



Scouters' News

December 2016 Volume 40 Issue 12

Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America, Akron, Ohio

Great Trail Council merges with Greater Western Reserve Council

The first quarter of the new year will be the start of an exciting new era for the Boy Scouts of America in Northeast Ohio. The BSA has enjoyed a long and rich history locally and is pleased to announce that the volunteer leaders of five area councils voted this month to consolidate to three councils by early 2017. The five area councils—the Great Trail Council, in Akron; the Greater Cleveland Council, in Cleveland; the Greater Western Reserve Council, in Warren; the Heart of Ohio Council, in Mansfield; and the Buckeye Council in Canton—will pare down to three to focus Scouting's resources towards our mission of providing the area's foremost youth program of character development and values-based leadership. The remaining three councils will be comprised of:

- The Great Trail Council (Akron), encompassing the Akron, Warren and Youngstown communities;
- The Buckeye Council (Canton), with boundaries stretching from the Marion/Mansfield area to the eastern border of Ohio, along Route 30;
- Greater Cleveland Council (Cleveland), will be formed along Lake Erie from Ashtabula County to Erie County, incorporating the City of Cleveland.

“Many factors go into the decision to realign councils, and the most important consideration is how we can best deliver Scouting to these communities,” said Mike Jones, Akron Scout Executive. “Our priority is to provide a strong Scouting program for more than 36,000 youth we serve across Northeast Ohio—and we can better accomplish this with these five councils operating in a different manner.”

“The new structure will provide enhanced opportunities for our Scouts, more resources to recruit and support additional youth members and adult leaders, and far more opportunity to be innovative in making Scouting strong,” said Rev. David Weyrick, NE Area 4 Chair.

There are exciting changes ahead and volunteer leadership across the councils is working to ensure a seamless transition for Scouts, parents, leaders, and local volunteers. Our intent is programming and camping opportunities will remain the same for 2017, while the new council structures are being formatted and leadership has the opportunity to evaluate all programs for 2018 and beyond. Camp Manatoc and Butler will continue to be the premier summer camp operations for Akron, Great Trail Council and adding Camp Stambaugh in Youngstown as a weekend facility for troops in NE Ohio.

Pecatonica River Popcorn Sale

Council Popcorn Chair Terry Hogan is pleased to announce that the Scouts in Great Trail Council sold over 1.5 million dollars worth of popcorn!

There is popcorn available at the Scout Service Center on a first come, first served basis. It makes an awesome holiday gift!

Look for top sellers and a complete breakdown of the sale in the January *Scouters' News*.

Don't forget that all popcorn payments are due to the council by Monday, December 5.

University of Scouting—March 4

The 2017 University of Scouting will be held on Saturday, March 4, at Ravenna High School.

What is it?

The University of Scouting is the largest supplemental training course offered by Great Trail Council to Scouting volunteers at all levels. During this fun-filled day, experienced volunteer leaders will present programs to help you improve your skills and expand your knowledge. You will also meet other leaders, gather new resources, and share ideas on building the best possible program for your Scouts.

Who should attend?

Adults are invited to attend the college or colleges of their choice. Wear your uniform, if you have one. You may want to bring a notebook, camera, tape recorder, good will and a smile!

Online registration and class info will be available in January at <https://scoutingevent.com/433-uos2017>.

Fall round-up—a huge success!



Council Vice President of Membership Brian Pollak is pleased to announce, after preliminary reports from the districts, that the Great Trail Council recruited more than 1,500 new youth and their families to Scouting.

As the fall round-up season draws to a close, we hope your pack/troop has been able to extend the opportunity to families in your community to join the wonderful world of Scouting. If not, there remains time to conduct an open house, pack/troop rally night, school assembly or boy talks to encourage youngsters and their families to join. Please turn in all of your youth applications by December 16 so that all of your youth are registered members of the BSA!

Thanks to all the leaders and district membership teams for making our fall round-up a success.

Council Information

What “Journey to Excellence” brings to your unit



1. A framework for planning the year.
 - The Journey to Excellence standards are based on what successful units do to continually improve.
 - If your unit plans to achieve Gold or Silver Journey to Excellence, you'll have a strong and active program.
2. A method for evaluating your unit.
 - Journey to Excellence provides tangible measurements based on things you are likely already tracking, such as how many campouts you have, how many youth are advancing, etc., and uses simple ways to calculate your performance.
3. Guidance in areas where you might do better.
 - As you track your performance against the Journey to Excellence standards you can easily see where you could do better.
4. Specific guidelines and standards of what is considered good performance.
 - Journey to Excellence has specific, simple measures to help you. You can easily compare what you are doing against the standards.
5. Early warning of potential problem areas.
 - You track any areas where your unit is not performing as you might like and have plenty of time to make corrections.
6. Recognition for good Scouting.
 - You can proudly receive your Bronze, Silver, or Gold recognition for your Scouting unit for the year.
7. Benchmarking to get ideas and tips from other good units.
 - You can receive help and best practices in areas where other units have met the gold standard.
 - In areas where you are doing well, you can give help and ideas to other units.

Forms are due at your district's recharter turn-in. Call your commissioner for help. All unit committees should review Journey to Excellence annually.

Record your service projects for JTE

To report and document service hours for your unit, please log into your My.Scouting account located at www.my.scouting.org. Once in your My.Scouting account, go to the left hand side under Unit Tools and click on the Service Hours Reporting tab. Once that screen comes up, you will click the New Users tab. If you do not have your unit ID or local unit number please contact the Scout Service Center at 330-773-0415.

District coordinated recharter plan

We do this to simplify the rechartering process, strengthen the units/districts and improve commissioner service.

Units will all recharter by district during the same month:

Tri-Fires.....	January
Venturing.....	December
Pathfinder.....	January
Moecomdws.....	February
Lakes.....	February
Old Portage.....	March
Chippewa.....	March
Seneca.....	January

- ◆ **90 days before unit recharter**—District executive meets with head of the chartered organization to renew the Scouting relationship.
- ◆ **60 days before unit recharter**—District and commissioner staff hold an informational meeting, recharter kits are distributed, units are trained on the rechartering process, and a JTE unit review is conducted.
- ◆ **45 days before unit recharter**—Unit leaders, unit commissioners, and chartered organization head identify youth and adults to reregister, forms are completed, and fees collected.
- ◆ **Note: The executive officer of the chartered organization approves all volunteers and the unit leader certifies the youth to be registered.** The executive officer and unit leader sign the charter. The unit also does a JTE review.
- ◆ **15 days before unit recharter**—The commissioner or unit committee submit the complete charter renewal application and the JTE form to the Scout Service Center.
- ◆ **30 days after charter renewal**—A formal presentation of the new charter and membership certificates is made at an appropriate gathering of the chartered organization.

