



Scouters' News

August 2017 Volume 41 Issue 8

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

We'd like to welcome our new Scout Executive Patrick Scherer!



Tom Geopfert, past Council President, is pleased to announce the selection of Patrick Scherer as our new Scout Executive/CEO of the Great Trail Council, effective July 15, 2017.

Pat began his Scouting career as District Executive in Menasha, Wisconsin, serving as Camping Director and District Director. He moved on to become the Director of Development in Portland, Oregon in 2000, and then in 2004 was promoted to Director of Field Service in San Francisco, California. In 2009 he was selected as the Scout Executive of the Potawatomi Area Council in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Pat is an Eagle Scout, Rotary Club member, Wood Badge, and a graduate of St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin. He and his wife, Mara, have two children.

Please join me in congratulating Patrick as he joins in partnership with the volunteers and staff of the Great Trail Council to deliver quality Scouting experiences to the young people of the five county area we serve.



New Camp Stambaugh parking lot

Online registration coming soon...

Yes, you heard right. National has heard the cries of Scouting families and future Scouting families. Online registration will provide a more convenient and efficient way for prospective members and leaders to join Scouting. Check out the resources available by going to www.scouting.org/onlineregistration.aspx. In the meantime there are a couple of things that you can do to get ready for your unit to start using online registration.

1. Make sure that all your leaders are registered on my.scouting.org, especially your Key 3 (unit leader, committee chair, and charter organization representative.)
2. Make sure that all email addresses are correct for your leaders, especially your Key 3. This information can be updated in my.scouting.org by going to "Member Manager."
3. Make sure that your unit's BeAScout information is current.

You will be receiving more info in the near future.



New Woodman Chapel at Stambaugh

Camp Stambaugh in Canfield, used by 13,000 youth throughout the Great Trail Council area of Mahoning, Trumbull, Portage, Summit, Medina, and part of Wayne counties opened a new outdoor chapel this summer thanks to the generosity of the **Charles Woodman family** of Youngstown. The new chapel will be dedicated this fall. It will seat 100 youth and adults for Scouting activities like vespers, Eagle Courts of Honor, and troop Courts of Honor, as well as weekend church services.

The chapel and new dining hall parking lot can also be used for outside groups, service groups, or small outdoor weddings.

Special thanks to **Mrs. Nancy Woodman** for making this possible for Scouting and the community.

For more information call Director of Camping Chris Bergdorf at 330-657-2418.

Council Information

School Night to Join Scouting “Build an Adventure”

The theme for this year’s School Night to Join Scouting is “Build an Adventure.” This ties in with the Boy Scouts of America’s theme and focus. It can be utilized for Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Venturing crews.

The best way to prepare for this year’s recruitment is to attend your district kick-off listed below. This should be a team effort coordinated by your unit membership and marketing chair. At the kick-off you will receive your recruitment packet which will include: yard signs, posters, a planning guide, sign in sheets, etc.

Come join us and “Build an Adventure” for the new Scouts joining your unit.

August District Fall Recruitment Kick-Offs

District	Location
Chippewa Aug. 10—7 p.m.	Medina United Methodist Church 4747 Foote Rd., Medina
Old Portage Aug. 10—7 p.m.	Faith Lutheran Church 2726 W. Market St., Akron
Seneca Aug. 10—6:30 p.m.	NEOMED 4200 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown
Lakes Aug. 8—6 p.m.	Cleveland Clinic—Akron General Health & Wellness Center, 1940 Town Park Blvd., Uniontown
Tri-Fires Aug. 10—6:30 p.m.	Wedgewood United Methodist Church 2350 Wedgewood Dr., Akron
Moecomdws Aug. 10—7 p.m.	Camp Manatoc—Gilwell Lodge & Shelter 1075 Truxell Rd., Peninsula
Arrowhead Aug. 16—7 p.m.	Electrical Trade Institute of NE Ohio 4550 Research Pkwy NW, Warren
Whispering Pines Aug. 3—7 p.m.	Camp Stambaugh—Brown Pavilion 3712 Leffingwell Rd., Canfield



Journey to Excellence—Go for gold!

Weekend campouts are great, but long-term trips are when Scouting really shines. Troops and crews that participated in long-term camps (at least five nights for troops; approximately four days for crews) get credit on their Journey to Excellence scorecard. Learn more at www.scouting.org/jte.

Tiger Day at the Zoo

When: Sunday, October 1—12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Where: Akron Zoo—500 Edgewood Ave., Akron (corner of Edgewood & Euclid Ave.)

Cost: Adults—\$9

Youth (ages 2-14) - \$6 (under 2 free)



To obtain these special prices, all Scouts must be registered with a Cub Scout pack. If you are new, your application must be in our office by September 29. The cost of admission to the park includes a group rate ticket for Scouting, insurance, and a special patch for

every Tiger Cub (**advance registration a must!**) You can organize as a unit or individual families can attend. Complete the form at www.gtcbbsa.org and bring the form to the council, 1601 S. Main St., Akron. A special admission ticket will be sent to you or you can pick them up in the Scout Shop. This special ticket cannot be purchased on the day of the event at the Akron Zoo; they must be purchased in advance. If your family already has an Akron Zoo membership your cost is \$1.00/Scout. You do not need a special ticket to get in.

At the zoo, you can:

- ◆ Visit the Komodo Kingdom, Grizzly Ridge and other popular areas including Penguin Point and the Lehner Family Zoo Gardens.
- ◆ Visit Komodo Kingdom Café and purchase a kid’s meal. The Barnhardt Family Welcome Center features a gift shop, too!
- ◆ Stop by the Scouting table at the Barnhardt Family Welcome Center to receive your special patch and sticker.

Any questions, please call John Schlobohm at 330-773-0415 ext. 213.

We’re having a Uniform Day! Monday, September 11



It’s time to use the best recruiters we have to bring more youth to Scouting—the youth who are in Scouting RIGHT NOW!

On Monday, September 11, we want to have every Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturer in the Great Trail Council to wear their uniform to school.

Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts who participate will receive a special 2017 patch.

Leaders, to receive patches for your participating Scouts request the number of patches needed from the Scout Shop no later than October 13.

Council Information

2018 GTC Philmont Contingent



The council announces the 2018 high adventure trip to Philmont! The council has secured 3 crews of 12 per crew to travel to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico from June 16-June 29, 2018. The budgeted cost of this trip is \$1,900 and includes all travel, touring, all meals, 2 custom sweat-wicking t-

shirts, GTC Philmont hat, all Philmont fees and transportation in New Mexico! This is a highly popular, once in a lifetime trip, and participants will be assigned, first come (with deposit), first served! The \$400 deposit is due with the registration form. Forms have been placed in the saddlebags.

This trip is open to Scouts, Venturers, and registered adults. Youth must be at least 14 by January 1, 2018 or must complete the 8th grade in June, 2018 to be eligible to go. Participants must be physically capable to complete a backpacking trek in the mountainous region of Philmont (6,000-12,441' elevation.)

Questions? Contact GTC High Adventure Chair **Stephen York** at scoutmaster777@york.net.

24th World Scout Jamboree Summit Bechtel Reserve July 22-August 2, 2019



Registration and Costs

Registration will open in late August 2017. Exact costs are being determined and will be available soon.

- BSA Contingent fee will be more in balance with a regular National Scout Jamboree than a typical World Scout Jamboree.
- A location-based fee structure includes travel cost from "gateway cities."
- No planned touring, pre- or post-jamboree, is planned to help reduce costs.

Questions?

Contact USContingent2019@scouting.org and they will be happy to help!

Lost and Found at summer camp



If you've lost something at camp you can contact the Manatoc Maintenance Building at 330-657-2418 or swing by during the weekend (Friday from 5 p.m. until Sunday at noon) to see if your missing item has been found. The campmasters will be available to check for you on weekends beginning in September.

Climbing Merit Badge Day—Aug. 11-12



Come climb with us at Camp Manatoc! Free tent camping for all participants, lunch on Saturday, and the opportunity to work on and complete many of the merit badge requirements. This event is separate from the Shooting Sports event and you can only participate in one event.

