



Nov - Dec 2013 Hou Koda District Newsletter



Website: www.houkodadistrict.org

"Hou Koda" is Native American - "Welcome Friend"

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AND AT THE INDY SCOUT SHOP



BSA CARES
Breast Cancer Awareness
Council Shoulder Patch

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM EVERY PATCH SOLD WILL GO TO LOCAL BREAST CANCER PROGRAMS

Cub Scout Day Camp - News

Belzer Cub Day Camp is looking for enthusiastic Scouts with great leadership abilities who are interested in becoming a part of the 2014 camp staff. Scouts must be 14 years old by the time camp starts. Interviews will be held on Friday, November 29, 2013 starting at 8:30 AM in the Activity Center at Camp Belzer and take approximately half an hour. If you know a Scout who is interested in joining the Camp Belzer staff, please have them call (317) 546-6031 to request an interview.

Unit Leaders Please Log into – www.myscouting.org

Cubmaster/Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, Charter Org Reps have a new "tool box" available for unit leaders making the administrative side of Scouting Much easier. It is AWESOME! You can see your training status; print our own membership cards, access active rosters for youth and adults, and more! Please check it out! Also, take a moment to update your myscouting.org profile with your member ID#. This will instantly update your pack's training status. Your member ID# can be found on a unit roster, using myscouting.org toolbox (if you are a leader), locating it on your BSA membership card, or by request (email: laudunn@crossroadsbsa.org). ALL CUB SCOUT LEADERS CAN GET FULLY TRAINED ONLINE (www.myscouting.org)!

Camping Information – From the Council and District Camping Committees

There are a few of changes for 2014 camping.

First change - All WEBELOS Adventure Camp and Cub Scout Day Camp registration will be completed online. There is no need to drive to the Scout Shop to register.



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Second change - Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on January 6, 2014, instead of the first business day of the year. The preferred method of registration is on-line, but you can contact Sherry Webb at (317) 813-7117 or swebb@crossroadsbsa.org.

Third Change - Along with a small price increase (CAC's camps are still one of the best deals in the region) there will be a \$10 premium fee for the June camping dates at Belzer Day Camp.

June fees are \$125 (Early Bird) and \$135 (Regular)

July fees are \$10 less

District Day Camp fees are \$70 (Early Bird) and \$80 (Regular)

WAC fees are \$140 (Early Bird) and \$150 (Regular)

Boy Scout Summer Camp will change little except a small increase in prices: \$230 (Early Bird) and \$240 (Regular). Adventure Point at Camp Ransburg is \$35 less. There is no June Premium fee for Krietenstein or Ransburg. Paddle boarding and SCUBA programs will be offered at Camp Krietenstein in 2014.

Big Change - The Council has noticed the number of troops (traditionally about 35 troops) who wait overnight to be first in line for Summer Camp sign-up. There will be a new process to make sign-up fairer for everyone. This new process/program is not yet finalized, but it will be implemented soon. If a troop feels that it has a need for certain campsites or weeks due to Scout mobility issues, unit size (50 or more scouts) or adults only able to attend during certain weeks they can forward their request to Ted Klick or Mary Carrico at the Scout Shop by April 15, 2014. The staff will evaluate your request and may reserve your selected day and/or campsite before open registration begins on May 1, 2014. These are the only reasons an early registration will be considered.

Camping packets for Packs, Troops and Crews will be available November 9, 2013 at Pow Wow. After that date, Cub Packs - contact Troy Crum (crum_troy@yahoo.com) and Troops/Crews - contact Doug Newlin (newlinjad@aol.com). Unit Commissioners please contact Troy or Doug for your units' packets and help us deliver them and encourage camping which is vital to the BSA program.

A century of Boys Life magazines

http://books.google.com/books/about/Boys_Life.html?id=2ThyM-8T1J4C has an entire archive of Boys Life magazines dating back to 1911. Boys' Life is the official youth magazine for the Boy Scouts of America. Published since 1911, it contains a proven mix of news, nature, sports, history, fiction, science, comics, and Scouting. Below are a few sample covers with a link to the site above.