Council Information

Youth Protection Training update

- Youth Protection Training is required every two years for all registered BSA volunteers, regardless of their position;
- New leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training before submitting an application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time the application is made and before volunteer service begins;
- Youth Protection Training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's training record is not current at the time of recharter, the volunteer will not be reregistered;
- This training is available at <https://my.scouting.org>. If you don't have internet access the council has set up a computer to enable volunteers to complete their training during any visit to the Scout Service Center.

2017 Wood Badge & NYLT Scholarship Dinner

Calling all Wood Badgers and past NYLT participants! Please join us for the 28th Annual Wood Badge and NYLT Scholarship Dinner. We will be gathering on Sunday, February 19, at 12:30 p.m., at St. Paul Catholic Church (1580 Brown St., Akron) to celebrate and raise funds for future Great Trail Council Wood Badge and NYLT participants.

Registration can be done online at:
https://scoutingevent.com/433-WBNYLT_dinner.

Breakfast with Santa—December 10



Don't miss this Christmas fun-tastic event at Camp Manatoc on December 10, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., at the dining hall. Cost for adults is \$8 and youth (12 and under) is \$6. Kids under 4 years old are free.

Breakfast will be prepared by our famous Lady Engineers. Bring your wish list for Santa.

Free gifts and pictures with Santa are only \$5.

Please make reservations by leaving the number attending on the answering machine at 330-657-2418 by December 8.

Retention's ten best kept secrets

1. Keep the Cub Scouts and you'll get the Boy Scouts.
 - 93% of all Boy Scouts were Cub Scouts.
 - 2/3 of our membership is in Cub Scouts.
 - We only retain 60% of Cub Scouts vs. 80% of Boy Scouts.
2. Meet within seven days of a registration.
3. Get the handbook to parents right away.
 - We know 25% of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts aren't getting handbooks.
4. Bobcat should be earned within the first two weeks of joining.
 - Only 46% of registered Cub Scouts earned Bobcat in 2014.
5. Use den chiefs.
6. Earn the Summertime Pack Award.
 - We know only 5% of packs earned it in 2014.
7. Get *Boy's Life* and *Scouting* in every home.
 - We know units with 100% *Boys' Life* have higher retention.
 - We know when it's in the home it gets read four times.
8. Insist on quality roundtables.
 - Districts with higher roundtable attendance have units which retain more boys.
 - Roundtables should be well planned, provide relative information, offer training, and fun!
9. Facebook and/or Twitter used for each unit.
 - 70% of all Americans are now on Facebook.
10. Amazing and frequent courts of honor keep your Boy Scouts on-track and enthused.

This is not the Retirement Planning Merit Badge



It's no wonder that Coin Collecting is one of the most popular merit badges. Hundreds of thousands of Scouts have discovered the thrill of learning that the nickel in their pocket is worth more than five cents. But there are better ways than coin collecting to create extra retirement income, like a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Call 330-773-0415 ext. 215 or email megan.king@scouting.org to request a copy of "Living and Giving" for more information on how you can enjoy your coin collection, but not have to live on it. Be Prepared. Great Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America.



Council Information

#1 popcorn sale in the history of Great Trail Council!

Congratulations to all of you for being a part of the #1 popcorn sale in the history of the Great Trail Council. We sold 1.5 million dollars of popcorn!

The council's popcorn website is www.gtccpopcorn.org. Final popcorn payments are due on **Monday, December 5**.

2017 Family Friends of Scouting Chairman announced



The Great Trail Council is pleased to announce that **Gregg Townsend**, assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 401, in Chippewa District, has been appointed as our 2017 Council Family Friends of Scouting Chairman. **Congratulations, Gregg!**

Remember, we want all **packs** to allow us to come to their blue & gold banquet and **troops** to their

most highly attended function in February or March. Please get your date, time, and location to your district executive as soon as possible.

2017 Family FOS Presenters Training

Help us tell the story of Scouting to all of our families and friends and give them an opportunity to support the incredible programs and facilities of the Great Trail Council.

Family Friends of Scouting presenters make 2-3 presentations to Scouting units in February and March, highlighting the incredible power of Scouting programs and how dollars raised from our campaign allows us to change lives!

Training for our 2017 Family Friends of Scouting presenters will take place on two nights and one morning at Camp Manatoc (you only need to attend one):

- * Tuesday, **January 10**—Scout Service Center—6:30 p.m.
- * Saturday, **January 14**—Camp Manatoc—10 a.m.
- * Thursday, **January 19**—Scout Service Center—6:30 p.m.

Dinner will be provided!

Questions? Contact Jody Gildersleeve at 330-773-0415 ext. 218 or jgilders@bsamail.org.

Tributes & Memorials

In Memory of: Scott Eberhart
From: Kenneth Eberhart

Eagle's Nest



	Troop	Eagle Date
Nathan Albert	385	09/28/16
Jeremy Brown	334	09/29/16
Christopher Cavoli	321	09/29/16
Marn Choy	380	10/17/16
David Cooper	265	10/24/16
William Harr	777	10/09/16
David Horak	180	10/13/16
Christopher Kuhn, II	81	10/12/16
Connor Redslob	327	10/05/16
Mitchell Seiple	172	09/28/16
Jacob Semus	503	09/29/16
Cameron Uhall	177	10/03/16
Gregory White	382	09/27/16



Council Information

From the Registration Desk...

Chartering Info

Tri-Fires and Seneca District have had their charter pick up and training. Your charter window opened on Thursday, November 10. You must have your charters turned in at the Thursday, January 12, roundtable.

In order for your charter to be processed, you must turn in the Charter Renewal Application, applications for new youth and apps, disclosure forms and YPT for new adults, YPT certificates for those needing YPT training, and money or approval to take out of your unit's store account. The renewal report e-z or the draft copy of the charter will not be accepted. Just a reminder that any required information that is not turned in will delay the processing of your charter. If you have any questions regarding your charter, please contact me as soon as possible.

Membership Cards

Membership cards for all new youth or adults that were registered by October 31, have been placed in your unit saddlebag. Any new youth or adult that was registered in your unit as a multiple will not receive a membership card. Please make sure that you pick them up at your November roundtable or come in and pick them up.

Changes in Address, Phone Numbers or Emails

If you have moved, or changed your phone number or email recently, please make sure to contact me so that I can update your file in ScoutNet. Also let your unit leader or committee chairman know of any changes.