Climbing Merit Badge Day is open to registered Scouts (age 13+) and adults. The cost is \$20 and is payable to Great Trail Council, BSA, PO Box 68, Akron, OH 44309.

Questions?

Ryan Culross at rjc79@zips.uakron.edu
Garrett Blevins at gapabl@aol.com

Shooting Sports Weekend—Aug. 11-13



Enjoy a weekend of rifle shooting, black powder, shotgun, archery, and tomahawks! Check in is on August 11, at 7:30 p.m., at the Camp Manatoc Administration Building. The program will run from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, August 12. The \$25 participant fee includes a tent site, lunch on Saturday, ammo and targets. Adults may camp, help, watch, and eat lunch for \$10. The program is open to registered Boy Scouts and Venturing youth. Please register by August 7, at Great Trail Council BSA, PO Box 68, Akron, OH 44309.

Questions? Contact **Mike Fallon** at 330-815-2494 or fallon.michael1@gmail.com or **Larry Lott** at 330-835-7527 or email ldl62@yahoo.com.

Bike & Ride Weekend



Scouting families and units, come join us for a fun weekend from September 8-10. Campout at Camp Butler, Saturday lunch, and your train ticket are included. Ride starts at 10 a.m., on

Saturday, September 9. Each participant must furnish their own bike and helmets are required. Cost is \$15 per person.

This 15 mile bike ride from Boston Store Trailhead to Northside Station in downtown Akron includes many scenic and historic stops, and lunch will be served along the way. The return trip is on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

Don't miss out on the fun! To make a reservation, please go to:

<https://scoutingevent.com/433-bike>. Registration deadline is September 1.

Council Information

Helpful hints and things you need to know

How to Get Supplies

You can order by calling 330-773-4078, email sherrie.hardesty@scouting.org, fill out the online form at www.gtcbasa.org/scout-shop and fax to 330-773-4084, or you can order from www.scoutstuff.org. Scout Shop locations and hours are:

- A. **Akron Scout Shop**—hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The phone number is 330-773-4078.
- B. **Camp Stambaugh Scout Shop**—Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4 p.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The phone number is 330-533-4538.

Eagle Scout Application Approval

The application needs council approval before the Scout's 18th birthday and prior to the Board of Review. All signatures (Scoutmaster and Committee Chair) must be on the application before council approval. The application may be scanned and emailed to Megan King in the Akron office at megan.king@gtcbasa.org, faxed to 330-773-4084 Attn: Megan King, or brought to the Akron office, 1601 S. Main St., Akron, OH 44301. Megan is in the office Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. If you bring the application to the office, she will check it while you wait (approximately 5-10 minutes).

Finished Eagle Applications and Project Books

After the Board of Review, Eagle applications and project books can be dropped off at the Great Trail Council office (during regular business hours) or at Camp Stambaugh's Rotary Cabin (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-6, and Saturdays, 10-2.) Project books may be mailed to the Akron office, but a copy of all contents should be made before mailing. For any questions, please contact Megan directly at megan.king@gtcbasa.org or 330-773-0415 ext. 215.

Eagle application and info will be electronically transferred to the National office. After review and approval by the National office you will be notified that your book and materials from National will be ready for pick-up. After you have been notified you can either pick up at the Akron office or at Camp Stambaugh (whichever you have indicated to us.) Eagle kits can be picked up at the Akron office or at Camp Stambaugh. The cost for Eagle kits will be \$29.99.

Unit Medical Insurance

Secondary medical insurance is provided free as a service of the Great Trail Council to its youth and adult members. This covers any injuries at a Scouting function. Forms and instructions can be obtained at the Council office.

Helpful hints (continued)

How to Turn in Membership

Membership applications can be turned in to district executives at roundtable, the Akron Scout Shop, or Camp Stambaugh's Scout Shop. They can also be mailed to the Akron Scout Shop at P.O. Box 68, Akron, OH 44309. Please make sure that payment (check made out to Great Trail Council or credit card info) for registration is included.

Camp Use

To make reservations at Camps Butler, Manatoc, and Stambaugh go to:

<https://campreservation.com/crs.php?OrgKey=BSA433>

Council Monthly Newsletter

Sign up at www.gtcbasa.org under the "GTC Info" tab. Find all of the "need to know" info about upcoming events.

Great Trail Council phone numbers

Council Office - 330-773-0415 plus extension #

Camping—Peggy—Ext. 221
Commissioners—John—Ext. 213
Eagles—Megan—Ext. 215
Exploring—Caroline—Ext. 245
FOS/Popcorn—Lisa—Ext. 243
NYLT—Dennis—Ext. 214
OA—Shannon—Ext. 217
Pathfinder—Dennis—Ext. 214
Registration/Recharter—Pat—Ext. 210
Special Events Camp Rentals—Chris—330-607-6376
Training Cub Scouts—Shannon—Ext. 217
Training Boy Scouts—Tom—Ext. 239
Venturing—Dennis—Ext. 214
Wood Badge Course—Shannon Ext.217
Other—Pat—Ext. 210



Volunteers who helped spruce up the Camp Manatoc chapel in June. Thanks to all those who worked on this project before summer camp began.

continued in next column

Council Information

Welcome to the 2017 Popcorn Sale



For over 32 years, Scouts throughout the Great Trail Council have been selling popcorn to help “fund” their year of Scouting. Many incredible trips, campouts, trainings, and adventures have been paid for by this outstanding popcorn sale.

Why our 2017 Pecatonica River Popcorn Sale is your ticket to an incredible Scouting year!!!

By attending all council & district trainings, developing a plan, rolling up your sleeves, and selling popcorn, your unit can earn an unlimited amount of \$\$\$\$ to pay for ALL of your Scouting activities (fees, trips, uniforms, advancements, supplies, recognitions, and fun). In 2016, units throughout the council sold over \$1,500,000 to help provide outstanding programs and activities to all our Scouts. Don't forget, the sale runs from **August 18 to November 3**. That means you can make all of your \$\$\$ for a year in 11 weeks or less!

Sign-up to sell popcorn at www.Prpopcorn.com.

Important websites

- **Commit Unit to Sell, Order Popcorn, Online Sales, Winners Circle Prizes Pecatonica River Popcorn Website**—www.Prpopcorn.com
- **Brochure Prizes** - www.boyscouts-gcc.com
- **Popcorn Guidebook, Forms, Incentives**—Great Trail Council Website www.gtccpopcorn.org
- **Q For a Day Website**—Quicken Loans Arena Website- www.thegarena.com/boyscouts

Council Popcorn Advisor - Jody Gildersleeve
330-773-0415 ext. 218 or email
jody.gildersleeve@scouting.org

Council Popcorn Assistant—Lisa Lambert
330-773-0415 ext. 241 or email
lisa.lambert@scouting.org

New for 2017

- ◇ **Cleveland Indians American League Championship Tin**-Sea Salt & Chocolate Caramel Corn
- ◇ **Cleveland Cavaliers Eastern Conference Champions Tin**
- ◇ **New Smart Corn**- “Cracked Pepper and Sea Salt” Popcorn-replaces **Butter Light Microwave**
- ◇ **All new Browns Vs. Steelers** “Battle of the Border” tins
- ◇ **New Popcorn Website** www.gtccpopcorn.org

District kick-offs & important dates

August

- **Arrowhead/Whispering Pines**—Saturday, August 5, St. Rose Church, 48 Main St., Girard
- **Lakes**—Tuesday, August 8, Akron General Wellness Center, 1940 Town Park Blvd., Uniontown
- **Seneca**—Thursday, August 10, NEOMED, 4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown
- **Moe/TF/OP**—Tuesday, August 15, Weathervane Theater, 1301 Weathervane Ln., Akron
- **Chippewa**—Monday, August 28, Medina United Methodist Church, 4747 Foote Rd., Medina

September

- **Show’N’Deliver orders due**—Tuesday, September 5
- **Show’N’Deliver distribution**—Saturday, September 16

October

- **District Blitz Days**—Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28
- **Take Orders due/Show’N’Sell money**—Tuesday, October 31

November

- **All prize orders due**—Friday, November 3
- **Take Order distribution**—Saturday, November 11

December

All popcorn money due to council office—Friday, December 8

District	Popcorn Chair	Email
Arrowhead	Teresa Prentiss	teresaprentiss@yahoo.com
Moecomdws	Andrew Cole	colesr0827@sbcglobal.net
Seneca	Sabrina Finney Lori Fonk	sabrinafinneypopcorn@gmail.com Godiswithusinohio@gmail.com
Lakes	Gena Valloric Kate Breth	rvalloric@gmail.com katebreth@gmail.com
Chippewa	Julio Esis	esis.julio@gmail.com
Whispering Pines	Marion Sweely	msweely@zoominternet.net
Tri-Fires	Tosha Curren	gtcscoutmom@yahoo.com
Old Portage	Mary Zbasnik	mkzbasnik@neo.rr.com
Council Chairman	Brad Siefke	Brad_siefke@gcc-usa.com
Staff Advisor	Jody Gildersleeve	jody.gildersleeve@scouting.org
Admin	Lisa Lambert	lisa.lambert@scouting.org

Council Information

From the Registration Desk...

