



The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

A Publication of the Crossroads of America Council, BSA – Northeast District

“All the News...That Is News...for Pack, Troop & Crew Leadership in the Northeast District”

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In the Next 30 Days

- Aug 19 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Aug 19 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Aug 20 (6:30 PM)
NED OA/Firecrafter Mtgs
- Aug 22
[Chaplain Trng – Part IV](#)
- Aug 22-24
[Wood Badge – Session 1](#)
- Aug 27
[Cub Sign-up Night!](#)
- Aug 30-Sep 4
Cub New Parent Orient.
- Sep 1
Initial Popcorn Order Due
- Sep 1 (6:00 PM)
[Cub Ldr Specific Trng](#)
- Sep 2 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Sep 3 (7:00 PM)
[MB Councilor Trng](#)
- Sep 4
Popcorn Sales Begin
- Sep 6 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Sep 8 (6:00 PM)
[Cub Ldr Specific Trng](#)
- Sep 9 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables
- Sep 12
Cub Rocket Launch
- Sep 12 (9:00 AM)
[Outdoor Ldr Skills/BALOO](#)
- Sep 12-13
[Voyageur Wknd 1](#)

In the Next 60 Days

- Sep 16 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Sep 16 (7:00 PM)
[MB Councilor Trng](#)
- Sep 17 (6:30 PM)

Cub Scout Recruiting Corner -Sign-Up Night! - Part 4 of 4

The **TIME HAS COME!** School has started and the fall Cub Scout recruiting season is in full swing! The Council-wide Sign-Up Night (August 27) is less than two-weeks away. During this **BUSY** time, be sure to **Think Back, Take Action Now**, and **Look Ahead**.....[read more](#)

Popcorn - Part 3 of 3 - Selling Options and Best Practices

Yes...the opening day of popcorn sales is **three-weeks** away! In fact, your unit may have already received your order forms in the mail! As you prepare the scouts in your unit to sell popcorn, let's review the different ways they can add to their sales totals....[read more](#)

Best Practices for a Successful Re-Charter- Part 1 of 3

When Randy Quaid uttered those famous words in the movie Independence Day...*"Hello boys, I'm back"*, you probably thought he was only talking to the aliens in the movie. You might not have realized it, but he was also referring to that time in every unit's life that we all know **and love**...annual unit re-charter time! You guessed it...we are **less than 80-days away** from the deadline to turn-in your unit's annual re-charter documents. Over the next three issues of **The Northeast District Monthly Gazette** we will share best practices for a successful unit re-charter. Let's get started....[read more](#)

Volunteer Recognition Deadlines Fast Approaching

Dwayne Wade, noted basketball player for the Miami Heat probably captured the feelings of adult volunteers regarding their commitment to Scouting when he said *"The thing is, I don't do these things for recognition...I do them because those things make me whole and complete"*. That said, we have a number of nomination deadlines approaching (**September 30, 2015**) where we have the opportunity to recognize adult volunteers for their outstanding service. So what Scouting Awards are we talking about?....[read more](#)

Council-Level Scout Recognition Deadline Also Approaching

Do you have a Scout in your unit that has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities? If so, you will have an opportunity before **September 30, 2015** to nominate them for the **Walter J. Schuchmann Leadership Award**. Read on to see if you have a Scout who should be nominated....[read more](#)

Registration for 2017 National Jamboree CAC Contingents Open

Do you want to be part of Boy Scouting history? If the answer is "Yes", then you're in luck. The Crossroads of America Council, BSA (CAC) is taking a contingent of 216 Boy Scouts, 36 Venturers and 28 adult leaders to join 40,000 other Scouts and Scouters at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree to be held at the [Summit Betchel Scout Reservation](#) in West Virginia between **July 19 to July 28, 2017**. You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity...[read more](#)

