THE BLUE BLAZE

Newsletter of the Catoctin Mountain District (Est. June 3, 2003) **February 2008 Vol. 6 No. 2**
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Upcoming Events

February

18	Inter-Troop Volleyball Competition; contact Shawn Youngberg (240-344-7733) shawnyoungberg@comcast.net , see flier page 7
23	University of Scouting
26	District Committee Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
27	Eagle Review

March

1	**Recharter Turn In/ Super Derby**
7-9	Wilderness First Aid Course
8	New Leader Essentials, Cub Scout Leader Specific Training, Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (Parts 1-3), Troop Committee Challenge Training FO
11	Roundtable/OA 7:15pm, old St. John's School, 144 E. 2nd St. Frederick
11	Climb On Safety Training, Boy Leader Specific Training (Part 3), Merit Badge Counselor Training CMD
11	Cubmaster and Pack Committee Member Training AT
13	Commissioner's Meeting 7:30pm Walkersville LDS Chapel
15	**Super Training Day**: New Leader Essentials, Cub Scout Leader Specific Training, Tiger Den Leader Specific Training, Cub Scout Den Leader Specific Training, Webelos Den Leader Specific Training, Pack Committee Leader Specific Training, Cubmaster Leader Specific Training, Venturing Leader Specific Training, Varsity Leader Specific Training, Chartered Organization Representative Training CMD
15	**First Aid Meet**
25	District Committee Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
26	Eagle Review
28	New Leader Essentials AT
29	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (Parts 1-3) AT

April

8	Roundtable/OA 7:15pm, old St. John's School, 144 E. 2nd St. Frederick
8	Trek Safety CMD, Troop Committee Challenge CMD, Webelos Den Leader Specific CMD
8	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training Part 3 AT
10	Commissioner's Meeting 7:30pm Walkersville LDS Chapel
11-13	Spring Camporee
12	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training Parts 1-3 CMD
12	Merit Badge Madness AT (see article page 5)
18	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training AT
19	BALOO AT
19-20	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training FO
22	District Annual Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
25-27	OA Ordeal
25-27	Wood Badge Part 1
26	BALOO FO

You are welcome to take training in any District

Note: This calendar references training in all the Districts of the MD North Service Area. The codes are as follows: CMD = Catoctin Mountain District, AT = Appalachian Trail District, FO = Forest Oak District and BH = Black Hill District. For more information, visit http://www.boyScouts-ncac.org/pages/20893_montgomery_frederick_county_training.cfm

District Key 3 Leadership

Tim Richardson, District Director Htrichardson@boyscouts-ncac.orgH , 301-529-6188
Ed Clayson, District Chairman, Heclays@fred.netH 301-845-2015
Steve Vaughn, District Commissioner, Hstevendvaughn@aol.comH, 301-898-5521

Recharter Turn In/Super Derby

Make sure that March 1st is marked on your unit calendar. It is the day that you will turn in your unit Recharter packet AND you will have the opportunity to watch the spectacular Super Derby where the fastest cars in our District will compete. The location for these two exciting events is the Monocacy Valley Church, 9861 Old National Pike, Ijamsville, MD 301/865-9100. The following link gives directions to the church. http://www.mvcnow.org. The Recharter Turn In will begin at 9am.

The following is the schedule for the Super Derby:
February 29th, 2008
7:00-9:00 pm Pre Check-In.
6:00-9:00 pm site setup
March 1st, 2008
9:00am to 12:00 Noon. Final Check-In
RACING STARTS AT 12:30 pm
AWARDS CEREMONY to be determined based on participation.

First Aid Meet

The First Aid Meet will be held March 15 at 5:30pm. Click on the link below for details including a Tip Sheet and Registration Form.
http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/pages/88369_dual_district_first_aid_meet.cfm. Please register promptly so the committee can make sure to have the correct number of judges lined up for the meet. There will be police officers, EMT, CRT's and other emergency medical providers acting as judges for this event. Their presence will provide a good opportunity for the Scouts to interact with professional EMS providers and perhaps get some ideas for future career paths. Since these professionals come to the meet on their own time, we must be mindful to utilize that time well, please register early.