Merit Badge Counselor Renewal

Merit Badge Counselor Renewals have been mailed out. The renewal notice was mailed to all currently registered merit badge counselors. The renewal notices are due by August 31. If you did not receive your renewal notice please contact me as soon as possible via email and I will verify if it was mailed to you or if there was an issue with your application. We have a number of applications that were turned in that were defective that could not be registered. An email will be sent to those that had defective applications. If you received a defective notice in order to get registered for the new charter year beginning September 1, you will need to turn in the required paperwork no later than August 31.

New Website Info

The Great Trail Council has a new web page. Check out www.gtcbasa.org to see what is happening. To find registration and advancement forms etc., go to "Resources" and select the item you want.

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.

New Marnoc Lodge officers



Marnoc Lodge held its annual election of new officers at our spring fellowship. The new Lodge officers, elected by the youth of the Lodge, will be taking their new positions at the end of the Summer Fellowship on August 4-6.

- Johnathan Ben-Porath – Treasurer: Johnathan is from Troop 1 in Old Portage District. He is a Brotherhood member and is returning as the Treasurer.
- Anthony Brown – Vice Chief of Inductions: Anthony is with Troop 310 from Tri-Fires District. He is a Vigil Honor member and is returning as VC Inductions.
- Aaron Lampner – Vice Chief of Program: Aaron is from Troop 390 in Old Portage District. He is a Vigil Honor member and most recently he served as Chapter Chief Coordinator and was our OA Ambassador at Camp Manatoc.
- Seth Welch - Lodge Chief: Seth is an Eagle Scout from Troop 9115 in the Whispering Pines District. He is a Vigil Honor member and was most recently Vice Chief of Camping & Service.

Please join us in congratulating these servant leaders.

Eagle's Nest

	Troop	Eagle Date
Michael Abramovich	179	04/24/17
Samuel Bergdorf	371	04/26/17
Steven Boan	265	06/06/17
James Bollinger	517	06/07/17
Benjamin Borthwick	273	05/24/17
George Conrad, IV	9119	05/09/17
Steven Cook	81	05/10/17
Noah Copen	252	05/02/17
Jonathan Cramer	259	04/25/17
Anthony Disabato	334	04/28/17
Ludwing Durfee	777	04/26/17
Jonathan Dye	385	06/18/17
Adam Filo	123	04/28/17
Christian Jenkins	179	05/31/17
Thomas Joly-Behanna	9080	05/23/17
Michael Jorgenson	1	05/23/17
George Katradis	4025	04/27/17
Austin Kunch	500	04/25/17
Nicholas Lahmann	402	06/10/17
Thomas Lewis	132	06/13/17
Andrew McNutt	123	04/26/17
Jacob Mix	558	05/03/17
Nicholas Moore	520	04/30/17
Christopher Morris	385	04/26/17
Jacob Morrison	304	05/02/17
Samuel Nagy	504	05/02/17
Grant Osborne	390	05/07/17
Daniel Painley	4065	05/25/17
Joshua Parisi	1	04/25/17
Nikolas Peters	9060	06/13/17
Andrew Planitz	4054	04/20/17
Daniel Raver	9060	06/13/17
Zachary Sandmann	110	05/16/17
Nicholas Scandlon	504	05/03/17
Alec Seifert	514	06/14/17
Maxwell Seymour	9119	05/09/17
Blake Stich	9080	04/25/17
Joshua Tatro	502	06/17/17
Andrew Trommer	453	05/09/17
Thomas Ulinski	385	05/24/17
Alexander Vass	371	06/01/17
Jordon Vass	371	05/22/17
John Webb	402	06/05/17

Council Information

Special needs at district day camps

This summer, the Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC) was privileged to travel to every district's day camp, gathering information about services and needs our units have to better program for our Scouts. It is rare, in this day and age, to encounter so many well-trained humans gathered together to meet the needs of the Scouts in their care.

Every day camp welcomed all Scouts, adapting appropriately to behavioral, emotional, medical and physical needs within excellent programming. Great Trail Council's commitment to inclusion and accessibility was evident throughout each session.

The census of special needs that was gathered will be shared with each district, and used to improve equipment, accessibility and programming choices. Thanks to each unit leader that shared their experiences, and to all day camp staff for their welcome and efforts this year. Awesome!

To share your successes with extraordinary needs, please call Wendy Greathouse at 330-256-0996, or email Dennis Vargo at dennis.vargo@scouting.org.

Caught being good

This year, our Shooting Sports Staff at resident camp and at all of our day camps went above and beyond the call of duty when working with our Scouts with exceptional needs. Please, please, remember to thank these dedicated volunteers who seem very gruff and abrupt, but have been absolutely incredible problem solvers and exhibited large hearts.

Remember, it is easy for our volunteers to help your unit if we know about a need ahead of time. Whether it's physical adaptations, or special guarding techniques to make sure everyone is safe, knowing ahead of time about possible issues allows every Scout to participate safely, and avoids disappointment at the range if an accommodation is not possible.

To communicate a known special need, please call Dennis Vargo, intrepid Field Director, at 330-773-0415, ext. 214 or email Wendy Greathouse at wendygreathouse@gmail.com.



3rd Saturday Series is back!

So, you have a special need or two in your unit? Maybe, you just heard that this year's Cub will be next year's Scout in your unit. Breathe. We've got some really good training available to all registered Scouters. AND—it's FREE.

The 3rd Saturday of every month, from 9 a.m. to noon, we'll be at the council office.

September 16—Invisible Disabilities—how to see, and deal with them.

October 21—Behavior Modification for Scouters--practical, applied behavior techniques.

November 18—Boys Leading Boys—A Course for Youth Leaders AND their Scoutmasters on how to deal with behaviors and use the precepts of Universal Scouting to help their troop succeed.

To RSVP to any class, shoot an e-mail to wendygreathouse@gmail.com.

Special needs and the Eagle process

Let's lay this on the line, you and I. As a Scout approaches the age of 18 he should be wrapping up his Eagle preparations if he is interested in achieving that goal. If, suddenly, at the ripe old age of 17 $\frac{3}{4}$'s, an old dusty disability diagnosis is pulled out as a reason for not having finished Eagle requirements on time, it's probably not going to fly.

Please, be proactive about your Scouts. If a Scout needs significant assistance, and may qualify for extra time due to a significant disability, the time to address that is NOW. It takes time to go through the process—and failure to plan on your part is not an emergency on our end.

There are monthly Emergent Needs meetings held by the Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC) to adequately meet the needs of each of our eight districts. Paperwork and requests must be turned in to Dennis Vargo by the tenth of each month for consideration at that month's meeting.

Those interested in the Special Needs advancement process should plan on taking the following courses at the University of Scouting in March, 2018:

- * Advancement with a Special Need
- * Boards of Review and the Eagle Process for the Special Need Scout

Further questions can be fielded by Dennis (for those who are still running in circles and screaming and shouting) at 330-773-0415 ext. 214, or for the more laid back and prepared of you, Wendy welcomes your e-mails at wendygreathouse@gmail.com.

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.

Next man (or woman) up: The importance of succession planning for Scout units

By Fritz Coombs, Asst. Council Commissioner

We are all familiar—or should be—with the concept of “two deep leadership” when it comes to youth protection. That principle applies equally to the success and vitality of each pack, troop, and crew.

