THE BLUE BLAZE

Newsletter of the Catoctin Mountain District (Est. June 3, 2003) **December 2008 Vol. 6 No. 12**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Editor: Linda Sundergill 301/898-7549 lindasundergill@comcast.net
Cub Reporter and Photographer Jim Sundergill 301/898-7549 jimsundergill@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

December

15 Friends of Scouting training for unit coordinators and presenters Trinity UM Church, Frederick 7pm
16 District Committee Meeting, 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St. Frederick
22 Popcorn Final Payment Due from Units
29 Boy Scout Bowling Tournament
31 **Silver Beaver and Award of Merit Nominations due**

January 2009

2 Venture Leader Specific Training details to be announced
10 OA Lodge Banquet
13 Roundtable/OA 7:15pm old St. John's School, 114 E 2nd St. Frederick
13 Cubmaster Leader Specific Training at Roundtable, contact cubpack570@hotmail.com
13 Boy Scout Leader Specific Training part 2 at Roundtable, contact allenonthelake@comcast.net
15 Commissioner's Meeting, 7:30pm LDS Chapel, Walkersville
19 Inter-troop Basketball tournament
21 Popcorn District Kernel Recognition Dinner
24 Commissioner's College
27 District Committee Meeting, 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St. Frederick
28 Eagle Review
31 Trainer Development Course at Marriott Scout Service Center, contact allenonthelake@comcast.net

February

1 Scout Sunday
7 Scout Sabbath
7 Scouter Breakfast
8 Scouting Anniversary Day
10 Roundtable/OA 7:15pm old St. John's School, 114 E 2nd St. Frederick
10 Pack Committee Leader Specific Training at Roundtable, contact cubpack570@hotmail.com
12 Commissioner's Meeting, 7:30pm LDS Chapel, Walkersville
16 Volleyball Inter-Troop Competition
21 University of Scouting
21 College of Adventure VLST/VLSC
24 District Committee Meeting, 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St. Frederick
28 Annual Sea Scout Wardroom Dinner

You are welcome to take training in any District

For more information, visit http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=1934

District Key 3 Leadership

Tim Richardson, District Director trichardson@boyscouts-ncac.org , 240-529-6188
Ed Clayson, District Chairman, eclays@fred.net 301-845-2015
Randy Johnson, District Commissioner, walkersville.scouts@gmail.com 240-529-7363

Friends of Scouting Training

This year the Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign will be done a little differently. Each unit is asked to appoint an FOS coordinator and have that person attend a special training session **December 15th** from 7pm at Trinity United Methodist Church 705 W. Patrick St. Frederick. If you have questions, please contact Steve Vaughn at stevendvaughn@aol.com.

Membership Inventory Time

Each unit is asked to send a current roster of Scouts and leaders to either Debbie Crabb dcrabb@fairchildcontrols.com or Tim Richardson trichardson@boyscouts-ncac.org. If you have any youth applications that have not yet been turned in, please call Tim at 240-529-6188.

Child Care at Roundtable by Larry Lindner, Cubmaster Pack 1055

Effective at the January 2009 Roundtable and upon the availability of two (2) STAND-Trained adults, the nursery will be open from 7-9pm for children of those attending the Roundtable meeting at St. John's in the Community Building every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Many thanks to Mike Deegan for being the first volunteer to step up to enable the Roundtable to offer nursery during our January Roundtable.

WANTED: STAND-Trained men and women to work the nursery one time per year for 2 hours on the 2nd Tuesday of the month or men and women willing to get STAND-Trained! Please contact Larry Lindner, Cubmaster of Pack 1055, at home #301-695-1415 (or) email to: lindner1991@comcast.net.

Luminary Lighting at Resthaven from Larry Lindner, Cubmaster Pack 1055

Resthaven Memorial Gardens will be placing luminaries on all the grave sites on Saturday December 20, 2008. Pack 1055 is taking part in this activity. If any other units are interested and available to assist in this worthwhile project, please contact Larry Lindner at 301-695-1415 or email lindner1991@comcast.net.

Practical Beekeeping Course by Steve Collings

This is an **extensive** introductory course to practical beekeeping. The purpose of this course is to help prepare students to begin their first hive(s) and become responsible and successful beekeepers.