Merit Badge Counselor List

If you are a Scoutmaster, committee chair, or troop advancement chair you are the only unit leaders to have access to the merit badge counselor list. Do not give the password out. It is the responsibility of the youth to contact one of you to get a name and phone number of a merit badge counselor. You can find the merit badge counselor list by going to

<http://www.gtcbasa.org/forms/MeritBadgeCounselorList.pdf>

and entering your password. The merit badge counselor list will be updated sometime in December. If a MBC is not on the list, contact me to verify if they will be on the new list or will need an application (page 4 & 5)

(<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-501.pdf>),

disclosure form, and MBC Information sheet

<http://www.gtcbasa.org/forms/2016MeritBadgeCounselorInfoSheet.pdf>

in order to register.

If you have any questions regarding registration, chartering, training records or internet advancements, or any of the above changes, please contact Council Registrar Pat Gaugler at 330-773-0415 ext. 210 or email pat.gaugler@scouting.org

2017 Charter Time Frame

	2017 Time Frame
Tri-Fires Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, January 12	Charter Training & Pick-up —Thursday, November 10, 2016—Roundtable, 7 p.m., Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, Tallmadge The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens November 10, 2016 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7 p.m., Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, Tallmadge
Moe Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, February 9	Charter Training & Pick-Up —Thursday, December 8, 2016—Roundtable, 7:15 p.m., St. Stephen Church The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens December 8, 2016 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, February 9, 2017, 7:15 p.m., St. Stephen Church
Lakes Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, February 9	Charter Training & Pick-Up —Thursday, December 8, 2016—Roundtable, 7 p.m., Prince of Peace Church, Barberton The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens December 8, 2016 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, February 9, 2017, 7 p.m., Prince of Peace Church, Barberton
Chippewa Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, March 9	Charter Training & Pick-Up —Thursday, January 12, 2017—Roundtable, 7 p.m., Medina United Methodist Church, Medina The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens January 12, 2017 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, March 9, 2017, Medina United Methodist Church, Medina
Old Portage Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, March 9	Charter Training & Pick-Up —Thursday, January 12, 2017—Roundtable, 7 p.m., Faith Lutheran Church, Akron The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens January 12, 2017 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, March 9, 2017, 7 p.m., Faith Lutheran Church, Akron
Seneca Charters MUST be turned in by Thursday, January 12	Charter Training & Pick-Up —Thursday, November 10, 2016—Roundtable, 7 p.m., Kent United Church of Christ, Kent The access code will be in your unit's Charter Packet. Charter window opens November 10, 2016 Recharter Turn-In Party —Roundtable, Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7 p.m., Kent United Church of Christ, Kent

Council Information

The Commissioners' Corner



The *Commissioners' Corner* is presented by the district commissioners of the Great Trail Council. Its purpose is to inform unit leaders about the role that unit commissioners play in delivering service to the units.

- By John Naizer, Chippewa District Commissioner

We would like to stress the importance of getting your charter completed promptly, and to check it completely before submittal, so that you can have a successful experience.

The system is now set up so that you can log on to the system and start the process as soon as you get your charter paperwork.

This change is important because it lessens the time between when the packets are passed out and when the process can begin. No lost or forgotten paperwork!

The number one reason for the past two years that units did not successfully complete their recharter is Youth Protection Training that is either expired or not completed. Included in every unit recharter packet is a YPT CD and a sign-in sheet used to document the training. Please take the steps necessary to get it done.

Missing YPT accounts for approximately 52% of all the charter defects in the Chippewa District (for 2014 and 2015), surprisingly it was the same for both years despite our training and urging everyone to get YPT certified. We remain optimistic that 2016/2017 will be different and are hoping the number comes down.

The other half of the defects come mainly from adult applications not being properly filled out. One of the most common issues is that the adult leader does not sign the disclosure form which is on the back of the first page; we get caught up filling out the application and forget about this page. Please check to ensure that all pages are signed and good to go.

A third issue is that a unit completely misses submittal of the charter packet to council because they are waiting on someone's application. We would like to stress that your unit doesn't need to do this. Don't wait, that individual or individuals can always have their applications processed after the unit recharter is submitted and approved. The most important thing is that the unit recharter is submitted on time and then anyone can be added after that. It gets more complicated and time consuming if the unit completely misses the charter turn-in because the unit falls off the books and has to be added again.

Take advantage of the new process, log on and get it done. If you have a question or need help, don't hesitate to contact your commissioner staff for help. Thanks, it's been a great year and we are looking forward to an awesome 2017.

Conservation—

Where the rubber meets the road

By Andrew and Bena Paisley



The health of a democratic society may be measured by the quality of functions performed by private citizens.

- Alexis de Tocqueville

"Leave No Trace is an attitude or an awareness, not a set of rules." I say that all the time to my Scouts. But how do you develop that attitude or awareness? I think at its core, it is born out of an appreciation not only for the beauty of the natural wonders that are around us but also out of gratitude for those who have gone before us and helped create access to these areas.

Philmont does a great job teaching its participants to love the land. Crew members are required to perform 3 hours of conservation work while they are there in order to earn the famous Philmont Arrowhead. If you want your crew to earn the 50 miler badge, you have to do an additional 7 hours (for a total of 10 hours) of conservation work. Philmont opened my eyes to the idea that these trails didn't just pop up out of nowhere. They were created through hard work. There are dotted lines on maps at Philmont which represent trails that my crews helped to create. I want to take care of that great resource.

How can you as a Scouter get your Scouts interested in taking care of the land? Keep doing what you're doing. Get the Scouts outside as much as possible. Talk about LNT. Have them recite the Outdoor Code from memory. Volunteer to build trails, plant native species, or eliminate invasive species. There are many opportunities to do that in our own backyard.

The Cuyahoga Valley National Park Conservancy has projects set up monthly that your Scouts can help with. So does the Cuyahoga Valley Trails Council. Usually you just need work gloves, a water bottle and a willingness to work. Are you going on a high adventure trip next year? Make it a point to earn the 50 miler badge. It's easy to get the required conservation hours if you just volunteer some time. You'll be building stepping stones for others to enjoy the park and you'll be building appreciation in the Scouts who participate.

Another idea to develop an LNT ethic that Scouts and Scouters may pursue is the William T. Hornaday award. Some say it's "the Olympic Medal bestowed by the earth." This is a highly prized award as only 1,100 people have received it in the past 80 years. It is a serious commitment of time and effort but well worth it.