There are two ways vacancies appear in adult leader positions in a Scout unit—expected and therefore planned, and unexpected and therefore a surprise. The ability of the unit to survive these changes—and continue to properly deliver the program to the youth—depends on how proactive the adult leader corps has been in “Being Prepared” for such occurrences. Succession planning is the process of identifying, recruiting, and training adult leaders and parents ready to step into leadership roles as vacancies occur.

The average Cub pack will experience this kind of turn-over every few years, as the Cubs matriculate through Webelos and Arrow of Light and move on to Boy Scouts; typically, their parents, which will likely include the Cubmaster, committee chair, key committee members and den leaders, will likely move on with their sons. This is therefore, not an unforeseen event and should be planned for a year or more in advance.

Turn-over in troops and crews is much less frequent. However, it needs to be planned for as well. Key adult leaders exit the scene not only when their sons and daughters matriculate or age out, but also with much less warning—health issues, loss of employment, transfers out of town due to employment. These are less foreseen but nonetheless need to be proactively planned for.

Even though the concept of Boy Scouts is boy-led, the boys need to be adult-guided. Properly trained adult leaders best insure that this concept works properly. When an experienced and trained adult leader exits the scene, the youth deserve a replacement who can step into those shoes with confidence.

The time to identify and recruit the next Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, or committee chair is while the current occupant of that job is fully engaged and doing the job.

Western Reserve Hospital partners with camp for First Aid Merit Badge



The Great Trail Council is proud to announce that Western Reserve Hospital is the sponsor for the First Aid Merit Badge. Over 200 boys participated in First Aid training this summer at Camp Manatoc. First Aid Merit Badge teaches Boy Scouts how to manage life-threatening

emergencies, protect an ill or injured person from further harm, and perform CPR skills.

The First Aid Merit Badge is offered to every one of our 2,000+ Scouts at summer camp, and is consistently one of the most popular programs offered. It was one of the original 57 merit badges issued by the Boy Scouts of America in 1911.

“We are enthusiastic to partner with the Boy Scouts of America, a historical and respected community organization that has worked to instill responsibility and leadership in today's youth,” said Dr. Robert Kent, president and CEO of Western Reserve Hospital. “The first aid component will provide the Boy Scouts with the proper training necessary for their safety and the safety of others.”

Western Reserve Hospital also donated 400 first aid kits for Cub Scout day camps, provided instructors for the First Aid Merit Badge class, and sponsored Atwater Lodge (the traditional health lodge for programs at Camp Butler).

The Great Trail Council thanks Western Reserve Hospital for its great partnership, and its dedication to Scouting!

Commissioners Corner (continued)

That gives the unit time to survey the corps of parents to see who is best suited for each leadership role, approach the candidate, train them for the job and opportunity to “shadow” the current leader. That way, when the time comes to step up, the transition will be as seamless as possible. In units that have multiple assistant Cubmasters, assistant Scoutmasters and the like, it may be useful to designate a “First Among Equals,” who then can work closely with the Scoutmaster on key elements of leadership.

Don't wait until the last minute; that Scoutmaster who has always been there may suffer a stroke or heart attack tomorrow. As tragic as that may be, the boys deserve to have the troop carry on in the best possible manner. This applies equally to every key position in your unit—committee chair, advancement chair, treasurer, or popcorn kernel. “Be Prepared” for changes in adult leadership.

Continued in next column

Arrowhead District

District Chairman Dr. Ken LaPolla 330-716-3838 drkenny@msn.com
 District Commissioner Jim Dade 330-883-1002 owl4bd@aol.com
 District Executive David Michalec 330-883-7096 david.michalec@scouting.org

www.facebook.com/ArrowheadGTC



Popcorn Sale Kick-Off

One fundraiser per year is all it takes to properly fund a pack, troop, or crew for the whole year. All leaders are invited on Saturday, August 5, at 10 a.m., to find out how to do just that! Our Peconica Popcorn Sale Kick-Off will be held at St. Rose Church in Girard, located at 48 Main St., Girard, OH 44420. Arrowhead will be teaming up with Whispering Pines to provide you all the information for this year's popcorn sale!

All units will receive order forms, table tents, money envelopes, Kernel Guide Books, tasting kits, and incentive prizes for your Scouts, and more. Thank you to Arrowhead District Popcorn Kernel **Teresa Prentiss**, teresaprentiss@yahoo.com for everything you do. If nobody from your unit can make it, you are invited to attend any other district's kick-off to collect your materials and receive important training.

Roundtable Kick-Off is August 9

Arrowhead District will hold our Roundtable Kick-off on Wednesday, August 9, from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at 4550 Research Pkwy. NW, Warren, OH 44483

*All registered Scouters – please be in attendance! Let's start the year off strong. Every troop, pack, and crew will receive a special packet to help conduct an effective school night program in your school to invite new families to join Scouting.

Leaders, please send the date, time, and location of your unit's School Night To Join Scouting to David.Michalec@scouting.org ASAP to be included in the council's press releases.

Fall camporee is coming!

Please save the date for Arrowhead Fall Camporee set for October 13-15, at Camp Stambaugh. More information will be available at fall kick-off, so please plan to be there! This will be a STEM themed weekend with MacGyver challenges for Scouts to put their Scout skills and problem solving skills to the test. Thank you to **Matt Fuchilla** for being the Arrowhead Fall Camporee Chair.



Start advertising your unit's open house now



The membership team is asking all units to be at open houses for your schools or "Meet the Teacher" events. Contact the building principal to arrange permission to be there. Packs are also encouraged to coordinate with the Girl Scouts or PTO group.

Does your church have a marquee board? Does your school have a marquee board? *Ask if you can put your sign-up night information on it now.* Great Trail Council has yard signs available for Cub Scouts AND Boy Scouts. These should be **all over** your neighborhood, wherever you can place them. Ask your pastor if they can make an announcement at Sunday services about Scout sign-ups and include a line about when and where they are in the church bulletin.

Thank you day camp staff!

A huge thank you to our day camp staff for doing an outstanding job with this year's Arrowhead Day Camp at Packard Park! A special thank you goes to **Kim Danko** for being the director. Everyone on this year's staff made sure that the Cub Scouts and families in attendance had fun, learned Scout skills, and met many of our local heroes from the community including Warren Fire, Warren Police, and Youngstown Air Force Reserve! Check out pictures and videos from day camp at:

www.facebook.com/ArrowheadGTC.

August

- 2 Making Scouting Accessible for Families—7 p.m.—Northside Medical Center Auditorium, 500 Gypsy Ln., Youngstown
 - 5 Popcorn Kick-Off—10 a.m.—St. Rose Church, 48 Main St., Girard
 - 9 Program Kick-Off Roundtable—7 p.m.—ETINEO, 4550 Research Pkwy., Warren
 - 16 District Committee—7 p.m.—Kent State Trumbull, 4314 Mahoning Ave., Warren
 - 17 Advancement Committee—7 p.m.—Christ Episcopal Church, 2627 Atlantic St., Warren
 - 24 Advancement Committee—7 p.m.—Christ Episcopal Church, 2627 Atlantic St., Warren
- Registration \$10 Boys' Life \$5**

September

- 2-5 Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 Show'N'Sell Popcorn orders due
 - 13 Roundtable—7 p.m.—ETINEO, 4550 Research Pkwy., Warren
- Registration \$8 Boys' Life \$4**

Chippewa District

“Scouting, From Tiger Paws to Eagle Claws”

Chairman Sherri Buck 330-635-1200 sbuck01@msn.com
Commissioner Ed Martin 330-350-1290 martinedp@outlook.com
Sr. District Executive Steve Jindra 330-773-0415 X 235 steve@gtcbsa.org
Chippewa Website: www.facebook.com/pages/GTC-Chippewa-District



Fall membership recruitment

It's time to build an adventure! The district recruitment campaign training will take place on August 10, 7 p.m., at Medina United Methodist Church. Don't miss out on one of the most important district meetings this fall. The membership team will discuss in detail the process and unit expectations of obtaining a successful “School Night to Join Scouting” event. It starts with a plan. So, unit leaders, plan on being there with a member from your committee. Be Prepared. Be There.