Classes will be held each Monday from 7-9 PM. Classes start February 9, 2009 and run until March 31, 2009. One day may be a "snow day." After the course is completed, and at some point in April, there will be a **field day** that will include a hands-on demonstration of how to introduce bees to their new hive, along with general hive handling skills. The date for the field day class is dependant on the weather and when bee packages will be available. The course is held at this time in order to prepare students to begin beekeeping in early April. The course will be held at the beautiful Lilypons Water Gardens located at 6800 Lily Pons Road, Adamstown, Maryland 21710**.**

The cost of the course is normally $100 per family unit of two. **I'm offering a discounted price of $75 to members of the BSA. Just mention that you are a BSA member when you do the Google Checkout and I'll refund the $25 to your account.** Included in the course fees is a comprehensive CD that includes the class lectures, handouts, and lots of helpful tips. Also included are several great beginner beekeeping books. The course is similar in level and intensity to a college lecture format - without all the boring homework! The class is **specifically** geared towards creating successful beekeepers. The course is designed around using traditional Langstroth hives with an additional emphasis on keeping bees in top-bar hives.

Children - We welcome young students ages 9 and older to the wonderful world of beekeeping! They make the best beekeepers (smile). However, if you are planning to bring one or more of your children, please consider the course format level and the time they will need to sit relatively quiet (2 hours). There will be plenty of opportunities for questions and socializing with other beekeepers before and after each class. We are very lucky to have Billy Davis as the primary instructor of the course. Mr. Davis is a highly sought after speaker and instructor. He is an EAS Certified Master Beekeeper, which number only around 150. At the age of nine, he began his lifelong interest with bees while working with his grandfather. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge along with a great sense of humor to each of his classes.

Please contact Steve Collings with any questions at Steve@HoneyBeeHabitat.com. Registration is handled online at www.HoneyBeeHabitat.com.

Scouts, get this Coleman® Survival Tool by selling just one Trail's End® item online.

Sale dates Dec. 1-Dec. 28

National Capital Area Council

Selling online is soooo easy!

All you do is...

1. Send emails to friends and family anywhere in the U.S. (except Alaska and Hawaii).
2. Tell them to go to www.orderpopcorn.com and enter this code where it asks for the "Scout's Order Key" _____.
3. Now, they're ready to buy something nice for the holidays. When they do, you and your Pack or Troop earn income!

These scrumptious Trail's End treats make fantastic holiday gifts.
All Trail's End items are available online.

Support our military
Buy popcorn for the troops.

Chocolate Lovers

Cheese Lovers

Gourmet Caramel Corn with Almonds & Pecans

All online sales will count towards the Council's Top Seller incentives:
- Top seller day at Camp Snyder
- Free week of camp at an NCAC camp

Plus, online sales will count towards the Trail's End National prizes
- Sell $1,500 and receive a $50 gift card
- Scholarship program

Trail's End®
America's Best Popcorn

www.boyscouts-ncac.org

www.trails-end.com

SUPPORT SCOUTING
OrderPopcorn.com
YEAR ROUND

GET PREPARED

For the

6th Annual

Appalachian Trail & Catoctin Mountain

Dual District

FIRST AID MEET

A Traditional Knowledge & Skills Competition

5:30pm - March 21, 2009 (please note date change)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Frederick Stake Center Gym, Frederick, MD.

SCOUTERS START GETTING YOUR TROOP
PREPARED NOW

ALL Materials &Questions Drawn from Current BSA Handbook and 2007 Edition First Aid Merit Badge Book

JUDGES ARE ALL EMERGENCY CARE RESPONDERS*:*
Including: Military Medics, Fire Department EMT's & Paramedics, Police, ER Nurses and Doctors

Don't wait – The Top Competing Patrols Start Reviewing and Practicing the BSA First Aid Skills Soon……

BE PREPARED

OA Lodge Banquet

The January 10th OA Lodge Banquet online registration is now active. There are links on the NCAC home page and the OA Lodge pages (under Camps). Up to 6 people may be registered at the same time using a credit card. There is also a mail-in registration option. The registration deadline is Jan. 4th.