Some material contained in this article as well as the LNT logo are subject to copyright protection of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics.

Tri-Fires District "Fired Up Scouting!"

District Chair Steve Schloenbach 330-376-8522
 District Commissioner Miles Hardesty 330-283-7168
 District Executive Brian Williams 330-773-0415 X 232

sschloenbach@akroncf.org
 mgh2073@att.net



Cold and snow in the forecast? Must be Klondike time!



Please remember to keep the date. The Tri-Fires 2017 Klondike will be January 13-15, at Camp Manatoc. Flyers will be put in the saddlebags. Scoutmasters and senior patrol leaders, be sure to look for more information coming to you soon!

This year's Klondike is sure to be one of our best yet! This year's event will be chaired by Ken Brown and Troop 361. Be sure to come to roundtable if you have any questions.

It's time to recharter!

Congratulations on a great fall round-up! Hopefully all registrations were turned in at roundtable or special arrangements have been made to get everything turned in on time. If you have any lingering registrations, please turn those in ASAP to ensure that the recharter process is as easy as possible. Please make sure your unit turns in everything on time. Charter turn-in is January 12, 2017 at roundtable. It is very important that you charter on time!

FOS planning for 2017 begins

As the end of the year draws near, it's time to begin planning our annual Family Friends of Scouting campaign. Please give a Tri-Fires welcome to our new Family Campaign Chair **Chris McMahon!** He will be contacting each unit to set up a presentation date. We will have a sign-up sheet starting at the December roundtable. Unit commitment flyers will be placed in each saddlebag. Please schedule your presentation as soon as possible! To schedule contact **Chris McMahon** at 330-983-4051 or chrisspack74@outlook.com.

It's not too early to think about day camp!



Are you promoting day camp? If not, you should! Day camp is the most exciting week of the year for Cub Scouts. This year Tri-Fires Day Camp will be held July 21-July 23. **Tosha Curren/Todd Mosko**

are taking over as overall day camp directors this year, and **Marnie Mellinger** will be in her second year as program director. Flyers and leader books will be in the saddlebags soon. We are in need of junior staff.

Roundtable is the place to be!

Roundtables are the second Thursday of each month at Northwest Ave. Church of Christ in Tallmadge. Roundtables start at 7 p.m., and all are welcome to attend the fun! Roundtables are an essential tool for distributing information, informal training, building excitement, and making new friends!

The meeting this month will be held on December 8. The focus of December's roundtable will be Planning and Prep for the Pinewood Derby (Cub Scouts), and Troop Elections and Klondike Prep (Boy Scouts).

December will be a very special holiday roundtable. Please bring canned good items in support of Northwest Ave. Church of Christ. Also feel free to bring your very own holiday themed cookies for a fun snack! There will be plenty of cookies to go around!

Tri-Fires District Retreat

Be sure to join us for the Annual Tri-Fires District Retreat, January 21, at 9:30 a.m., at Akron Community Foundation. This is a very important event! Come help us set up our district for success. There is also going to be a big announcement made. Any questions, call Dan Cargill at 330-631-8810 or Cargilldan@gmail.com.



December

- 1 District Commissioners Meeting—6 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
- 1 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
- 5 All popcorn money due
- 8 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
- 23 Scout Shop/office closing at 1 p.m.
- 24-27 Scout Shop/office closed
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory

Registration \$4

Boys' Life \$2

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 2 Scout Shop/office closed
- 10 Family FOS Presenters Training #1
- 12 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
- 13-15 Klondike—Camp Manatoc
- 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
- 19 Family FOS Presenters Training #2
- 21 District Retreat—9:30 a.m.—Akron Community Foundation

Registration \$2

Boys' Life N/A

Moecomdws District

“It’s A Matter Of Pride”

District Chairman Paul Schumacher 330-650-2122 paulschus@gmail.com
District Commissioner Dave Harman 234-380-5876 daveharman@yahoo.com
District Executive Wayne Nieman 330-773-0415 X 242 wnieman@bsaemail.org
District Website: www.moescouts.org



Friends of Scouting planning

As the end of the year grows near, it is time to begin planning our annual Family Friends of Scouting Fundraising Campaign. Don and Val Moffa, our District Family FOS Chairs will be contacting each unit to set up a presentation date. We will have a sign-up sheet at roundtables. All packs/troops/crews that have their presentations scheduled by the December 8 roundtable will be entered in a drawing for a certificate worth \$40 toward a cabin rental at Camp Manatoc or Camp Butler. The earlier you schedule your presentation date, the more chances you have to win. Please schedule your presentation as soon as possible. You can contact **Val Moffa** at 216-990-4412, Valmoffa@yahoo.com, or **Don Moffa** at Dmoffa@gmail.com.

Recharter orientation—December 8

Congratulations to everyone on a great fall round up. At the December roundtable we will be having our recharter orientation meeting, so please send a few extra people from your unit to the roundtable on December 8. At the recharter orientation, we will be going through the process of online rechartering as well as handing out the charter paperwork. Please make sure your unit is represented. Charter turn-in is Thursday, February 9, at roundtable.

Also, please send a copy of your unit roster to wnieman@bsaemail.org for review!

Moe Cub Bowling Day

When: Saturday, February 4, 2017

Where: Legend Lanes, 4190 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, 330-928-3794

Time: 12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per person, includes two rounds of bowling, hot dog, bag of chips, drink and bowling patch (non-bowlers may purchase lunch for \$5.00)

Deadline: January 23, 2017

RESERVATIONS ONLY – NO WALK-INS.

Questions: Contact **Ronda Roxbury** at 330-957-2386 or rondaroxbury@gmail.com

Registration forms have been put in saddlebags.



Please register as a pack and register in advance. We cannot take walk-ins. There is lots of work that needs to be done ahead of time by volunteers to make the day run as smoothly as possible.

Journey to Excellence

As we get started in the new Scouting year please remember to track your unit's Journey to Excellence. Journey to Excellence is the BSA's performance recognition program designed to encourage, reward success, and measure the performance of our units, districts, and councils. You can follow your journey at the link below.

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/commissioners/journey.aspx>

“Mad Max: Flurry Road Klondike

Mark your calendars for the 2017 Klondike Derby, January 27-29, at Camp Butler. It will be hosted by Troop 155. The theme will be “Mad Max: Flurry Road”. Emails will be sent out periodically, and you can sign up for the event at www.scouttroop155.org/flurryrd. Registering early might be to your benefit. You can also follow the Klondike on Twitter at @flurryrd, or email flurryroad@gmail.com for questions!