Topics of discussion include:

- Flyers, school district promotion
- School open-house
- Rally Nights, selling your unit, signing up Scouts

New this fall:

- Online registration - www.beascout.org
- Lion program for kindergartners
- Application printed on the back of the flyer

We look forward to discussing this with you and are able to answer any questions during the group interaction session. The Chippewa District has several trained volunteers with excellent resources willing to help. Your participation starts with filling out the information below and emailing it to: steve.jindra@scouting.org.

School Night to Join Scouting- Rally Night

Date:

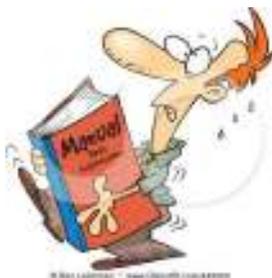
Time:

Location & Address:

Phone & Email:

This needs to be completed by everyone no later than August 1.

Leadership starts with training



Quality leadership, starts with training. Cub Scout Leader Training and Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Fundamentals is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, at Medina United Methodist Church. More information will be placed in your saddlebags and available on the council

website. If you have questions, you may contact for Cub Leader Training - Chuck Hale at cdhale@roadrunner.com or for Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Fundamentals - Craig Wroblewski at cwrobles@yahoo.com.

Pecatonica River Popcorn Sale

Get your popcorn on Monday, August 28, 6:30 p.m., at Medina United Methodist Church. Units selling popcorn is an excellent tool to help provide needed funds to achieve a quality Scouting program for all Scouts. Unit leaders can sign-up NOW for the popcorn sale and register your unit popcorn “Kernel” by going online to www.prpopcorn.com. Click on the “order gateway” tab then scroll down to select Great Trail Council, Akron OH. Council. The username should pop up as: 433GTC and the password is: Akron.

At our kick-off meeting we will discuss:

- Campaign from start to finish;
- Online registration and ordering;
- Site distribution;
- Prize incentives;
- Receive popcorn tasting kits and supplies.

Thank you day camp staff!

Thank you day camp staff members! Hundreds of kids from the Medina and Norwayne County areas had a great time because of you! A special thanks to **Steve Trommer!** As director, Mr. Trommer managed the overall program and put in countless volunteer hours. His dedication to the Scouting program and the youth involved is inspiring.

Our thanks to **staff members:** Chuck Hale, Ginger Foust, Stacy McFarland, Nadine Burd, Katelyn Keckler, Gabby Foust, Bill Kohl, Billy Kohl, Chris Burns, Cindy Campbell, Jenn Burns, Jim Jackson, Linda Horacek, Michelle Trommer, Missy Cottage and **youth volunteers:** Gabriella Beswick, Samuel Beswick, Emily Cottage, Mary Custer, Nelson Custer, Alyssa Horacek, Drew Trommer, Rachael Trommer, Marina Wilson, Josh Zackery, and Brandon Zammarrelli.

August

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1-6 | Membership—Medina County Fairgrounds |
| 10 | Roundtable/Fall Recruitment Kick-Off—7 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church |
| 28 | Chippewa District Popcorn Kick-Off—6:30 p.m.—Medina United Methodist Church |
| | Registration \$16 Boys' Life \$8 |

September

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 2-4 | Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed |
| 5 | Popcorn Show'N'Sell orders due |
| 11 | Scout Uniform Day |
| 14 | Roundtable/Committee Meeting |
| 16 | Popcorn Show'N'Sell Distribution |
| 22-24 | Chippewa & Moe District Camporee |
| | Registration \$14 Boys' Life \$7 |

Lakes District

“Leads the Way”

District Chairman Chas Schreckenberger 330-962-7631 cschreckenberger@bsa-net.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



Welcome back

Hopefully everyone had a great summer and is ready for a brand new, fun-filled year of Scouting. That's right, it's time once again to be thinking about recruiting new Scouts, this year's popcorn sale, training, new programs, and everything else that is part of the Scouting program. As a reminder that district commissioner meetings will take place on the **first Thursday** of each month at the Acme on Manchester Rd. The commissioner meeting will begin at **6:30 p.m.** Also, the district committee meetings are now scheduled for **7 a.m.**, on the **first Tuesday** of the month at Green Market District. Don't forget that roundtables are **7 p.m.**, on the **second Thursday** of each month at **Messiah Lutheran Church, 4700 S. Main St., Akron, OH 44319.** beginning in September. Make sure you mark your calendars.



Popcorn and Recruitment Kick-Off

This will be held on August 8, at 6 p.m. at Akron General Health & Wellness Center, Uniontown.

This year we will be following the same model as last year. We will be combining our popcorn kickoff and recruitment kickoff on the same night at the same time! Once again we will have a wonderful feast catered by Mission BBQ! Please make sure you RSVP to Gena Valloric at rvalloric@gmail.com so that you will get some food!

Fall round-ups

It's all about the boys, and without them there would not be a Scouting program. With that in mind, it is time to start thinking about how to recruit new Scouts to our program. Please do not wait until the last minute to turn in registrations. We need to keep Pat, our wonderful council registrar, in mind during this busy season. (Rumor has it she enjoys M&M's as well as flowers.) She is the one who enters thousands of new Scouts into the system each fall. To share round-up information please call your District Executive Tom at 330-773-0415 ext. 239 or email tom.craig@scouting.org.



Remind!

If you haven't already, please subscribe to our remind account! You can do that by using this link: www.remind.com/join/scouters3. This will add you to our text message alert system which we use to send out flyers, date and activity changes, as well as other important information. You can also text the message @scouters3 to the number 81010.

New roundtable location

We are excited to announce our new centralized roundtable location! Roundtables are **7 p.m.**, on the **second Thursday** of each month at **Messiah Lutheran Church, 4700 S. Main St., Akron, OH 44319**, beginning in September.

We will have a list of roundtable topics available at our popcorn and recruitment kick-off on August 8, and will also announce our roundtable commissioner team at that time.

August

- 8 District Committee Meeting—7 a.m.—Green Market District, 1700 Corporate Woods Pkwy., Uniontown
- 8 District Membership/Popcorn Kick-Off—6 p.m.—Cleveland Clinic Akron General Health & Wellness Center, 1940 Town Park Blvd., Uniontown
- 3 District Commissioner/Committee Meetings—6:30 p.m.—Council Service Center, 1601 S. Main St., Akron

Registration \$14

Boys' Life \$7

September

- 5 District Committee Meeting—7 a.m.—Green Market District, 1700 Corporate Woods Pkwy., Uniontown
- 7 District Roundtable Kick-Off—7 p.m.—Messiah Lutheran Church, 4700 S. Main St., Akron

Registration \$12

Boys' Life \$6

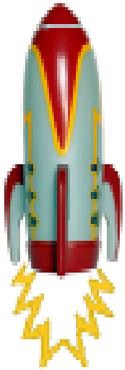
Moecomdws District

“It’s A Matter Of Pride”

District Chairman Paul Schumacher 330-650-2122 paulschus@gmail.com
 District Commissioner Ruth Mundy 330-962-2353 ruthiem621@gmail.com
 District Executive Wayne Nieman 330-773-0415 X 242 wnieman@bsamail.org
 District Website: www.moescouts.org



Build an Adventure: Blast Off into Scouting



For the 2017 Cub Scout fall recruiting we will be using the theme “Rocket into Scouting”! Please join us at August roundtable to get all of your recruiting supplies and information. We have flyers, yard signs, whirly bird incentive items, welcome packets, and much more!

Also, please plan on having a booth and leaders to promote Scouting at your school’s open house. Contact your principal and secure permission for your pack to place a display/activity table at this event.

2017 Peconic River Popcorn Sale



With so much activity this summer, your unit is probably looking to have a great fundraiser to replenish the ol’ bank account. So it’s a good thing that the 2017 popcorn sale is just around the corner.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 15, for the Moecomdws, Tri-Fires, and Old Portage Districts’

Popcorn Kick-Offs. We will be gathering at Weathervane Theatre, 1301 Weathervane Ln., Akron, OH 44313 Please be sure to make this meeting, we will be talking about changes to the 2017 popcorn sale and handing out sale materials. If you have not yet confirmed your unit kernel with Andrew Cole, our District Popcorn Kernel, please do so. You can email him at colesr0827@sbcglobal.net. Also, please don’t forget to register your unit for the popcorn sale on PRpopcorn.com.