LINKS

EVENT PAGE: OA Lodge Banquet, 1/10/2009 8:30:00 AM
http://www.doubleknot.com/Registration/CalendarDetail.asp?orgkey=370&activitykey=494360

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS PAGE: Activity(s) Capacity Page
http://www.doubleknot.com/openrosters/ViewActivitySpaceAvailable.asp?orgkey=370&activitykey=494360

University of Scouting

Saturday February 21, 2009

Hayfield Secondary School
7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA

Cost: $20.00
($30 after February 17th)

The University of Scouting is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult volunteer Scouters in the National Capital Area Council. The University has five program areas:

1. **College of Cub Scouting** – wide variety of courses from pack administration to planning for an outdoor program to help build a top-notch pack!
2. **College of Boy Scouting** – exciting range of troop, patrol and outdoor planning courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience!
3. **College of Adventure Scouting** (Venturing, Varsity, Sea Scouting) – courses on Scouting's "senior" level programs to create an active high adventure experience!
4. **Electives Program** – "general studies" courses that cut across all BSA programs!
5. **Standalone Courses** – all-day sessions that are BSA national syllabus courses such as BALOO, Varsity Coach Leader Specific Training, Venturing Leader Specific, and Venturing Leadership Skills Course for youth and adults!

What's New?

- Sea Scout Leader Specialized Training
- Varsity Leader Specific
- NYLT Scoutmaster Orientation

Something for every Scout leader!

All sessions offer Scouters enhanced training opportunities beyond New Leader Essentials.

Scouter's Challenge
Encourage someone new within your district to sign up. Remember, a **trained** Scouter is a **happy** Scouter.

Expand your knowledge and try something new!

Registration information and course details will be available in January at
http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org

A Scout is Thrifty – carpooling is encouraged.
Scout uniform is appropriate attire.
Bring your own lunch.

See you there!

Note: Popcorn Training will be offered at University of Scouting

New Super Derby Rules

The new Super Derby rules are available on our District Website at www.boyscouts-ncac.org/catoctinmountain under District News Items- Cub Scouts or by clicking on the link below:
http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=20672&orgkey=2009 . The date for the Super Derby is March 7, 2009. The location is to be announced.

Jamboree 2010

Don't miss the 2010 Jamboree. It will be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of Scouting in the US and will be the last Jamboree to be held at Fort AP Hill, VA. Click on the link below for full details and registration information.
http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=23554&orgkey=1988

Attention All Den Chiefs:

On January 13th 2008 there will be a Den Chief Roundtable. It will take place at the beginning of the regular monthly Roundtable.

It will start at 7:00 pm and go till about 7:30 at
Old St. John's School 114 E. 2nd St. Frederick, MD 21701

Through this monthly Roundtable we will accomplish the following:

- We will discuss activities that follow the Cub Scout monthly themes
- Games you can play with your den
- Skits
- Songs
- Snacks
- And many more….

If you are a Den Chief in the Catoctin Mountain District or Appalachian Trail District, please call Patrick O'Connor at 301-845-6291 or e-mail me at:
Pro-Scout@comcast.net or **docor@comcast.net**

Please contact me and please make time to come. We need participation in order to have this roundtable event.
See you January 13th 2008. P.S my table is the first table on the left.

Al Miller in ICU

Al Miller, co-founder of the Frederick County First Aid Meet and Camp Airy is in the hospital again. His wife said he will probably be in ICU at FMH for a few more days but when he moves to a regular room, he would appreciate visitors. The best thing to do is call the hospital first to find out where he is before visiting. Please keep Al and his family in your prayers.

High Adventure Program Summaries as of December 5, 2008

The following are summaries of the high adventure programs most closely monitored by the National Capitol Area Council (NCAC) High Adventure Committee (HAC) and other high adventure opportunities offered by NCAC and its districts. Scholarships are available for deserving Scouts. To obtain additional information on these programs or to get updated information, check the NCAC High Adventure website at http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure. A current copy of this document is available at http://www.troop638.net. The HAC hosts a bulletin board at http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=19308&orgkey=1988 for crews to post notices looking for scouts and Scouters to join a high adventure crew or for individuals looking for a high adventure crew to join.