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Chaplain Information – New channel on HK Web Site



We've added a new channel onto the Hou Koda Web Site with Chaplain Information. Included are Chaplain Training dates and a section on The Chaplain's Minute. Listed are Chaplain's Minute's written by Rev. James R. Brinkley - Council Chaplain Crossroads of America Council BSA. Check it out

FOS Presentations – Start planning now!

The Unit Scheduling Chair for FOS is Shelley Sparks-Munson (sasparks@ix.netcom.com), and the Presenter Scheduling Chair is Susan Cinkoske (cinkoske@sbcglobal.net). Please email Shelley the date you would like to schedule your FOS presentation. By reaching your Gold Level, your unit receives free rank advancement badges and cards. Your support helps fund council camps, workership scholarships, uniform assistance programs, and much more. Thank you for your support.

WEBELOS Transition events

Our current WEBELOS transition Chair is Mr. Chris Jackson (chris@troop306avon.com). All Packs and troops should be planning visits for WEBELOS this time of year. Do you have the info you need to contact other units in your area? Let us know what you need ASAP. If you invite, they will come! If you don't get an invite, take the first step by emailing the leaders.

Scout Strong – Wilderness 5K Run/Walk – November 9, 2013

Crossroads of America Boy Scout Council's SCOUT-Strong Wilderness Run 5K, was held Saturday November 9, 2013 at Camp Belzer. This timed 5K run wove through historic Camp Belzer and beautiful Fort Harrison State Park.



SCOUT-Strong PALA Challenge is a Scout specific Presidential Active Lifestyle Award or PALA. This is part of a national effort by the Boy Scouts of America, in collaboration with the President's Challenge, which is the premier program of the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition.

Thank you for participating in this year's Wilderness Run 5K! Our overall winner was Christian Noble, a 16 year old from Greenfield finishing in 17 min. 43 sec., a 5:44 min. per mile pace! Please check out race



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results at - http://m1.onlineraceresults.com/race/view_race.php?race_id=37048. Photos will be added soon to - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cacscouting/>.

Special thanks to!

- Chris LaFollette - race coordinator
- Anthem BlueCross BlueShield - race sponsor
- Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Inc. - race sponsor
- Firecrafter Service Organization - event volunteers
- Race volunteers
- Seals Ambulance
- Indianapolis Power & Light
- Caito Foods
- Runners Forum - prizes

Merit Badge Sundays at Ft. Harrison State Park

Another Merit Badge opportunity is to attend classes are held at the Visitor Center at Fort Harrison State Park. Cost is \$10 per scout per merit badge; payable day of class. Pre-Registration is required. Registration deadline is the Friday before each class. Min. class size is 10 scouts / Max. class size is 30 scouts. Register online at <http://meritbadgesundaysforharrison.eventbrite.com/#>. For more information call the

Visitor Center at (317) 591-0122 or email fortinterp@dnr.in.gov. We also offer merit badge classes for the entire troop! Contact the Interpretive Naturalist Staff at the Visitor Center at Fort Harrison State Park for more information. Classes offered:

November 24, 2013 Nature 10am - 3pm

December 29, 2013 Soil & Water Conservation 1pm - 4pm



2013 Peace Light Information



Each year a child from Upper Austria fetches a light from one of the lanterns (reportedly burning continuously for over 1000 years), in the grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The light is carried in two blast proof miners lamps on an Austrian Airlines jet from Tel Aviv, Israel to Vienna, Austria where it is distributed at a "Service of Dedication" to delegations from across Europe. For the past 25 years the European scouts have been one such delegation that has assisted in the distribution of the Peace Light throughout Europe.

Following 911, the Canadian scouts brought the Peace Light to New York City. In the years after 2001, Austrian Airlines agreed to fly the two miners lamps containing the Peace Light directly from Vienna, following the "Service of Dedication," to New York City. For the next several years the Peace Light was distributed up and down the east coast of the United States by the local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

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Six years ago, two adult scout leaders from Minnesota made it their personal mission to meet the Peace Light in New York City when it arrived on the Austrian Airlines jet and distribute it throughout the midwest and west.

