, Scout leaders and other subgroups can be accessed via our enhanced website, www.colonialdistrict.org.
Thatwebsite contains detailed information on leader contact info, calendar, etc.

There are links on either website for Eagle Scouts and for the Order of the Arrow.

A glossary of Scouting terms can be found at the Troop Program Resources on the National BSA website. www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Glossary.pdf

TraditionalColonial District Calendar:

Jan-Feb. re-chartering of units
early Feb. Merit Badge Jamboree
early Feb. Scout Sunday

February	Order of the Arrow(OA) unit elections
early March	Pinewood Derby
April	Spring Camporee
May-June	Spring OA Ordeal
May Rndtble	Program Launch
May 4th Wed.	Scouter Recognition Reception
late June	Day Camp for Cubs
Sept.-Oct.	Join Scouting Nights
Sept.–Nov.	Popcorn Sales
Sept.-Oct.	Fall OA Ordeal
Oct.	Fall Camporee and Webelos-Ree
Oct. 4th Wed	Annual Business meeting (including District elections of leaders)
Nov.	Scouting for Food Campaign
Nov.-June	Friends of Scouting Campaign

Colonial conducts training events for adults regularly throughout the year. Consult the District website and/or join the e-mail lists for up-to-date information. Our Colonial leader for all training matters is Dominick Caridi, 703-625-4196 and dscaridi@aol.com.

What every Scouter and Parent should know about the Scouting program.

The Scouting "program" is the heart of the BSA experience for the boys (and girls in Venture and Varsity). The Scouting program is over 100 years old, time-tested and up-to-date to bring out the best in our youth. But what does the"program" include?

- A strong **Outdoor Program**, such as hiking, camping, and high adventure, is the basis of BSA's "classroom in the woods". The youth learn to challenge themselves while engaged in healthy activity.
- Fully **Trained Adult Leaders**are critical to the effective delivery of the BSA program. BSA training programs are consistently outstanding. Youth Protection and basic position training is required for trained leaders, with advanced training available.
- Using the **Patrol Method**as a basis for learning teamwork and leadership skills. Baden-Powell (founder of Boy Scout movement) believed strongly that boys' working together is a key to success.
- **Preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime** by emphasizingduties ofgood citizenship, performing service projects for the community and environment and by encouraging respect for the faiths of all persons and keeping God in our program activities.
- **Self reliance and confidence is developed through the learning of Scout Skills** such as First Aid, Camping, Orienteering, and Swimming, etc. as well as achieving rank advancements and earning merit badges. Advancement is not an end itself, but a means for developing skills and confidence.

- **Proudly wearing a scout uniform**, identifying us as members of a leading value-based youth development organization. Scout uniforms are a great way for youth to demonstrate their accomplishments and identify themselves as leaders.
- **Scouting is about having Fun!** Baden-Powell called Scouting a "game with a purpose". Scouts having fun stay with their unit and develop into fine adults.

Scouting is much more than just a checklist of tasks to complete on the way to the rank of Eagle or Silver Star. Scouts who truly experience the Scouting program not only must complete all the tasks for advancement, but also actively demonstrate Scout Spirit towards their fellow scouts. It is easy to recognize a scout who lives a life built on the Scout Oath and Law.

How the Colonial District supports the Scouting program for our units:

- **Runs week long Day Camp for 300 Cub Scouts, largest in NCAC.**
- **Runs Merit Badge Jamboree for Boy Scouts – over 400 merit badges completed every February at one-day event.**
- **Runs district-wide Pinewood Derby for Cub Scouts.**
- **Organizes Fall and Spring weekend Camporees for Boy Scouts and a weekend Fall Webelos-Ree for older Cub Scouts.**
- **Provides extensive high quality training at all levels for adult leaders continuously throughout the year.**
- **Conducts monthly roundtable discussions for Scouters.**
- **Unit Commissioners provide information and guidance to unit leaders via on-site visits.**
- **Eagle Committee and Advancement Comm. provide guidance.**
- **Raises substantial funding for Scouting through our Friends of Scouting campaign and our coordination of popcorn sales**.

It is a great privilege to serve as a Scouter andto be part of the Boy Scouts of America. Sign up as a volunteer, get trained, and have one of the most rewarding experiences of your life by guiding youth to become outstanding leaders of tomorrow. And get active in the Colonial District!

Yours in Scouting,
Henry Ruempler
Colonial District Chair
shruempler@gmail.com
703-971-3532