MAD MAX
FLURRY ROAD
TROOP 155 - KLONDIKE 2017

December

- 1 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Hudson Presbyterian Church
 - 5 Popcorn money due
 - 8 District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 8 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 23 Scout Shop/office closing at 1 p.m.
 - 24-27 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 25 Merry Christmas!
 - 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory
- Registration \$6 Boys' Life \$3**

January

- 1-2 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Hudson Presbyterian Church
 - 12 District Commissioners Meeting—6:45 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 12 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 27-29 Klondike—Camp Butler
 - 28 District Retreat—Camp Butler
- Registration \$4 Boys' Life \$2**

Lakes District

“Leads the Way”

District Chairman James Schweikert 330-899-9915 schweikert@neo.rr.com
District Commissioner Joe Testa 330-418-3117 jtesta5@neo.rr.com
District Executive Tom Craig 330-773-0415 X 239 tom.craig@scouting.org
District Website: www.lakesdistrict.org



Thank you

We would like to begin by thanking all of the volunteers who have helped out over the last few months, the men and women who volunteer for the Lakes District are among the best in the council. We would like to extend a special thanks to **Lori Valent** for taking the time to organize “Cub College”, and all of the volunteers who helped to make this a great event. We would like to recognize **3215** for providing strong support of many volunteers to work on popcorn distribution day and all the other volunteers who helped out both in the warehouse and at the pack level distributions. We would also like to thank **Gena Valloric** for continuing this year by running our popcorn sale. Without her and **all of the unit popcorn kernels** we would not have been able to have the most successful popcorn sale in the council! Finally, we would like to thank all of the Scouts and Scout parents for getting out there and selling popcorn to help support themselves and further Scouting within the district and the council. Job well done everyone!

It's time to recharter

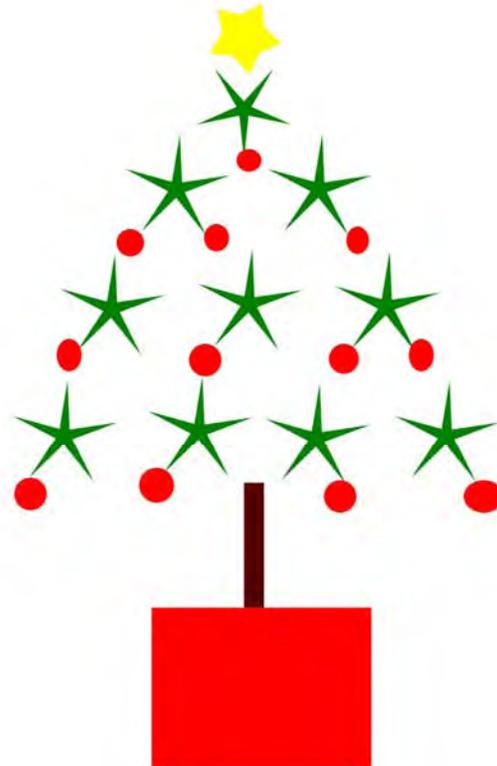
Congratulations to everyone on a great fall round up. Hopefully all registrations were turned in. If you have any lingering registration forms please turn them in ASAP.

Remember, at the December roundtable we will be having our recharter orientation meeting, so please send a few extra people from your unit to the roundtable on December 8. At the recharter orientation, we will be going through the process of online rechartering as well as handing out the charter paperwork. Please make sure your unit is represented. **If you have not turned in your Journey to Excellence form for 2016 please call Joe Testa at 330-961-7691.**

“Cave Men of Lakes” Klondike



The klondike committee is very busy planning events! This year's theme is the Cave Men of Lakes District. Get ready to bundle up and head out to Camp Manatoc on January 20-22, for our annual Lakes District Klondike. Details will be available at the December roundtable. Questions? Call Dave Polacek at 330-825-2950 or email riverrunner6@hotmail.com.



December

- 1 District Commissioner Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Acme, 3235 Manchester Rd., Akron
- 6 District Committee Meeting—7 a.m.—Panera Bread, 790 Arlington Ridge
- 8 Roundtable—6:50 p.m.—Council Service Center, 1601 S. Main St., Akron
- 23 Scout Shop/office—closing at 1 p.m.
- 24-27 Christmas Holiday—Scout Shop/office closed
- 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory

Registration \$6

Boys' Life \$3

January

- 2 Scout Shop/office closed
- 3 District Committee Meeting—7 a.m.—Panera, 790 Arlington Ridge, Akron
- 5 District Commissioner Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Acme, 3235 Manchester Rd., Akron
- 12 Roundtable—6:50 p.m.—Council Service Center, 1601 S. Main St., Akron
- 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
- 20 Klondike—Camp Manatoc
- 29 Chariot Race—Green Intermediate School

Registration \$4

Boys' Life \$2

Chippewa District

“Scouting, From Tiger Paws to Eagle Claws”

Chairman Sherri Buck 330-635-1200 sbuck01@msn.com
Commissioner John Naizer 330-419-8395 team.naizer@frontier.com
District Executive Steve Jindra (B) 330-773-0415 X 235 stjindra@bsaemail.org
Chippewa Website: www.facebook.com/pages/GTC-Chippewa-District



Advancement team will be visiting

Ken Kuczma and the advancement team are visiting packs and troops to train unit committee members and use the management of the BSA Advancement programs. Contact him for more information regarding the approval process, board of reviews, managing/assigning merit badge counselors, and Cub Scout programs. Members of the advancement committee are available at roundtable. It is a great chance to meet them or discuss issues. For more information, contact Ken directly at: k.kuczma.gtcbasa@gmail.com or by phone 216-534-4056. Cub Scout and Boy Scout advancement is an important aspect of the program. We need to follow the proper rules and procedures to provide the quality experience for the youth in Scouting.

FOS is vital to our success!



Glen & Lori Murduck are Chippewa's Family Friends-of Scouting co-chairmen. They cannot wait to get started in 2017! This month we are asking unit leaders to provide us with a 2017 date for the Great Trail

Council's team to come in to speak to parents and volunteers about our fundraising campaign. Be ready with your unit's blue and gold or court of honor banquet date, time, and location. If you are a planner and would like to be ahead of schedule please email Glen and Lori at gamduck@aol.com or laduck26@aol.com.

Chippewa thanks you for your continued support. Last year the Chippewa District was able to raise \$48,876 family dollars that went right back into the program and our beautiful campgrounds. This is a vital aspect to the success of the Great Trail Council and the kids in our community.