Spring Camporee by Dave Place, Camporee Chairman

Troop 270 of Thurmont would like to invite all Troops and Crews within the Catoctin Mountain District to attend the 2008 Spring Camporee. The scouts have spent a full year preparing and planning this Camporee, including hand crafting the "Super Troop" competition trophy! (See the Leader's Packet). This year's theme is "Field and Country Sports" including field archery, .22 rifle shooting, shotgun/skeet shooting, [cowboy rifle and pistol shooting (14+ w/parental permission)], bass fishing contest, compass and GPS Geocaching contest, falconry hunting demo, outdoor cooking hands-on, campsite contests and don't forget the Order of the Arrow campfire and call out. Come and join us for this action packed fun and exciting weekend!

The Leader's Packet for the 2008 Catoctin Mountain District Spring Camporee went out in an earlier mailing. This packet should explain most everything you will need to know to prepare your Troop or Crew for the Camporee. If you should have any questions what-so-ever, please feel free to contact me david.place@Troop270.com .

Bowling Tournament Results

The Catoctin Mountain District held the fourth annual Boy Scout bowling tournament at TerraceLanes on December 27, 2007. Six Troops for a total of 38 Scouts participated. Each Scout was able to play two games and receive a behind the scenes tour of the bowling alley. The Troops placed in the following order: 1st - 274, 2nd - 727, 3rd - 1062, 4th - 324, 5th - 1998, 6th - 799.
The top four individual bowlers were:

1st	Jeff Small	Troop 274
2nd	Andrew Leishman	Troop 274
3rd	Tyler Wright	Troop 1998
4th	Jeff Shiderly	Troop 1062

Special thanks to Larry Boyd for his help in the success of this event.

The Training Corner

by Damon Allen

Attention All Scouters, Upcoming Training Events…

Roundtable Trainings

Boy Scout Leaders Specific Training Part III will be offered at the March Roundtable on Tuesday **March 11, 2008** at the St. Johns School on 2nd Street. The training begins at 6:00 and should end around 9:00. The classroom will be close to the location of the Cub and Boy Scout Roundtables. There is no cost for this training.

For more information and to sign up, contact Damon Allen, the Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net.

Troop Committee Challenge will be offered at the April Roundtable on Tuesday **April 8, 2008** at the St. Johns School on 2nd Street. The training will begin at 6:00 and will finish around 9:00. The class will be held near the Cub and Boy Scout Roundtables. The cost of the training will be determined next month and this is an excellent opportunity for all Committee members of any Troop to interact with one another and to share experiences.

For more information and to sign up, contact Damon Allen, the Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net.

Leave No Trace Training will be offered at the May Roundtable on Tuesday **May 13, 2008** at the St. Johns School on 2nd Street. This course will teach any Scout Leader the basics of practicing Leave No Trace. Therefore, ***all*** scout leaders are welcomed to attend this course. This course will be offered by demand so please contact Damon Allen, the Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net and/or Colby Child, the District Training Chair at cchild@rcgoodwin.com if you are interested in taking the course.

Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (BSLST)

On Saturday **April 12**, during and at the Spring Camporee, the Catoctin Mountain Boy Scout Training Staff will conduct the BSLST Parts I, II, and III. All new and untrained Scout Leaders are encouraged to attend the training while at the Camporee. The schedule and details will be posted on the March and April Blue Blaze. The cost has yet to be determined.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Course (IOLSC)

The Appalachian Trail District is planning to hold the IOLSC in the spring of 2008. The time, location, and cost will be determined at a late date. For more information about the course, you can contact Damon Allen, the Catoctin Mountain District Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net. You can also contact Hal Noer, the Appalachian Trail District Boy Scout Training Chairman at hnre@xecu.net.

Unit Commissioner Training

The Catoctin Mountain District Training Staff is planning to hold a Unit Commissioner Training Course in April of 2008, the exact date and location will be determined by next month.