Moe District Kick-Off and Cookout



Come join in the fun festivities at the Moe District Kick-Off on **Thursday, August 10**, at 7 p.m., at Camp Manatoc’s Gilwell Lodge and Shelter. Along with the usual booths to visit there will be short programs for Cub Scout leaders and Boy Scout leaders. Please reserve your spot at the kick-off by contacting Wayne at 330-773-

0415 ext. 242 or by email at wnieman@bsamail.org. We want to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone that plans on attending. See you on August 10!

Unit M & M Chair

It is the goal of the Boy Scouts of America, Great Trail Council and Moecomdws District to reach out to our nation’s youth to deliver the Scouting experience and promise to more boys (and girls). To do this each council, district, pack, troop and crew are being asked to create a new volunteer position for marketing and membership.

All packs, troops, and crews will have a membership chairman who will be responsible for year round youth recruitment. This person will meet monthly with the unit leaders to discuss membership goals and retention, organize two or more recruiting events per year using peer-to-peer techniques, connect with schools and churches to distribute fliers, help with boy talks, and participate in best practices membership training. The goal is to have each unit working on membership throughout the year and not just in the fall.

If you are interested in this leadership role in your pack, troop, or crew, reach out to your unit’s committee chairperson and let them know.



Continued on Page 18

August

- 3 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Hudson Presbyterian Church
 - 10 District Commissioner Meeting—Gilwell Lodge, Camp Manatoc
 - 10 Fall Kick-Off Roundtable—Gilwell Lodge, Camp Manatoc
 - 15 Popcorn Kick-Off—Weathervane Theater
 - 30 & 31 Hudson SNTJS, 6:30 p.m.—Ellsworth Hill Elementary
- Registration \$14 Boys’ Life \$7**

September

- 5 Show’N’Deliver Popcorn orders due
 - 6 Stow SNTJS
 - 7 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Hudson Presbyterian Church
 - 11 Uniform Day
 - 14 District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 14 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—St. Stephen Church
 - 16 Show’N’Deliver Popcorn distribution
 - 22 Fall Camporee—Camp Manatoc
- Registration \$12 Boys’ Life \$6**

Old Portage District

“THE Quality District”

District Chairman Bart Sauer 216-744-4255 bartsauer@aol.com
District Commissioner AnbuKuppusamy 330-696-0074 anbu_nee@yahoo.com
District Executive Dennis Vargo 330-773-0415 X 214 dvargo@bsamail.org
Old Portage Website <https://oldportage.com/>



WELCOME BACK!!

Welcome back

Hopefully everyone had a great summer and is ready for a brand new, fun-filled year of Scouting. That's right, it's time once again to be thinking about recruiting new Scouts, this year's popcorn sale, training, new programs, and everything else that is part of the Scouting program. Just a reminder that roundtables will take place on the **2nd Thursday** of each month beginning **7 p.m.**, at **Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn, OH**. Also, don't forget that the district meetings are the **1st Thursday** of each month at **Bath United Church of Christ at 7 p.m.** Be sure to mark your calendars.

2017 Pecatonica River Popcorn Sale

With so much activity this summer, your unit is probably looking to have a great fundraiser to replenish the ol' bank account. So, it's a good thing that the 2017 popcorn sale is just around the corner. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, **August 15, at 6 p.m.**, for the Old Portage District Popcorn Kick-Off at Weathervane Theater. The Great Trail Council is proud to announce our fifth year with popcorn vendor Pecatonica River. We know that your Scouts will be able to raise more money for their troops, packs, and crews with the continuation of **tins** and the higher quality better tasting popcorn to sell.

School Night to Join Scouting—SNTJS

It's all about the boys, and without them there would not be a Scouting program. With that in mind, it is time to start thinking about how to recruit new Scouts to our program. Please do not wait until the last minute to turn in registrations. We need to keep Pat, our wonderful council registrar, in mind during this busy season. She is the one who enters thousands of new Scouts into the system each fall. To share SNTJS information please call your District Executive Dennis at 330-773-0415 ext. 214 or email dvargo@bsamail.org or turn it in at kick-off on August 10.

District Kick-Off is August 10

Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn

Enjoy a cookout and fellowship while learning how to prepare your unit for a wonderful year of Scouting. Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing units will receive essential information and exciting tips for recruitment and retention of youth. Cub Scout units, will also receive their School Night to Join Scouting packages.

This year we will be having a School Night to Join Scouting for Cubs and a marketing presentation for Boy Scouts. We will have a short presentation about Venturing. Our objective is to share as many ideas as we can and to help each pack, troop, or crew feel more equipped. We'll be taking notes as a district to learn how we can better serve you.

We are asking that every pack, troop, and crew have **THREE** registered leaders present for the event. RSVP is required by August 3, in order to plan numbers for food.

To register please email dvargo@bsamail.org.



August

- 3 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Bath United Church of Christ
 - 10 Roundtable Kick-Off—7 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn
 - 15 Popcorn Kick-Off—6 p.m.—Weathervane Theatre
- Registration \$16 Boys' Life \$8**

September

- 2-4 Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 Show'N'Sell Popcorn orders due
 - 7 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Bath United Church of Christ
 - 7 Roundtable—7:15 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn
 - 7 District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Faith Lutheran Church, 2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn
 - 15-17 Old Portage Fall Camporee
 - 16 Show'N'Sell Distribution
- Registration \$14 Boys' Life \$7**

Seneca District

“The Heart of the Great Trail Council”

District Chairman Bruce Dockstader 330-678-4376
District Commissioner Keith Pearson 330-931-9544 falconmath@yahoo.com
District Executive Nate Watson 330-773-0415 X 227 Nathan.Watson@scouting.org
Seneca Website: www.senecadistrict.org



Seneca takes on Randolph Fair!



This **August 22-27**, the Seneca District will be taking part in the Portage County Randolph Fair! We will have a booth set up in the Merchant Building to show off all the great things we do in Scouting! WE NEED YOUR HELP, to

make this a success! The booth needs to be manned daily from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and we have some positions left available if you or someone in your unit is interested in showing off for the Scouts and gaining some new Scout families for our program! Contact Nate directly for more information on this event at: Nathan.Watson@Scouting.org. (Please put “Randolph Fair” in the subject line.)

Day camp was a success

A huge thanks and a round of applause to **Stephanie McLean, Cindy Olesh**, and their **staff** for running the Seneca District Day Camp at Camp Butler. This year’s theme was Cub Scout Investigators or CSI for short! More than 80 Scouts and their siblings represented 13 packs from the Seneca District this year! As you see the various staff around, be sure to shake their hands and congratulate them on a job well done! If you’re interested in helping with the 2018 day camp, please contact District Executive Nate Watson.

Annual Seneca Fall Kick-Off

Come join the magical fun at the Seneca District Kick-Off on **August 10**, at **NEOMED The New Center**, which will start at 6:30 p.m., sharp. All packs, troops and crews are encouraged to send leaders to the official start of the new program year. You’ll have the opportunity to get all the information and resources for the new program year. You’ll also find some great ideas to help make your program more fun and exciting for your Scouts.

The roundtable staff has planned a booth show, popcorn information, and tables set up for every part of the district to help you be successful in your Scouting year! Cub Scout Recruiting Kits will be available. Please bring with you your unit’s open house date and the night you wish to have your School Night to Join Scouting. This is a must to bring those dates. These are both critical for the fall recruiting process.

School Night to Join Scouting (SNTJS)

As we grow closer to August and September, it means one thing...kids are back to school! Please keep in mind that schools opening equals School Nights to Join Scouting. Please bring your SNTJS information to the Seneca Fall Kick-Off. The district executive needs time to call principals, schedule boy talks, and print fliers. **Nate Watson** can be reached at 330-773-0415 ext. 227 or email Nathan.Watson@scouting.org. You can also contact **Beth Meyer** to provide her with the same information at 216-402-4858 or bethmeyer608@hotmail.com.