Recharter training is January 12

2017 is less than a month away. Chippewa District Recharter Training is Thursday, January 12, 2017, at Medina United Methodist Church, **4747 Foote Rd., Medina**. Chippewa District Commissioner John Naizer will be conducting unit recharter training for unit chairmen and charter partner representatives from 7 p.m.—8 p.m. Please make sure to mark this date on your calendar. It is important to have someone present from your unit.

Roundtable—December 8

If you haven't been to roundtable before, we encourage you to attend. **We meet at Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., in Medina.** Remember to bring a small canned food item or cash donation to the church for their continued support of our program. 'Tis the season of giving! It is generous of the church to open the doors for the Scouts every month for us to host our roundtable meetings. Let's show our appreciation.

It's Klondike time!

The Chippewa District Klondike is scheduled for Friday, January 13, 2017, at the Brooklyn Exchange Cabin in Hinckley. Put this date in your unit's calendar. We are going to have a great time. In the coming weeks information will be placed in your unit's saddlebag. Registration packets will soon follow. If you have any questions or would like to help out with this "COOL" event, contact Tom Ables by email at tables1046@hotmail.com or by phone at 330-273-8986.



Continued on Page 15

December

- 3 Chippewa bell ringing
 - 5 Popcorn money due
 - 8 District Committee Meeting—6 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., Medina
 - 8 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., Medina
 - 23 Scout Shop/office closing at 1 p.m.
 - 24-27 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 25 Merry Christmas
 - 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory
- Registration \$8 Boys' Life \$4**

January

- 1 Happy New Year
 - 2 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 12 District Committee Meeting—6 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., Medina
 - 12 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., Medina
 - 13-15 Klondike—Brooklyn Exchange Cabin, Hinckley
 - 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
- Registration \$6 Boys' Life \$3**

Seneca District

“Where the Sun Shines First on the Great Trail Council”

District Chairman Bruce Dockstader 330-678-4376
District Commissioner Joe Payne 330-388-9275
District Executive Nate Watson 330-773-0415 X 227 Nathan.Watson@scouting.org
Seneca Website: www.senecadistrict.org



Merry Christmas

Sign up for your Family FOS Presentation

For all Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venture crews—now is the time to begin thinking about having a FOS presentation at a blue & gold banquet, court of honor, or family night!

Start by selecting a Unit FOS Chair to schedule a presentation at your most well attended event in January, February, or March. Sign-ups will be held at roundtable with an opportunity to earn a certificate for a FREE NIGHT OF CAMPING AT THE HISTORIC CAMP MANATOC! (\$40 off rental fee of a cabin at camp. Some cabins cost more than \$40 to rent.)

We need to make sure everyone has a chance to hear the Scouting story and give them the opportunity to make a financial contribution to help support the great experiences and activities we do to support the youth in our communities!

Contact **Nate Watson** at 330-773-0415 ext. 227, or Nathan.Watson@scouting.org OR **Mike Rowe** our 2016 Family Chairman at MikeRoweops@sbcglobal.net to get the show started!

Popcorn sale wrap up

This year **Chuck Calalesina** and his team did an outstanding job on popcorn! Seneca District sold \$187,450! An increase of \$6,000 over 2016! We are happy to announce that not only ONE unit will get to PIE NATE IN THE FACE, but FOUR OF OUR CUB PACKS ARE LUCKY ENOUGH, due to their incredible increases this year!

Join me in congratulating Pack 3551 with a 63.9% increase, Pack 3256 with a 50.7% increase, Pack 3250 with a 40.6% increase, and Pack 3575 with a 35% increase! Stay tuned for some pictures from those nights. Nate must be excited if he's going to allow four units to pie him in the face! Congratulations to the Seneca District for growing their popcorn sale for two consecutive years in a row!

Top Selling Units

Cub Scouts

3269- \$23,430
3575- \$18,580
3551- \$14,815

Boy Scouts

475- \$11,325
259- \$6,095
556- \$5,890



“Back to Basics” Klondike

This year's klondike is going “Back to Basics” and back to BUTLER! January 20-22, we will be meeting at the Conference Center. Pay attention to saddlebags and roundtable for more information! We will have tent camping sites available for use, but if your unit wants to rent a cabin you will need to take care of that on your own! Note: heavy snow will prevent access for vehicles back to campsites, please plan accordingly!

Seneca District Staff Retreat

The Seneca District Staff Retreat will be held on **Saturday, January 14**, at the Kent United Church of Christ. Watch your mail in early January for an invitation. We encourage all district position holders to attend, so mark your calendars now!

Cub Polar Bear Swim

The Polar Bear Swim is scheduled for **Saturday, February 4**, from 1-5 p.m., at Kent Roosevelt pool! Mark your calendars so your pack can get in on the fun!

Continued on Page 15

December

- 1 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 5 Popcorn money/prize orders deadline
 - 8 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 8 District Commissioners Meeting—7 p.m.—before roundtable
 - 23-27 Scout Shop/offices closed
 - 25 Merry Christmas
 - 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory
 - 31 New Year's Eve
- Registration \$4 Boys' Life \$2**

January

- 1 Happy New Year
 - 1-2 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 10 Family FOS Presenters Training—7 p.m.—Scout Service Center, 1601 S. Main St., Akron
 - 12 **Charters due at January roundtable!**
 - 12 Roundtable/Commissioners Meeting—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 14 District Retreat—8:30 a.m.-Noon—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 19 Family Presenters Training #2—7 p.m.—Scout Service Center, 1601 S. Main St., Akron
 - 20-22 Klondike—Camp Butler
- Registration \$2 Boys' Life N/A**

Old Portage District

“THE Quality District”

District Chairman Donna Axson 330-573-8766 daxson@oldportage.org
District Commissioner Dan Gentile 330-808-4819 gentile2@fuse.net
District Executive Keith Doyle 330-773-0415 X 230
Old Portage Website <https://oldportage.com/>



**Pecatonica River Popcorn
Money due to Scout Service Center
December 5**

Have you turned in all of your new Scout's registration forms?

We are in the heart of a very busy fall School Night to Join Scouting. Remember to follow up with boys who came to the SNTJS and did not register as well as with the boys who turned in surveys that went home. Don't let any boys fall through the cracks, we want every boy to have the opportunity to be a Scout! Also, please don't let any registration forms linger in briefcases or boxes. Please turn in your registration forms to the Scout Shop as soon as possible! Email **Keith** with questions at keith.doyle@scouting.org.