My Boots – My friend

By H. H. "Jim" Robbins, Jr.

I was born in one of your manufacturing companies and shipped to the Trail House in Frederick, Maryland many years ago. I was purchased by a Scouter who loved the outdoors and still does. He treated me with great respect in "breaking" me in to hiking. He took me on short walks first, then longer walks, then short day hikes, then longer day hikes, then overnighters and then on week long hikes. We had great fun and enjoyed each others company and saw wonderful areas of America. We hiked in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, Colorado, Alaska, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico. Along the Application Trail and a hike into the Grand Canyon, from North to South, and we forged many rivers and streams together.

My last hike was with my owner, his son and grandson in the Catoctin Mountains to the Thurmont Vista. A short hike but really a long one for my owner. You see we had not done much hiking for the last 3 years and it was a sad time for me. He had a heart attack, then a triple by-pass, and finally an ICD (implantable cardioverter defibrillator) and we were just returning to me taking him on short walks, longer walks and short day hikes. Then it happened, on our hike to the Thurmont Vista! As we were returning I had a "blow out" and could barely make it to the car. Unlike my owner, who is now able to enjoy the outdoors again, my ailment was and is not correctable. We had many great times together, enjoyed laughter and tears, had many great talks and met many wonderful people along the trails, but most of all I will miss my friend of so many years.

Free Blue&Gold Banquet Placemats

BLUE & GOLD BANQUET PLACEMATS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR FREE!

NOTICE: To all Pack Leaders and Blue and Gold Banquet Organizers

Through a special arrangement with **Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus**, the National Capital Area Council has produced special Blue and Gold Placemats for your upcoming banquet.

Featured on these **FREE 11 inch by 17 inch placemats** are puzzles, Doc Bobcat and other figures to color, a coupon to save on tickets to the Circus, and a coupon for a free, special-edition **Cub World GLOW STICK**. To get your free placemats, contact Tim Richardson at trichardson@boyscouts-ncac.org.

Wilderness First Aid

If you plan to go to Philmont or take part in other high adventure activities, then taking a Wilderness First Aid course may be on your to do list. A Wilderness First Aid course will be offered at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD March 7-9. The cost is $107 for registered BSA members. For more information, go to www.wildsafe.com/NFA.htm. The class limit is 30 and already 15 slots have been filled. Register now!

Citizenship Merit Badge Day 2008

Get the details from this link http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/pages/61601_citizenship_merit_badge_day.cfm

Merit Badge Madness

Appalachian Trail District will be offering Merit Badge Madness (MBM) on **April 12**. Details such as location, time and cost will be announced later. It will most likely be held in Middletown (for your planning purposes). **We would like to request our neighbors in Catoctin Mountain to participate both with counselors and with Scouts.**

We need people to sign up to be Merit Badge Counselors for this event. There will be 2 class sessions - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Some badges will need to use both sessions to teach one class. Some shorter badges may only need one session.

We are hoping to offer a variety of badges especially those that may not be offered very often. Some suggested badges have been Disability Awareness, Energy and Public Speaking. We will also be offering a "Trail to First Class" session for our very young Boy Scouts.

We are requesting that people interested in teaching at this event contact us as soon as possible so we can get a feel for what we will be offering. Once we have all our counselors signed up, we'll be able to get the registration form out to the District so Scouts can start signing up to attend.

Already registered Merit Badge Counselors are welcome to sign up to offer a class AND folks not yet registered are welcome to sign up. For instance, maybe a local veterinarian doesn't want to be a merit badge counselor all the time, but is willing to teach at this event. We sign him up to be a merit badge counselor for this event *only* while asking him to continue working with his students to finish up the badge if it can't be completed at Merit Badge Madness. By the way, that was just an example. We don't have a veterinarian signed up yet. :)

Once we have our counselors signed up and we know what we are offering, we'll send out a registration form. Slots for badges will only be reserved with ***paid*** registration. Also, there will be a list of pre-requisites for each badge that boys are expected to try to complete before Merit Badge Madness. If boys complete the pre-requisites, they may walk away from MBM with a signed completed blue card. If pre-requisites are not completed, boys will walk away with partials. Keep in mind that some badges may not be able to be completed at MBM, but will have a good start.