Attend your school’s open house

The membership team is encouraging all Cub packs to attend their respective school’s open house in late August or early September as a lead in to the School Night to Join Scouting recruiting. Remember to have a few Cub Scouts in uniform with you at the information table you set up. Contact the building principal to arrange permission to be there. Some packs are able to coordinate with the Girl Scouts and/or PTO group.

Support Scouting Uniform Day

Great Trail Council is promoting and encouraging all youth and adults to wear their uniforms to work and school (if appropriate) on September 11. We are asking everyone to help support and promote Scouting in our communities. Please have a unit representative determine the number of patches you will need and contact our Scout Shop (330-773-4078) and they will have them available for you!

Continued on Page 18

August

- 3 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 10 Fall Kick-Off Roundtable—6:30 p.m.—NEOMED (the New Center)
 - 10 Popcorn Kick-Off—NEOMED
 - 22-27 Booth at Portage County Fair
- Registration \$12 Boys’ Life \$6**

September

- 2-4 Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed
 - 5 Show’N’Sell Popcorn orders due
 - 7 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 11 Uniform Day
 - 14 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Kent United Church of Christ, 1400 E. Main St., Kent
 - 29-30 Cub Adventure Weekend—Camp Butler
- Registration \$10 Boys’ Life \$5**

Tri-Fires District

“Fired Up Scouting!”

District Chair Dan Cargill 330-631-8810 cargilldan@gmail.com
District Commissioner Wes Ramp 330-338-7917 wesramp@gmail.com
District Executive Todd Lennig 330-773-0415 X 232 Todd.Lennig@scouting.org



Blast Off into Scouting



For the 2017 Cub Scout fall recruiting we will be using the theme “Rocket into Scouting!” Please join us at the August roundtable to get all of your recruiting supplies and information. We have flyers, yard signs, whirly bird incentive items, welcome packets, and much more!

Also, please plan on having a booth and leaders to promote Scouting at your school's open house. Contact your principal and secure permission for your pack to place a display/activity table at this event.

It's time to sell popcorn!

With so much activity this summer, your unit is probably looking to have a great fundraiser to replenish the ol' bank account. So, it's a good thing that the 2017 popcorn sale is just around the corner. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 15, for the Moecomdws, Tri-Fires, and Old Portage Districts' Popcorn Kick-Off. We will be gathering at Weathervane Theatre, 1301 Weathervane Ln., Akron, OH 44313. Please be sure to make this meeting, we will be talking about changes to the 2017 popcorn sale and handing out sale materials. If you have not yet confirmed your unit kernel with **Tosha Curren**, our District Popcorn Kernel, please do so. You can email her at or gscoutmom@yahoo.com. Also, please don't forget to register your unit for the popcorn sale on PRpopcorn.com.

Don't miss the Tri-Fires Fall Kick-Off

**Tri-Fires District
Fall Roundtable Kick-Off
Thursday, August 10
7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.**

**Wedgewood United Methodist Church
2350 Wedgewood Dr., Akron, OH 44312**

****ALL REGISTERED SCOUTERS—PLEASE BE IN ATTENDANCE! LET'S START THE YEAR OFF WITH A BANG!**

All registered Scouters are invited! Bring the entire committee!

Every unit will receive a special packet full of goodies to help you conduct a fantastic school night program in your school to invite new families to join Scouting.

Look for your promotional flyer in your mailbox.

Unit M & M Chair

It is the goal of the Boy Scouts of America, Great Trail Council and Moecomdws District to reach out to our nation's youth to deliver the Scouting experience and promise to more boys (and girls). To do this each council, district, pack, troop, and crew are being asked to create a new volunteer position for marketing and membership.

All packs, troops, and crews will have a membership chairman who will be responsible for year round youth recruitment. This person will meet monthly with the unit leaders to discuss membership goals and retention, organize two or more recruiting events per year using peer-to-peer techniques, connect with schools and churches to distribute flyers, help with boy talks, and participate in best practices membership training. The goal is to have each unit working on membership throughout the year and not just in the fall.

If you are interested in this leadership role in your pack, troop or crew, reach out to your unit's committee chairperson and let them know.

National Summertime Pack Award

If your pack qualified for the National Summertime Pack Award by conducting three pack activities during the summer (one in June, July, and August) here is the link to the Summertime Pack Award form: <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33748.pdf>.



August

- 3 District Commissioners Meeting—6 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
 - 3 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
 - 10 District Kick-Off & Chili Cook-Off—7 p.m.—Wedgewood United Methodist Church, 2350 Wedgewood Dr., Akron
 - 15 Popcorn Kick-Off—6:30 p.m.—Weathervane Playhouse
- Registration \$12 Boys' Life \$6**

September

- 2-4 Labor Day Weekend
 - 7 District Commissioners Meeting—6 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
 - 7 District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
 - 14 Roundtable—7 p.m.—Northwest Ave. Church of Christ, 737 Northwest Ave., Tallmadge
 - 16 Popcorn Show'N'Sell distribution
- Registration \$10 Boys' Life \$5**

Whispering Pines District

District Chairman Terry Daprile 330-502-8133 Tmdaprile52@gmail.com
District Commissioner Beth Harnishfeger 330-758-3853 sciota52@aol.com
District Executive John Brkic john.brkic@scouting.org
Whispering Pines Website <https://>



Fall Kick-Off at Camp Stambaugh

Join Whispering Pines District for our Fall Kick-Off on **Thursday, August 3, at 6 p.m.** We will start with a cookout at 6 p.m., at the Brown Pavilion at Camp Stambaugh and will continue with our normal roundtable at 7 p.m.

It is important that you attend this roundtable because we will be handing out all of the Fall Membership Drive supplies for your units. Please make sure that at least one member of your unit is at the Fall Kick-Off.



Popcorn Kick-Off and important dates

Join the Arrowhead and Whispering Pines Popcorn Kick-Off on **Saturday, August 5, at 10 a.m.** This kick-off will be where you receive all of your information for the 2017 Pecatonica River Popcorn Sale including your tasting kits. Please make sure that your unit popcorn "kernels" are attending this meeting if you are selling popcorn.

*Saturday, August 5, 10 a.m.
St. Rose Church Hall
48 Main Street
Girard, OH 44420*

Please mark your calendars now for our popcorn distribution dates! Show'N'Sell popcorn will be distributed on Friday, September 15, and Take Order popcorn will be distributed on Friday, November 10. The warehouse location for this year is still TBD but it will be in Mahoning County again this year.

Order your fall recruitment flyers

Please make sure that you are ordering your fall recruitment flyers at least two weeks prior to your round-ups, or open houses. You can fill out the online form to get your flyers made by visiting this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/oH9cmWXRQ2NRreZX83>

Save the date for fall camporee



Pat Kelly has been working on planning our first fall camporee, which will be a hike that starts in downtown Youngstown and finishes at Camp Stambaugh over the course of Friday evening to Saturday. Scouts will camp in Millcreek Park on Friday night and finish the hike on Saturday. Please be on the lookout for more information for this **September 22-24**, event.

Scout museum tours and programs



Tours can be arranged for the Camp Stambaugh Scout Museum by calling **Bill Moss** at 330-755-6795 or better yet by emailing at billbpmoss@sbcglobal.net with a request to tour the museum or request a special program for your unit. Both Cub packs and Scout

troops are encouraged to come out to the museum and have a short meeting there and tour the museum. Boy Scouts can work on building a commando rope, which they get to keep, it's free. Cub Scouts can build an Indian Bone Game, which they get to keep, it's free.

We even do History Hunts for answers to questions about Scouting which can be run as a competition between dens and/or patrols. We can even run a History Hunt as a station during district or council activities.

August	
3	Fall Kick-Off Cookout & Roundtable—6 p.m.—Brown Pavilion, Camp Stambaugh
5	Popcorn Kick-Off—10 a.m.—St. Rose Church, Girard
29-Sept. 4	Canfield Fair
	Registration \$10 Boys' Life \$5
September	
2-4	Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed
6	District Commissioners Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Boardman Library
6	District Advancement Committee Meeting—6:30 p.m.—Boardman Library
6	District Committee Meeting—7 p.m.—Boardman Library
7	Roundtable—7 p.m.—Westminster Presbyterian Church
15	Popcorn distribution
22	Fall Camporee
	Registration \$8 Boys' Life \$4

Venturing

Chairman Elizabeth Murphy 330-434-9300
Commissioner Anna Lott 330-699-1854
Advisor Kimberly Myers 330-801-0111
Staff Advisor Dennis Vargo 330-773-0415 ext. 214
Council Venturing President Anna Grund President@GTCVenturing.org

murphy.venture.gtc@gmail.com
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Advisor@GTCVenturing.org
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Help us update our records



Communication is important to us. Please update us on who is your crew president so we can be sure to include him or her in GTCVenturing news. Please do this even if you have given us an update in the recent past.