2017 Old Portage Day Camp

Mark your calendar now! 2017 Old Portage Day Camp will be a couple weeks earlier next year – July 10-12. If you are interested in helping out next year (or have Boy Scouts that would be interested) please let Stacy Bechtel know (at stacybechtel@gmail.com) ASAP. We are in the beginning stages of planning.

More information to come!

2017 Old Portage Klondike



Yukon Trail- The Search for Gold

The Old Portage Klondike will be returning to Camp Manatoc on 1/27/17-1/29/17. This year we will be running two events, one for Boy Scouts and crews, and the other for Cub Scouts. Every unit from the district is urged to participate. We will be offering some new events to go with the theme this year. Please check out our flyer.

Questions? Contact **Mike Fasig** at 330-329-8586 or mfscoater@aol.com.

Roundtable—the place to be!

Roundtable is the best place to keep up to date on current activities and information, get supplemental training, and mingle with leaders from other units and hear what they have going on.

The Old Portage District Roundtable is on the second Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m., at Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Akron. We look forward to seeing new faces as well as the “regulars” who bring a friend!

Friends of Scouting 2017

We are approaching that time of year when we give back to the organization that has influenced so many lives. In the next month your leaders will be asked to provide us with dates for your 2017 blue and gold, or court of honor, or pinewood derby. Please get this date to us ASAP so we can schedule in your time. Also, if you have a special connection to the Scouting movement and would like to make an FOS presentation please let us know and we'll make that happen. Please contact Eric Matheny with questions, dates or interest at matheny54@hotmail.com.



**Happy
Holidays**

December

- 1 District Committee—7 p.m.—Bath United Church of Christ
 - 5 Popcorn money due to Council Service Center
 - 8 District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Akron
 - 8 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Akron
 - 23 Scout Shop/office closing at 1 p.m.
 - 24-27 Scout Shop/office closed
 - 25 Merry Christmas
 - 30-Jan. 1 Scout Shop closed for inventory
- Registration \$8 Boys' Life \$4**

January

- 1-2 Happy New Year—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Bath United Church of Christ
 - 12 District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church
 - 12 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Akron
 - 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 27-29 Klondike—Camp Manatoc
- Registration \$6 Boys' Life \$3**

Venturing/Exploring

Energy...Excitement...Enthusiasm

Chairman Elizabeth Murphy 330-434-9300 murphy.venture.gtc@gmail.com
Commissioner Anna Lott 330-699-1854 lott88a@gmail.com
Staff Advisor Dennis Vargo 330-773-0415 ext. 214 dvargo@bsaemail.org
Council Venturing President Anna Grund President@GTCVenturing.org



Tell us about your president

At www.GTCVenturing.org/crewpresident so he or she can be invited to our monthly conference calls to represent your crew.

Venturing Congresses

Held on the second Thursday of the month starting in January in a different district. See www.GTCVenturing.org/news for locations. January will be in Seneca District.

2017 University of Scouting Venturing College—adult training

Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/433-uos2017>. Questions to training@GTCVenturing.org.

- What is Venturing and how to start and build a crew
- The Venturing recognition and awards program
- Why a troop should support a Venturing crew
- Preparing for the Big “4” high adventure bases
- Older Scouts and our Mission
- Venturing shooting sports including hunting—Venturers can hunt?
- The Difference between Scoutmaster and Advisor
- Expedition Planning
- Outdoor Ethics—Leave No Trace—What’s in it for my crew?
- Venturing Share Forum
- Advisor Position Specific Training

Venturing College—youth training

Register at <http://GTCVenturing.org/events>. Questions to Advisor@GTCVenturing.org. The youth college is a separate registration from the adult college and may not include all of the following courses:

- Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews
- Personal Safety Awareness
- Goal Setting and Time Management
- Project Management
- Mentoring

Venturing Advisors

- ♦ Kimberly Myers, Council VOA Advisor, Advisor@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Ricky Angeletti, Associate Advisor Administration, GTCAA-administration@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Blaine Lott, Associate Advisor Program, GTCAA-program@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Steve Myers, Associate Advisor Communications, GTCAA-communications@GTCVenturing.org and Webmaster@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Dennis Vargo, Venturing Staff Professional, Dennis.Vargo@scouting.org

Venturing Committee

- ♦ Elizabeth Murphy, Council Venturing Chair, Chair@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Anna Lott, Assistant Council Commissioner—Venturing, Commissioner@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Brian Menke, Council Venturing Training Chair, Training@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Nathan Jarosz, Venturing Roundtable Commissioner, Venturing Congress, VCCommissioner@GTCVenturing.org
- ♦ Kristen Hardesty, Advancement and Recognitions
- ♦ All Council Advisors and Associate Advisors and the Council Venturing President



December

9-11 Area 4 Leadership & Planning Conference—Muskingum Valley Scout Reservation

January

15 Venturing Leadership Award nominations deadline

Marnoc Lodge #151

Order of the Arrow

Lodge Chief Jacob Schul chief@marnoc.org
Lodge Adviser Robert Saffle 330-607-5021 adviser@marnoc.org
Staff Adviser Shannon Sinex 330-773-0415 ext. 217 ssinex@bsaemail.org
Marnoc Website: www.marnoc.org



Renew your membership

As a reminder, 2016 membership renewal started last December. You can renew online at <https://scoutingevent.com/?marnocdues> or you can renew at any Lodge event.

Save the date and register for Winter Banquet



The Order of the Arrow is finishing up its 101st year. We have done a lot of work to improve our camp, lodge, and even the organization of the OA this year. But all good things must come to an end, so coming up in the 102nd year of the OA, Marnoc Lodge would like to kick off another great year of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. Help us continue to shape the new century and join Marnoc Lodge at our 2016 Winter Banquet. Together we can shape the next century. Don't forget to register early to renew your membership in the Lodge for a discount. I hope to see you all there to have a great night of:

- Food, games, and raffles;
- Our wonderful trading post;
- More ways to get involved with your Lodge;
- Earning requirements on your first year Arrowmen award;
- Silent auctions;
- Be within the first 151 people to register for this event and receive our 2016 Winter Banquet Lodge flap for free.

Early registration for Winter Banquet includes 2017 membership renewal

When: Saturday, December 17, from 4:30-8 p.m.

Where: St. Thomas Banquet Hall
555 South Cleveland Massillon Road,
Fairlawn, OH 44333 (same as last year)

Cost Per Person

Pre-Sale = \$35.00 (includes 2017 membership renewal) by **December 7**

At the Door = \$50.00 (includes 2017 membership renewal)

How to register for Winter Banquet: Online registration only!