The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – Knobstone Trail Rocks

Are you looking for a place to prepare for backpacking a section of the Appalachian Trail or for an upcoming trip to Philmont, or are you just looking for a challenging backpack trip? Only a **two-hour drive** south down I-65 from Indianapolis will get you to the northern terminus of the Knobstone Trail! This hidden Indiana hiking gem has been used by many to prepare for the challenges of either of these rugged backpacking adventures. This outing is appropriate for Boy Scout/Venturing units (*although NOT RECOMMENDED for first time backpackers*)....[read more](#)

NED OA/Firecrafter Mtgs

- Sep 19
Popcorn Storefront Begin
- Sep 19-20
[Voyageur Wknd 2](#)
- Sep 19-21
[Wood Badge – Session 2](#)
- Sep 25-26
[Wilderness First Aid](#)
- Sep 30
Silver Beaver, Eagle-to-Eagle, Friend-of-Eagle Award Nominations Due
- Oct 1
NED Re-Charter Begins
- Oct 1 (7:00 PM)
[MB Councilor Trng](#)
- Oct 1
Walter J. Schuchmann Leadership Award Nomination Due
- Oct 4 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Oct 7 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Oct 7 (7:00 PM)
Re-Charter Help Session
- Oct 14 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables
- Oct 14 (7:00 PM)
Re-Charter Help Session

In the Next 90 Days

- Oct 15 (6:30 PM)
NED OA/Firecrafter Mtgs
- Oct 16-18
NED Fall Camporee
- Oct 21 (7:00 PM)
Re-Charter Help Session
- Oct 31 (TBA)
Unit Re-Charter Turn-in
- Nov 4 (4:00 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Nov 4 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Nov 5 (7:00 PM)
MB Councilor Trng
- Nov 11 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables

Who Can I Contact

Do you have feedback on the current issue?

Do you have ideas for news items in a future issue of

***The Northeast District
Monthly Gazette?***

Cub Scout Recruiting Corner -Sign-Up Night! - Part 4 of 4

The **TIME HAS COME!** School has started and the fall Cub Scout recruiting season is in full swing! The Council-wide Sign-Up Night (August 27) is less than two-weeks away. During this **BUSY** time, be sure to **Think Back, Take Action Now,** and **Look Ahead...**

Think Back: Take a moment to remember all of the good times that your family has had over the last year(s) with your scouting family. Think about the skills your son has learned and how much he has grown through scouting. Don't forget that scouting gives you a front row seat to the moments that have impacted your son. Let that passion and commitment fuel you through the recruiting season as you share this amazing opportunity with other boys and families.

Take Action Now to make this your most successful recruiting season EVER: Here's a to-do list (I am sure that you have even more on yours).

- Place yard signs in your neighborhood and at the school
- Use your social media to post pictures of scouting fun and encourage your friends to become part of the fun!
- Give flyers to your soccer and football team families
- Be sure your unit puts messages in the newsletters of your Chartering Organization. How can you recruit there as well?
- Have all scouts in the pack wear their uniforms to school on Boy Talk day and Aug. 27. They are your best recruiters! Invite their friends to join the fun
- Have your first month of meetings planned. The sooner families engage, the higher the chance they will stay involved.

Look Ahead: Plan a fall service project for your school and/or chartering organization. Scouting is also about giving back and *doing a good turn daily!*

Enjoy the Ride! YIS,
[Steve Creason](#) and [Terry Prather](#)
Your NE District Membership Team

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

Popcorn - Part 3 of 3 - Selling Options and Best Practices

Yes...the opening day of popcorn sales is **three-weeks** away! In fact, your unit may have already received your order forms in the mail! As you prepare the scouts in your unit to sell popcorn, let's review the different ways they can add to their sales totals.

TAKE ORDER SALES:

- **Description:** Customers order popcorn on an order form and wait for it to be delivered in November.
- **Average sales per hour:** The sky's the limit!
- **Who buys this way?** Family members, friends, neighbors, parents' coworkers, teachers, coaches, hairdressers, and customers purchasing only military magnets.
- **Best Practices:** Before Scouts hit the streets and knock on doors, they should approach closest family and friends, especially during the new two week blitz (September 4-18). Help Scouts make a list of 10-15 family and friends they know will make a purchase. After initial contacts, they should be close to their goal and feel confident of their sale victories.