Lenhok'sin High Adventure - Sponsored by NCAC and located at the Goshen Scout Reservation in Goshen, VA. Must be 13 or older by date of participation. Four, seven, and ten-day backpacking treks with optional outpost programs of Foxfire, Lumberjack, Rock Climbing, Mountain Man, Native America, Mountain Biking, Caving, Civil War, Primitive, Wild West, Aquatics, Shooting Sports, and COPE n' Rope. There is also a 2 to 5-day James River canoe trip option. No guide is provided, but high adventure camping techniques are reviewed. Crew size is from 7 to 12 including at least 2 adults. The cost for 2009 is $250 to $510 per youth and $190 to $370 per adult depending on length of trek (with discounts for early payment) plus travel. A $50 deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.lenhoksin.org. Unit-based crew space for the 2009 summer season should be available through May and 2009 provisional space for individual youth is available.

Adirondack High Adventure Area – Several BSA councils sponsor high adventure trek programs in the Adirondack State Park in upstate NY. See http://www.adirondackcampsbsa.org. For the Otetiana Council program, participants must be 13 or older by January 1 of the year of participation. Seven-day itineraries from easy to strenuous. Itineraries, including backpacking or canoeing or a combination of the two, originate at Massawepie Scout Reservation in the park. A guide is provided and the maximum crew size is limited to 8 or 12 depending on the trek including the guide and at least 1 adult. The cost for the 2009 summer season is $350 per person plus travel. A $200 deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.otetiana.org/treks/index.php. Unit-based crew space for the 2009 summer season should be available through May. For the Hiawatha-Seaway Council program, see http://www.asccamps.org. For Revolutionary Trails Council, see http://www.adkventures.org and http://www.rtcbsa.org. For Westchester Putnam Council, see http://www.wpcbsa.org/summitbase. For Northern New Jersey Council, see http://www.nnjbsa.org.

Maine High Adventure Area - Sponsored by Katahdin Area Council and located at the Matagamon High Adventure Base at the north entrance to Baxter State Park in northern ME. Must be 13 or older by January 1 of the year of participation. Minimum 6-day itineraries from easy to strenuous. Itineraries are flexible and may include floatplane access, wilderness or developed campsites, whitewater or flatwater canoeing, hiking in Baxter State Park, backpacking on the Appalachian Trail, or any combination of these. A guide is provided and the required crew size is from 8 to 12 including the guide and at least 1 adult. The cost for the 2009 summer season is $59 to $75 per person per day plus extras and travel depending of the length of trek and number of people. A $500 deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.mainehighadventure.org/. Unit-based crew space for the 2009 summer season should be available through May. Maine has provisional opportunities for individuals.

Northern Tier High Adventure Bases - Sponsored by BSA and located at Ely, MN; Atikokan, Ontario; and Bissett, Manitoba. Must be 13 or older by date of participation. Itineraries consist of 6 to 10-days of wilderness canoeing and rugged portaging. Float plane access at Bissett only. A guide is provided and the maximum crew size is limited to 9 or 12 depending on the trek including the guide and at least 2 adults. The cost for the 2009 summer season is $50 to $57 per person per day plus extras and travel. A $300 deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.ntier.org. Unit-based crew space for 2009 should be available through May. Reservations for 2010 start on April 1, 2009. The number to call for a reservation is (218) 365-4811. The Order of the Arrow offers trail crew opportunities for volunteer work followed by a trek. Winter Okpik programs are offered at Ely, MN.