There is a brief reporting tool you can use at <http://GTCVenturing.org/crewpresident>. It only takes a few minutes to complete. Every crew president is a voting member of the VOA and has the opportunity to shape our service to crews. Every crew advisor is on the VOA as well. All crew presidents and crew advisors are invited to the VOA monthly conference calls. We will announce when those begin again in the fall.

Come to Manatoc on August 12 for three great programs

Bring your crew to the Venturing Luau Weekend, August 11-13. The luau itself starts at 5 p.m., on Saturday, August 12, and will feature a steak dinner, a fun dinosaur theme, and lots of pool fun. Details are in our 4-page all luau newsletter which you can download at:

<http://gtcventuring.org/news/2017/07/luau/> or at: <http://GTCVenturing.org/events>.

This year, not only are you having steak, you are invited to add on the adventure of shooting or climbing to your luau registration. Only as Venturers can you choose that some of your crew go climbing during the day while others go shooting while others join us only for the luau festivities starting at 5 p.m. Registration is online and ends Thursday, August 10, at 11:45 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but you might not get steak!

Council officers needed



We still have need for youth under 21 to apply to be officers of the VOA. In addition to the luau, November Fun Weekend, University of Scouting, and our banquet, this year they have the opportunity to plan and lead our VenturingFest contingent as well.

Nominate someone by emailing Kimberly Myers at Advisor@GTCVenturing.org or pick up the application at <http://GTCVenturing.org/VOA>, or both.

Join us for VenturingFest in 2018

Want to go back to the Jamboree? Or did you miss seeing the Summit this year? Was it too expensive or just too long? Well let's fix that!



We are getting excited for next summer. It is the 20th birthday of Venturing and Great Trail Council Venturing is forming a council contingent to VenturingFest 2018 (July 1-6) at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. It is a great deal for a week of high adventure and is almost impossibly cheap

at \$500 for youth and \$400 for adults. Details are being worked out and we will have an announcement and Q&A at the luau. Your crew can sign up on its own for VenturingFest of course, or sign up with the council contingent. There will be an up-charge to cover transportation, shirts and patches if any. As a contingent we are all guaranteed to be able to camp together. Visit our page and indicate your interest at

<http://gtcventuring.org/news/venturingfest/>

Another reason to go to VenturingFest? Well in 2016 everyone could do the Big Zip over and over. At the Jamboree each unit got only 6 Big Zip tokens. VenturingFest 2016 was like being at Disney World without the lines.

Adult training



All adult training is now online at:

<http://my.scouting.org> in bite-sized modules. Check out this great resource at:

<http://GTCVenturing.org/training>. Once logged in click on the red box on the right of the screen labeled BSA LEARN CENTER.

August

11-13 Venturing Luau Weekend

Moecomdws District cont'd.

Fall Camporee: Global Orienteering

We are happy to announce that we will be pairing up with Chippewa District for the 2017 Fall Camporee! Scouts will participate in SAR (search and rescue) missions along orienteering courses, learn from SAR professionals, and practice their new skills. Registration forms will be available on www.moescouts.org, and online registration will be live soon!

3rd Annual Punkin' Chunkin'

Cub Scouts, this year will be our 3rd Annual **Punkin' Chunkin'**! It will be held on Saturday, October 7, from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., at the Camp Butler Sports Field. Punkin' Chunkin' is for all Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos. The cost is \$10 per Scout. Included in the fee is a patch, pumpkin, craft, snack, and lots of other fun activities. Registration forms were put in pack saddlebags in August and are available on our website at www.moescouts.org. You can also register online at <https://scoutingevent.com/433-PunkinChunkin17>.

Check out our new website and Facebook

Have you checked out the new MOE website yet? If not, go to www.moescouts.org. Listening to your demands, your District Executive Wayne, locked himself in a room for a week and entered the 21st century by learning how to build a website. The website provides links for district info, events, advancement, BeAScout.org, leader contacts, etc. Also, like us on Facebook---Moecomdws District, Great Trail Council, B.S.A.

Seneca District cont'd.

Pecatonica River Popcorn Kick-Off

As we head into the fall we begin our popcorn campaign with Pecatonica River. If you are a unit leader or your unit's popcorn kernel, please plan on attending the **Popcorn Kick-Off on August 10** (Same day and time as our District Kick Off, please have multiple people in attendance). This year's kick-off will be meeting at NEOMED - the New Center, 4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.! Come on out to win prizes, get information on new items, and of course, a free dinner! Contact District Kernel **Sabrina Finney** at sabrinafinneypopcorn@gmail.com for more information!

Seneca Scout-O-Rama

Save the date for October 13-15, for our Scout-O-Rama program to be hosted at Plum Creek Park! Our theme will be a focus on T-2-1 advancement and comprising your own "Patrol Cookbook" based off various Scouter recipes on display at this event! We are planning on having this event open to the public as a showcase of Scouting. Contact **Chad Roberts** for more information at 330-221-9944 or email Logdog1974@gmail.com.

Council Info cont'd.

Total solar eclipse is August 21



A total solar eclipse is a rare event. A total solar eclipse whose path crosses right over the heart of the United States? Even rarer!

On August 21, 2017, the solar system serves up a special treat. August 21 is a Monday, but those Scouts and Venturers who are still on summer break

should plan a big celebration. Like all the best celebrations, this one comes with its own patch.

There won't be another total solar eclipse over the United States until 2024. After that, you must wait until 2045. In other words, when August 21 arrives, make sure you're ready.

Find more ways to make the most of this STEM-heavy celestial event at:

www.scouting.org/eclipse2017.

Council Calendar

August

- 7 Training Committee Meeting
- 11 Marketing Committee Meeting
- 12 Climbing Weekend
- 12 Shooting Sports Weekend
- 15 Commissioner Training Meeting
- 15 Roundtable Training
- 17 Cub Camping Promotions Meeting
- 19 Summit for Kids
- 22 Religious Committee Meeting
- 25-27 Wood Badge Course
- 29 District Commissioners Meeting
- 29 District Key 3 Meeting
- 31 Endowment Committee Meeting

September

- 2-4 Labor Day Weekend—Scout Shop/office closed
- 5 Show'N'Sell Popcorn orders due
- 7 Finance Committee Meeting
- 9 Cub Shooting Sports
- 9 Valley Bike Trip
- 11 Uniform Day
- 11 Executive Board Meeting
- 11 Funding Committee Meeting
- 12 Heritage Society Dinner
- 13 Boy Scout Camp Promotion Meeting
- 13 Wood Badge Dinner Committee
- 16 Show'N'Sell Distribution
- 16 Special Needs Training
- 19 Camping Committee Meeting
- 21 Council FOS Family Meeting
- 22-24 Wood Badge Course—Camp Butler
- 23 Litchfield Cup
- 24 Catholic Cub Day—Camp Manatoc
- 24 Wood Badge Feast
- 26 Council Commissioners Meeting
- 27 Properties Committee Meeting
- 27 University of Scouting Committee Meeting
- 29-30 Cub Adventure Camp—Camp Butler
- 29 Marketing Committee Meeting
- 30 Rifle/Shot Gun Shooting

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.

www.gtcbsa.org/scout-shop

Fax order form

www.gtcbsa.org/forms/fax_order.pdf

Camp Stambaugh Scout Shop

3712 Leffingwell Rd.

Canfield, OH 44406

330-533-4538

Tuesday & Thursday 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



Welcome
back
Scouts
and Scouters!

We have all the uniform shirts (and required insignia), pants, hats, belts, neckerchiefs, slides, and handbooks.

New to the program? Our staff will gladly assist you with outfitting your Scout or answering your questions.