DOOR-TO DOOR SALES:

- **Description:** Scout, with a friend or family member, sells popcorn on-hand (in a wagon or vehicle) to customers at home; delivering the popcorn and collecting payment on-the-spot.
- **Average sales per hour:** \$200
- **Who buys this way?** Suburban neighborhoods, rural homes, city townhouses, and customers only purchasing military ribbons.
- **Best Practices:** Allow the customer to receive popcorn on-the-spot only after they place an order on the form. Say, "Would you like your product now instead of waiting?" Customers tend to choose the least expensive item that you have on hand, so don't let them see your "stash" right away.

ONLINE SALES:

- **Description:** Scouts solicit customers via email or social media. Customers order popcorn using Scout's online link or searching for them on www.trails-end.com. Then customers pay shipping and receive popcorn within 3-9 business days.
- **Average sale per customer:** \$45
- **Who buys this way?** Out-of-town family and friends, parents' coworkers, and social media connections.
- **Best Practices:** Scouts self-register for online selling and create an account at the beginning of the sale (online sales begin Sept.1). They are encouraged to email and share personal order links on social media. Within two weeks, they should follow-up with those who have not ordered and send thank you messages to those who have.

STOREFRONT SALES:

- **Description:** Scouts sell popcorn (exchange popcorn and money on-the-spot) with strangers in front of high traffic stores or events.
- **Average sales per hour:** \$100
- **Who buys this way?** Strangers, grocery store shoppers, college students, sports attendees, and festival attendees.
- **Best Practice:** Schedule booth time with store managers as soon as possible. Schedule Scouts to fill 2-hour timeslots. All participating Scouts get equal credit for the day's total sales. This is a great way to increase visibility in the community and recruit new scouts.

As with many things we do in scouting, this is a golden opportunity for scouts to learn valuable life lessons. I think that Dave Ramsey, author, radio/television host, and motivational speaker said it best...*"We are all in the business of sales. Teachers sell students on learning, parents sell their children on making good grades and behaving"*...and of course, scouts sell popcorn!

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

Best Practices for a Successful Re-Charter- Part 1 of 3

When Randy Quaid uttered those famous words in the movie Independence Day...*"Hello boys, I'm back"*, you probably thought he was only talking to the aliens in the movie. You might not have realized it, but he was also referring to that time in every unit's life that we all know **and love**...annual unit re-charter time! You guessed it...we are **less than 80-days away** from the deadline to turn-in your unit's annual re-charter documents. Over the next three issues of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette* we will share best practices for a successful unit re-charter. Let's get started.

The first step to a successful unit re-charter is to secure **sufficient help from adults** affiliated with your unit. While the tasks that need to be completed are well defined and relatively straight forward, working the tasks through your unit is best accomplished by a small team of dedicated, well-trained volunteers. This will allow you to divide the tasks and conquer them in parallel. There are three main areas of the re-charter process that need to be effectively staffed to assure a successful and relatively painless re-charter process:

1. Every unit will need a focal point to obtain a **re-charter commitment** from members of your unit that wish to “re-up” for another year of scouting with your unit. Part of the re-charter commitment will require the collection and tracking of required annual BSA re-charter and Crossroads of America, BSA insurance fees. Some units also use this effort to collect annual activity fees; if so this will also need to be collected and tracked. Failure to have the correct fees available when the re-charter documents are turned in will result in the unit not being re-chartered.
 - o If your unit adds new members during the **re-charter commitment** period (or on the August 27, 2015 Cub Scout sign-up night), it is a good idea to get the new Scout applications signed and turned-into the Registrar at Golden-Burke Scout Center ASAP. This also applies to new adult members of your unit; however with adults, in addition to the application, make sure and attach proof that Youth Protection Training has been successfully completed. Getting all new Scouts and Scouters on your Troop register ahead of the re-charter activity will reduce the number of new Scouts and Scouters that you will have to add manually to the BSA database prior to your re-charter turn-in day.
2. A key component to a successful re-charter for adults will be a focal point to **assure that Youth Protection Training (YPT) is current** for all re-chartering adult members. A team member focused on identifying adults who need to re-take Youth Protection Training (YPT) prior to the re-charter deadline and then “bird dogging” them to make sure that it is completed and in the system before re-charter submission will be needed. Adults attempting to re-charter without having valid YPT will be dropped from the unit!
3. The final area of focus for unit re-charter is the completion of **Journey to Excellence (JTE) documents** for the unit. Completing JTE documents will likely take time to find all of the information needed since the last re-chartering process, unless the unit has been tracking the needed data all along. Failure to submit the JTE documents for the unit will result in the unit not being re-chartered.

Now, as most units are re-assembling after the summer, is the best time to secure the volunteers needed for a successful and relatively painless re-charter process! When you gain your volunteer’s commitment to help with re-charter, please have them block **Wednesday, September 9, 2015 from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM** for **Northeast District Re-Charter Training**. Check back next month for more best practices, or contact your unit commissioner or your District Executive, [Adam Walden](#) with any re-charter questions that you may have.

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

Volunteer Recognition Deadlines Fast Approaching

Dwayne Wade, noted basketball player for the Miami Heat probably captured the feelings of adult volunteers regarding their commitment to Scouting when he said “*The thing is, I don’t do these things for recognition...I do them because those things make me whole and complete*”. That said, we have a number of nomination deadlines approaching (**September 30, 2015**) where we have the opportunity to recognize adult volunteers for their outstanding service. So what Scouting Awards are we talking about?

Silver Beaver Award – The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. It is given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. It is given to those who do not actively seek it.

To nominate a deserving Scouter for the Silver Beaver Award, download the [nomination form](#), complete it and submit it to CAC by the deadline. Please follow the directions on the application form. This application will be reviewed by a selection committee; the committee will not know the name of the nominee or the name of the nominator. Selections will be based only on the information provided on the application.

The CAC also created a pair of unique Council-wide recognitions for adults who have provided assistance to Scouts on their journey to the rank of Eagle. The first is the **Eagle to Eagle Award** presented annually to an Eagle Scout, who, as an adult, is now serving our youth as an active adult volunteer in a Scout troop or Venturing Crew. The **Friend of Eagle Award** honor a non-Eagle adult volunteer who activity assists Scouts on the trail to Eagle. To nominate a Scouter for either award, please download the Eagle to Eagle and/or the Friend of Eagle nomination forms, complete and submit them to CAC by the established deadline. However, please note that as this issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette* went to “press” these nomination forms were not yet generally available. As soon as they are posted on the Council website, a hyperlink to both nomination forms will be distributed.

Last year, three Scouters from the Northeast District received Silver Beaver Awards, while both the Eagle to Eagle and Friend of Eagle Awards were presented to active adults in our District! Let’s take advantage of this opportunity to nominate our best Scouters for these distinguished recognitions.

For more information about these awards, please contact [Sandi Hobbs](#).

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

Council-Level Scout Recognition Deadline Also Approaching

Do you have a Scout in your unit that has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities? If so, you will have an opportunity before **September 30, 2015** to nominate them for the **Walter J. Schuchmann Leadership Award**. Read on to see if you have a Scout who should be nominated.

Each Scout being nominated must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Currently serving in a position of leadership in his troop;
2. At least First Class in rank;
3. Have served in a leadership role for at least six months;
4. Have not reached his 18th birthday prior to November 11 of the year that the Scout applies for the award.

If selected, the Scout will be presented this award at the Veterans Day Banquet, typically held on November 11 of each year. Nominations for this award must be submitted to the Crossroads of America Council, BSA (CAC) office by **September 30, 2015** to be considered. However, please note that as this issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette* went to “press” this nomination forms was not yet generally available. As soon as it has been posted on the Council website, a hyperlink to both nomination forms will be distributed. For more information on this award, please contact [Carolyn Small](#).