Philmont Scout Ranch - Sponsored by BSA and located in the Rocky Mountains of northeastern NM. Must be 14 or older by January 1 of the year of participation or have completed 8th grade and be at least 13 prior to participation. Twelve-day programs with moderate to very strenuous itineraries. Itineraries consist of 11 days of backpacking with optional programs in mountain biking, rock climbing, horseback riding, archeology, black powder rifle, blacksmithing, burro packing, logging events, environmental awareness, fishing, geology, gold panning, homesteading, native American, and rifle and shotgun shooting. A guide is provided for the first 3 days and the required crew size is from 7 to 12 including at least 2 adults. The cost for the 2009 summer expedition season is $595 per person plus travel. Alternate programs in horseback riding, conservation, trail crew, and winter camping are available. For more information, see

http://www.scouting.org/HighAdventure/Philmont/Camping.aspx. Pat Golden (pgolden@boyscouts-ncna.org or 301-214-9105) is maintaining unit-crew and provisional waiting lists for the 2009 NCAC contingents P701 (6/29-7/13), P707 (7/5-19), and P714 (7/12-26) at a cost per person of about $1560 including transportation. See http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure for applications and current status of these contingents. Philmont conducted a web-based lottery for the 2010 summer season in November 2008. NCAC will conduct a lottery for 2010 unit-based crews (12 maximum per unit) in May 2009 and will also have space for provisional individuals on 2010 NCAC contingents until October 9, 2009 when these spaces are made available for unit-based crews.

Double H Ranch - Philmont sponsors a program at the Double H Ranch in west central NM. Must be 14 or older by January 1 of the year of participation or have completed 8th grade and be at least 13 prior to participation. Seven-day programs with moderate to very strenuous itineraries. Itineraries consist of 7 days of backpacking with advanced GPS and land navigation skills, leave no trace principles, black powder shooting, astronomy, challenge events, conservation projects, teambuilding, and geocaching. A guide is provided and the required crew size is from 7 to 12 including at least 2 adults. The cost for the 2009 summer expedition season is $395 per person plus travel. For more information, see http://www.scouting.org/highadventure/philmont/doublehranch.aspx. For space availability, contact Double H Ranch at (505) 376-2281 or doubleh@philmontscoutranch.org. This program will not be available in 2010.

Florida Sea Base - Sponsored by BSA and located on Matecumbe Key 75 miles south of Miami, FL. Must be 14 or older by September 1 of the year of participation. Seven-day programs including coral reef sailing, sea exploring, Bahamas adventure, Bahamas tall ship adventure, Keys adventure, out island adventure, scuba adventure, scuba certification, and scuba live aboard. A guide is provided and the maximum crew size is limited from 8 to 22 depending on the program including at least 1 adult. The cost for the 2009 spring, summer, and Christmas seasons vary according to program from $670 to $1060 per person plus travel. A $100 per person nonrefundable deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.bsaseabase.org. Limited unit-based crew space for 2009 is available. Pat Golden (pgolden@boyscouts-ncna.org or 301-214-9105) is maintaining a provisional waiting list for a 2009 NCAC provisional Sea Exploring Adventure S706 (7/6-13) at a cost per person of about $1400 including transportation. See http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/highadventure for applications and current status of this contingent. A web-based lottery for 2010 will be held January 15 through February 15, 2009.

V3 Hike-o-ree - Sponsored by NCAC and located at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, Front Royal, VA. Must be 13 or older by January 1 of the year after participation. A three-day program, probably November 6-8, 2009, includes a Friday night opening program, Saturday 10-mile hike ranging from moderate to super strenuous, Saturday night high adventure rally, and Sunday morning service project. Maximum crew size is 12 including at least 2 adults. Crews are required to use high adventure camping techniques. Experienced advisors are available for inexperienced crews. The 2008 cost was $15.00 per person. A $60 crew deposit is required with an application. For more information, see http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/DocDownload.asp?orgkey=370&id=28866; contact Bob Austin at 703-425-9675 (home), 703-318-4581 (work) or bob.austin@verizon.net; or contact Adair Petty at 703-607-2190 (work) or ppetty1@cox.net.

Merit Badge Changes submitted by Rich Golling

January 1, 2009 the new merit badge changes become effective so be sure you and your Scouts are up to date. Unit Advancement Chairpersons, be sure your Scouts are working to the latest requirements. Here is a convenient website that summarizes the changes for 2009: http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/mb/mbbooks.asp

Holiday Greetings from Jim and Linda Sundergill

We wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and thank you for all the good things you do for Scouting and the youth of our community. Please click on the link below to see a special holiday ecard we have prepared for you.
http://www.bluemountain.com/view.pd?i=200821125&m=8999&rr=y&source=bma999