The flame will be burning at the DUMC, 820 Mill Street, Danville, Indiana, beginning Sunday morning December 6th, and you may acquire the flame for your home or for your church to use as you celebrate Christmas. The Church will be open during normal business hours and the flame will be burning in the sanctuary.

There will be a community breakfast as well for anyone to come and receive the light. However, the date has not yet been set. You are invited to come and acquire the Peace Light and learn more about its journey from Europe to the United States. Scouts from Troop 302 will be asked to assist in this ceremony and distribution.

Alternative times to acquire the Peace Light may be scheduled by contacting Jeff Decker by e-mail at jeffrey.decker@sbcglobal.net. If you desire to take the flame home, we suggest you bring a tea candle in a soup can to transport the light back to your house. Please visit www.peacelight.org for much more detailed information, and pictures, on the history of the International Peace Light. Questions? Contact Jeff Decker Phone: (317) 938-1860

December Roundtable – Thursday, December 12, 2013



We hope to see a representative from EVERY Unit in the District in attendance. Location: LDS Church at 2125 Reeves Road at 6:30. We owe it to our youth to commit to attend as often as possible. If not to learn something, to get the latest District news and event schedules. Try to be on the leading edge of change as you learned in Wood Badge. No Wood Badge? We can help you with that too!

For more information contact Laura Dunn laudunn@crossroadsbsa.org.

We want to assist you in keeping your program and outlook on a positive note. We'll try our best to teach, review and listen to you on a monthly basis. YES!! We said listen! We want to know how you are doing and if you have any suggestions, problems or concerns. After all it is a ROUNDTABLE!

Indiana Sports and Fitness Show – January 3 – 5, 2014

January 3-5 is the date for the Indiana Sports & Fitness Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Activities include; Skateboard park - Sequence, live exercise hourly, archery education by the DNR, corn-hole tournaments, golf driving simulator, Colts - NFL Paly 60, free health screenings, Rupert from the Survivor show plus much more.



2014 University of Scouting – January 18, 2014

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Warren Central High School, Indianapolis, IN (Entrance from 18th St., east of Post Road). Register on-line at www.crossroadsbsa.org/University For problems with on-line registration, or to register by phone, contact Sherry Webb, swebb@crossroadsbsa.org, 317-813-7117.

Winter 2014 Camporee – January 24 – 26, 2014

Save the date for the winter 2014 camporee. The location will be at Belzer Scout Camp.

District Dinner – Thursday, March 14, 2014

Do you know an adult volunteer you think should be recognized for their contributions to BSA? If so, the time is now to begin putting those nomination forms together. There is an award for just about every position in scouting, from Cubs to Venturing, Committee members to district staff. Please find 10 minutes to complete a nomination form with as much information as you know on these great volunteers.

The deadline this year will be February 28th, 2014 to submit your nominations. There is no need to wait until then to get them in. You can bring those completed forms to monthly Roundtable, email, or USPS mail those forms to our District Adult Recognition Chair, John Moore. His contact info is: email: byujohn@att.net 722 Settlers Walk Brownsburg, IN 46112

Also, please save the date for our district dinner where the awards will be presented: March 13, 2014 (It's the roundtable night in March).

PHILMONT 2014

- Venturing Crew 396 is going back to Philmont and you can join them. They will be hiking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from July 4 to July 16, 2014. If you are interested in joining them, contact: TJ Kackowski by phone 317-605-4213 or e-mail at tkackows@indiana.edu
- Troop 494 is looking for 1 Adult and 3 youth for Philmont July 2014. Fees are \$800.00 plus travel via Amtrack -arrive July 16, 2014, depart July 28, 2014. \$450.00 due to troop by 9-23-14 final payment March 2014. They are planning a crew of 12 scouts. Contact Joe Winterrowd 317-403-2678 or e-mail at joewinterrowd494@gmail.com