<https://scoutingevent.com/433-wb2016>

Lodge belt buckle



The Lodge will be selling belt buckles. The new belt buckle will be available for purchase at the 2016 Winter Banquet on December 17, for a cost of \$15.00 Here is a look at the buckle design which is

currently on order.

The Lodge is only making 100 of these belt buckles. They will make a great gift for any OA Lodge member.

New Lodge flap



National BSA has informed the Lodge that a lodge flap can no longer break the border. We needed to come up with a new design that conforms to the

National BSA guidelines. The youth members of the LEC have voted for the following design which is currently on order.

The new Lodge flaps will go on sale soon.

Lodge event season pass

This year the Lodge is going to offer a "season pass" for all the 2017 events. The cost will be \$75.00. This is a way to attend all the 2017 Lodge events and save some money. The season pass will include admission to the Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall Fellowships. The season pass will go on sale at the 2016 Winter Banquet.



Continued on Page 15

December

- 7 Early Winter Banquet registration ends
- 14 LEC
- 17 Winter Banquet & Reunion

January

- 1 Unit election registration begins
- 18 LEC

Chippewa District cont'd.

Chippewa thanks

Thanks to **Nicole Spry**, Chippewa's Popcorn Chairman. She has done a great job informing along with coordinating units sales. Thanks for all your hard work, Nicole. Thanks to **Sgt. Brian Stewart** for granting us access to the Medina Armory for last month's large popcorn order. We are fortunate to be able to use the facility to unload, store, and distribute Boy Scout popcorn.

Thank you to **Terry Dansberg** and **Chuck Hale** for all your assistance coordinating distribution along with all the many volunteers who helped with the process and made it a success!

Seneca District cont'd.

Important recharter info!

Our recharter year has been changed to follow the calendar year more closely. Our charters now run from February-January. **ALL UNIT CHARTERS EXPIRE ON JANUARY 31.** There will be no "limbo" for the units that fail to turn in and have their paperwork approved by January 31. Those units will fall off the rosters and have to fill out all new paperwork. The online recharter window OPENED ON NOVEMBER 10. All charters must be ready by **January's roundtable on January 12**, to give our council registrar enough time to go through and finalize the paperwork. If your paperwork is completed prior to the January roundtable you may drop it off at the council office or set a time with Nate to get this taken care of.

Marnoc Lodge cont'd.

Unit election process

The Lodge has revisited the unit elections and the process and will be implementing the following:

- Unit elections will be conducted January 1 – April 15.
- All Ordeal registrations will be done online.
- The online registration will be extended. Registration January 1-April 15 will be \$50, April 16-June 30 will be \$75.

More info on the Lodge web site at www.marnoc.org.

2017 Conclave

I would like to start reminding everyone that Marnoc Lodge is hosting the 2017 Conclave at Camp Manatoc. Please save the date which is May 19-21, 2017. We will need everyone's help in making this a success.

WWW,

Robert Saffle, Lodge Advisor

Council Information cont'd.

2017 Staff Associate positions available for summer camp at Manatoc

Our outstanding summer camp staff development program returns in 2017. Fees for the 2-week program are \$100 per participant. Scouts receive room and board, food, staff t-shirt, and a great experience learning what it takes to be a member of the Manatoc summer camp staff. Applications are available at <http://www.manatoc.org/staff.html>.

Questions? Contact Director of Camping **Chris Bergdorf** at 330-657-2418 or by email at manatocbutler@windstream.net.

Upcoming camp staff events

The time of year has come again for the following staff events to be held at the Lewis Conference Center starting at 9 a.m. Please use the Manatoc service road.

- ♦ **December 28**—Camp staff interviews
- ♦ **December 29**—Staff Christmas Party

Scoutmasters, we're listening to you!

We would like to thank the many Scouters who participated in the October fireside chat. We invited our Scoutmasters to join us for coffee and cookies while having an open discussion concerning our summer camp operations at Manatoc. The management team conducted these discussions. We heard about the good and the bad, the things we do well and the things we need to do better—and taking suggestions on how we can continue to improve the summer camp experience for our Scouts and leaders. To all those who participated, our thanks for your input.

Thank you Graham Rd. Lowes!



The Directors Cabin at Camp Butler has a new roof thanks to the generous people at **Lowes** on Graham Rd. They donated roofing materials and labor to install a new roof!

Council Calendar

December

- 5 Popcorn money due
- 6 Membership & Marketing Meeting
- 6 Wood Badge Dinner Committee Meeting
- 8 Finance Committee Meeting
- 10 Breakfast with Santa—Camp Manatoc
- 10 NYLT Staff Reunion interview
- 12 Executive Committee Meeting
- 14 Special Needs Committee Meeting
- 15 University of Scouting Committee Meeting
- 21 Special Needs Committee Meeting
- 23 Scout Shop/office closes at 1 p.m.
- 24 Scout Shop closed
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26-27 Scout Shop/office closed
- 28 Camp Staff interviews
- 29 Camp Staff party
- 29-31 Scout Shop closed for inventory

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 2 Scout Shop/office closed
- 3 Program Committee Meeting
- 9 Training Committee Meeting
- 10 Family FOS Presenter Training
- 11 Camp Promotional Meeting
- 11 Wood Badge Committee Meeting
- 12 Camp Card Sign-Up
- 16 Martin Luther King Day—Scout Shop/office closed
- 17 Camping Committee Meeting
- 18 Special Needs Committee Meeting
- 19 Family FOS Presenter Training
- 19 Risk Management Meeting
- 19 University of Scouting Committee Meeting
- 21 Special Needs Training
- 23 Eagle Dinner Committee Meeting
- 23 Endowment Committee Meeting
- 25 Advancement Committee Meeting
- 25 Properties Committee Meeting
- 27 Investment Committee Meeting
- 27 Marketing Committee Meeting
- 28 Executive Board Retreat
- 28 SM/ASM Specific Training
- 31 Council Commissioner Meeting
- 31 District Key 3 Meeting

Merry Christmas



Your staff at Great Trail Council

*Anitra, Bill, Brad, Brian, Chris, Dennis, Jodi,
Jody, Keith, Lisa, Megan, Mike J., Mike P., Nate, Pat
Peggy, Scott, Shannon, Shervie, Steve, Tom, and Wayne*

**Great Trail Council
Scout Shop
1601 S. Main St.
Akron, OH 44301
330-773-4078
sherrie@gtcbsa.org**

Hours

Monday—Friday: 9 A.M.—6 P.M.
Saturday: 9 A.M.—1 P.M.

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