Interested in working at this event? Email Nick Maliszewskyj at maliszewskyj@gmail.com with the following information: Your name, phone, email address, badge you would like to teach/counsel or area you would like to help with such as planning event, registration at event, lunch preparation, etc. Nick or William Lohr (District Merit Badge co-deans) will check to see if those offering to counsel merit badges are registered as counselors with the District. If they aren't, Nick or William will be contacting those folks to get them registered or their District to double check that they are registered there.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Nick Maliszewskyj at above email address or Laurie Bohanan at laurie.bohanan@hughes.net.

Thank you!

Laurie Bohanan
Vice Chair-Program, Appalachian Trail District
NCAC, Boy Scouts of America
laurie.bohanan@hughes.net
301-371-5106

Insurance Certificates for 2008

Tim Richardson, our District Director, said the new insurance certificate is not yet available from National. When it is available, it will be sent by email to all the units.

Big Sweep

I wanted to let you know about an exciting opportunity to reach out to the community AND raise money for your scout group, the BIG Sweep. Here is an overview of the **BIG Sweep** – the *Who, What, Where, When, How and Why* – with information on how your church or youth group can get involved!

Who participates in the BIG Sweep?
Volunteer Frederick coordinates the event, and hundreds of volunteers from area nonprofits, churches, civic groups, and youth groups participate in the BIG Sweep. ANY local nonprofit organization can participate in the BIG Sweep; businesses, families and other groups can put together teams and support their chosen nonprofit. Last year, almost 1200 volunteers, from 70 partnering nonprofit organizations took part in the event.

What is the BIG Sweep?
The BIG Sweep is a county-wide clean up AND fundraiser for local nonprofits. It is structured like a walk-a-thon, but instead of walking, groups agree to pick up trash from a Frederick County of City roadside or dumpsite. Volunteer Frederick:

- Provides all supplies (trash and recycling bags, gloves, safety vests, signs, maps and the Kick-Off Breakfast)
- Coordinates with the city and county to provide trash pick up
- Markets the event, provides training classes for team leaders, youth leadership workshops (dates to be announced) and fundraising assistance

Volunteer Frederick keeps 25% of the funds collected to cover the cost of administering the event – the remaining 75% is returned to you. (The top three fundraising organizations keep a higher percentage: third place 80%, second place 85%, and first place 90%.)

Where is the BIG Sweep held?
Clean up sites – you can choose your own county or city road or pick one from a list provided by Volunteer Frederick – are located all over Frederick County and the City of Frederick. Supplies will be available at Martin's of Walkersville, at the Walkersville Fire Hall.

When does the **BIG Sweep** take place?
The BIG Sweep will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2008. Supplies will be available at Martin's beforehand for pickup. Most people clean up their sites on Saturday morning, but teams can clean up their site anytime before Monday morning.

Why participate in the BIG Sweep?
Volunteer Frederick will take care of all of the details: we coordinate and market the event, provide training, fundraising assistance and all supplies (including a kick-off breakfast). And, unlike most a-thons, you'll be providing a valuable community service even as you raise funds for your nonprofit organization.

How can your organization get involved?
If you'd like to participate in the BIG Sweep, register your organization by filling out a PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT (one is in the packet attached). After registration, your team will receive e-mails about upcoming training sessions. Your team will need to send the team leader to one of the training sessions offered.

Please take a few moments and look over the attached document. It contains the forms you need to get your BIG Sweep team started. All other forms, including the participation agreement and training manual, plus a lot more information will be available on our website - www.thebigsweep.org very soon. You may also call 301-663-5214 ext. #2 or email AprilB@volunteerfrederick.org for more information

We look forward to hearing from you!