Community Service Opportunities – Eagle Scout Project Leads

- Partners in Housing (PIH) wants to build a library/tutoring room for kids at their property. This would be a great Eagle Scout project. If interested contact PIH - Chris Maples cmaples@partnersinhousingindy.org 317-633-1861, x108
- Eagle project for Hendricks County Senior Services - a concrete apron - digging asphalt, forming, pouring concrete. We have a potential donor for concrete. The contact for this project is as follows:



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Name: Larry Conrad
Cell Phone: 431-1866
E-Mail: LarryConrad@ameritech.net

- Need assistance with yard work. Brief info: older man (61yrs), disabled veteran with some mobility and strength issues, but mostly a bad (damaged) heart from a massive heart attack. Have a little home on the far west side of Indy in Marion County, just south of Speedway near W. Washington and Lyndhurst. Located at 801 Ingomar Street, Indianapolis 46241. It is on the south east corner of McCarty and Ingomar. My phone (land line with machine) is 317-244-7029. Thank you kindly, Harry Brunet (Buck)
- Pat Masterson from Faith Lutheran Church in Avon called asking if any Scouts would be interested in building two picnic tables. The church will pay for materials. Pat Masterson 317-856-3453
- Mark (317-626-2633) is a prior Scout leader and teacher looking for help weeding his small garden. He was in an automobile accident April 1st. His homeowners association is demanding immediate action on the matter but he can't physically get outside. He reached out to Scouts to lend a hand. He has a positive Scouting story with a need in the community. Please contact Mark directly if you can lend a hand. He lives near the Ben Davis area.

Mark your Calendar for Upcoming Events

November 14, 2013	District Roundtable	Plainfield LDS Church
November 24, 2013	Merit Badge Sunday - Nature	Ft. Harrison State Park
December 12, 2013	District Roundtable	Plainfield LDS Church
December 29, 2013	Merit Badge Sunday - Soil & Water Conservation	Ft. Harrison State Park
January 3 - 5, 2014	Indiana Sports and Fitness Show	Indiana State Fair Grounds
January 18, 2014	University of Scouting	Warren Central High School
January 24 - 26, 2014	Winter Camporee	Belzer Scout Camp
February 28, 2014	District Award Nominations Due	
March 14, 2014	District Awards Dinner	Plainfield LDS Church
April 2014	Spring Camporee - Hog Roast	Plainfield LDS Church
July 4 - 16, 2014	Philmont Trek Opportunity - Crew 396	Cimarron, NM
July 16 - 29, 2014	Philmont Trek Opportunity - Troop 494	Cimarron, NM
2019	World Jamboree	The Summit

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Contact Brenda Smith at bksmith856@aol.com to request or provide District Newsletter information. For additional Scouting information visit the following Web Sites:

www.crossroadsbsa.org

www.usscouts.org

www.meritbadge.com

www.macscouter.com

www.becomeascout.org

www.houkodadistrict.org

<https://summit.scouting.org/en/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/>

<http://www.ntier.org/>

<http://www.bsaseabase.org/>

Crossroads of America
Scout Education and Program Center
7125 Fall Creek Road North
Indianapolis, IN 46256
Phone: (317) 813-7125

District Leadership Team

District Chair: Ed Beck (317) 417-6084

District Vice Chair: Troy Crum (317) 919-0863

District Director: Juli Smith (317) 813-7121

District Executive: Laura Dunn (317) 813-7122

Activities Chair: Tim Shrewsbury (317) 203-6225

Adult Recognition: John Moore (317) 332-0942

Advancement Chair: Doug Pond (765) 497-1001

Boy Scout Recruitment Chair: Fred Owen

Boy Scout Round Table Commissioner: Jenna Grubbs (jennagrubbs@sbcglobal.net)

Cub Scout Fall Recruitment Chair: Vacant

Cub Scout Spring Recruitment Chair: Jacob Roesler (317) 459-2863

Fun Day Chair: Alan Huls (317) 748-9368

Camping Chair: Doug Newlin (317) 858-1815

Commissioner: Mike Dolan (317) 374-5578

Camporee Chair: Clint Groeschen (317) 517-6440

Eagle Board Chair: Dean Stevens (317) 989-8320

Finance Chair: Randy Effner (317) 839-9183

FOS Chair: Butch Straber (317) 431-1409

FOS Unit Scheduling Chair: Shelley Sparks-Munson

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FOS Presenter Scheduling Chair: Susan Cincoske
Membership Chair: Chuck Fippen (317) 201-2694
New Unit Organization Chair: Vacant
Popcorn Chair: Jessica Scott (317) 242-8637
PR Chair: Carlo Bertolini (317) 487-5025
PR Chair: Katie Holmes
Newsletter & Web Site: Brenda Smith (317) 431-0743
Program Chair: Kent Ebbing (317) 965-2646
Scouting for Food Chair: Ed Richard (317) 979-2651
State Fair Chair: Doug Johnson (317) 679-5976
Training Chair: Rigo Rodriguez (703) 328-9654
WEBELOS Transition Chair: Chris Jackson (317) 258-8403
Webmaster: Brian Hazelton

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PHILMONT 2014

Venturing Crew 396 is going back to Philmont and you can join them.
We will be hiking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from
04 July - 16 July 2014.

If you are interested in joining them, contact: TJ Kackowski
by phone: (317) 605-4213 OR by e-mail: tkackows@indiana.edu

What is Philmont? Philmont is a little slice of heaven on earth donated by Waite Phillips to the Boys Scouts of America “for the purpose of perpetuating faith, self-reliance, integrity, freedom and principles used to build this great country by the American Pioneer.” Physically it is 137,493 acres located among the mountains and mesas of northeastern New Mexico. Base camp is at 6,600 feet above sea level and the highest peak is the top of Baldy Mountain at 12,441 feet above sea level.

What do you do at Philmont? We will be hiking through the rugged and majestic Sangre de Cristo Mountains. For 10 full days we will live out of our backpacks. When we are at staffed campsites in the back country, we’ll also have the opportunity to participate in various programs. Activities like horseback riding, burro packing, gold panning, rock climbing, 30.06 rifle shooting, archaeology, mountain biking, shotgun shooting and interpretive programs such as homesteading and mountain man rendezvous and much more are all available at Philmont.

Who can go? Any BSA registered youth or adult who meet the following criteria:

- Youth: At least 14 years of age by the date of arrival at Philmont OR have completed the 8th grade and be at least 13 years of age prior to participation.
- Adult: 21 years of age or older, limited to 4 per crew.
- All participants must be able to pass the Philmont medical requirements and meet the height / weight restrictions. These are the same criteria as found on the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record.
- All participants must be able to safely carry a 40 lb. backpack for the duration of this trip.

How many can go? Venturing Crew 396 has been awarded two (2) Philmont crews. At Philmont, a crew is a group of 7 – 12 campers including at least two adult advisors. The maximum number of adults is four per crew and a crew must have a majority of youth participants. All totaled, there is room for 24 Scouts and Scouters on this trip.

How much will this cost? The total estimated cost of this adventure is \$1,650 per person. This cost is based upon 2 full crews (24 people). Items included in this cost are:

- Philmont fees which include all food and lodging while at Philmont and while travelling to and from Philmont
- Round trip transportation to Calvary UMC, Brownsburg
- Training hikes
- Miscellaneous crew equipment
- Additional expenses to consider that are not included in the estimate above:
 - Personal equipment; e.g. backpack, hiking boots, rain gear, etc.
 - Souvenirs from Philmont

How much money is due when? As much as possible, as soon as possible. Our treasurer will help you to set up a payment schedule if needed. As a general rule, all monies spent on Philmont are non-refundable.

Will there be any fund-raising to help pay for this adventure? Yes, there is expected to be several fund raising activities to help defray the costs of this adventure.

What else do I need to know? A lot! However, this letter is isn’t intended to answer all your questions. It is strictly to convey some very preliminary information about this unique high adventure experience. The first item in being prepared is knowledge. You now know that Venturing Crew 396 has secured a trip to Philmont. Armed with this knowledge, you now have to decide if you want to make the commitment to attend what is sure to be a highlight in your life.

BOY SCOUTS  OF AMERICA®