April Brohawn
AmeriCorps*VISTA
Youth At-Risk - Youth Service Coordinator
Volunteer Frederick
phone: 301.663.5214 x2#
fax: 301.663.0355 AprilB@volunteerfrederick.org ,www.VolunteerFrederick.org

Catoctin Mountain District

Cub Scout Leader
Training Extravaganza

Saturday, March 15, 2008

8:00 – 8:30 AM: Check-In
8:30 – 11:30 AM: New Leader Essentials Training Session
Noon – 3:30 PM: Cub Scout Leader Specific Training Session
Course fee: $5.00 for each session
Lunch (pizza,salad & drink) $5, total for the day $15.00

LOCATION: *Frederick LDS Stake Center*
199 North Place, Frederick, MD. 21701

Directions:
Take Rt. 270 North to Frederick (Rt. 270 becomes Rt. 40 for a short while then it becomes Rt. 15)
Follow Rt. 15 North, take the East Patrick Street Exit into Frederick, turn right at the first light onto Norva Avenue, go one block, turn right onto Wyngate Drive, then take the next right onto North Place, the church is on the left-hand side.

In order to prepare enough materials for all sessions offered **Pre-registration is Requested**!

Prerequisite: view *Fast Start* on line, www.scouting.org/cubscouts/faststart , or the video tape or CD that was provided to each Pack. Youth Protection – can also be taken on line: www.boyscouts-ncac.org/training/YP.htm

Training Agenda

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Check-In / Gathering
8:30 - 11:30 AM	New Leader Essentials Training Session
11:30 – Noon	LUNCH BREAK (you may purchase lunch or brown bag it)
Noon - 3:30 PM	Cub Scout Leader Specific Training Session

What to bring? Wear your uniform and bring some notepaper & a pen.

REGISTRATION FORM (Please Print)

New Leader Essentials ____ $5.00
Cub Leader Specific Session: (choose only one) $5.00
Tiger Den Leader ____ Cub Den Leader (Wolf/Bear) ____ Webelos Den Leader ____ Cubmaster ____ Pack Committee Member ____
Lunch ____ $5.00
Total Enclosed _____ Please see below for check information.

Your Pack #:_____ Leadership Position: _____ District:_____

Name: (As on your registration form / no nicknames) _____

Address: _____

City: _____State: _____Zip: _____

Phone: (H)_____(W)_____

Email Address: _____

Please fill out the registration form and return it to the Marriott Scout Service Center. You can drop it off at the lobby information center desk or mail it to 9190 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20814-3897.

Make checks payable to NCAC/BSA, ***please note on bottom of check Cost Center# 253 CSLST – CMD***

Please also send your registration information to Debbie Crabb, District Cub Scout Training Chair @ mom23scouts@aol.com or call (301) 694-5353, we don't want to miss getting anyone registered! See you there! Thank You!

Cub Scout Leader Instructors Needed by Debbie Crabb, Cub Training Chairman

Additional Training Instructors are needed for the upcoming training event on March 15th. We need help covering the following sessions:

Tiger Den Leader Specific Training
Cub Den Leader Specific Training (Wolf /Bear)
Webelos Den Leader Specific Training
Cubmaster Specific Training
Pack Committee Training

Would you feel more comfortable teaching with another leader? Ask a friend to join you! I would love to see each class with two instructors, but one will always work! I have the training materials needed for the sessions, if you have the desire & energy! These sessions will run from approx. 11:30 till 3:00 PM that day.

Please contact Debbie Crabb if you would be interested in assisting with the upcoming training event. My home number is 301-694-5353 (after 5 PM) or e-mail me at mom23scouts@aol.com or dcrabb@fairchildcontrols.com
Thank you!

NAILS IN THE FENCE submitted by Jim Robbins

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His Father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence.

The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all.

He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.

The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. But it won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound will still be there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one. Remember that friends are very rare jewels, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share words of praise and they always want to open their hearts to us."