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

Registration for 2017 National Jamboree CAC Contingents Open

Do you want to be part of Boy Scouting history? If the answer is “Yes”, then you’re in luck. The Crossroads of America Council, BSA (CAC) is taking a contingent of 216 Boy Scouts, 36 Venturers and 28 adult leaders to join 40,000 other Scouts and Scouters at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree to be held at the [Summit Betchel Scout Reservation](#) in West Virginia between **July 19 to July 28, 2017**. You won’t want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity.

How Do I Know If I Qualify To Attend? Scouts must be (1) At least a First Class Scout at the time of attendance at the Jamboree, and (2) at least 12 years of age by July 19, 2017 or an 11 year old that has graduated the 6th grade and have not reached their 18th birthday by July 28, 2017. Venturers must (1) have graduated 8th grade or be at least 14 years of age by July 19, 2017, and (2) have not reached their 21st birthday by July 28, 2017.

How Do I Apply To Be Part of the CAC Contingent? All attendees must: (1) Complete both the [Crossroads of America Council](#) and the [National BSA](#) online applications and make payment in full by the indicated due dates (see below), (2) Complete a Parent Consent and Unit Leader Approval Form and return it to the council office within 15-days of completing the online application. (3) Be approved by the Crossroads of America Council Jamboree Committee. (4) Participate fully in pre-Jamboree training experiences and Jamboree Unit activities. (5) Submit a completed Jamboree Medical Form once they become available (late 2016).

What Is The Estimated Cost to Attend? The total cost for each participant is being finalized and is estimated at \$1,600. In addition to Jamboree participation, the cost includes transportation by tour bus to and from The Summit, meals in route to and from the Jamboree, special patches, patrol and troop equipment, and a Jamboree training weekend. When National Scholarship information becomes available, this information will also be posted on our website.

Reserve your place now with a \$400 deposit. Three additional payments will be due May 15, 2016, October 15, 2016, and March 15, 2017. The amount of each payment will be announced once the total cost of the trip is finalized. Each payment will be approximately \$400 - \$500. Anyone making their initial Jamboree registration after May 15, 2016 will owe the cumulative amount due on the date of registration to reserve their place. All payments are non-refundable unless the contingent is full, and the individual slot is reassigned to another youth from the waiting list, and fees are paid in full by the wait list youth.

Where Can I Get More Information? If you have questions or need more information, please visit the [CAC Jamboree Registration Webpage](#), the [2017 Summit National Jamboree](#) website, or you may contact [Natalie Pearce](#) at 317-813-7067.

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)

The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange - Knobstone Trail Rocks

Are you looking for a place to prepare for backpacking a section of the Appalachian Trail or for an upcoming trip to Philmont, or are you just looking for a challenging backpack trip? Only a **two-hour drive** south down I-65 from Indianapolis will get you to the northern terminus of the Knobstone Trail! This hidden Indiana hiking gem has been used by many to prepare for the challenges of either of these rugged backpacking adventures. This outing is appropriate for Boy Scout/Venturing units (*although NOT RECOMMENDED for first time backpackers*).

WHERE: [The Knobstone Trail](#) (KT) is 58 contiguous miles of hiking only backcountry trails that meander up and down the Knobstone Escarpment from trailhead to trailhead extending from Deam Lake (just north of S.R. 60 in Clark County), to Delaney Park (just east of S.R. 135 in Washington County). There are eight trailheads spread along the KT. Two trailheads, Delaney Park and Spurgeon Hollow could easily allow for a 5-6 mile rugged loop hike that could be taken as either a day trip or as an overnigher. All the rest of the trailheads are laid out "links style" along the trail. Overnight leave-no-trace camping is allowed along the trail only on public lands at least one mile, by trail, away from all roads, recreation areas, and trailheads, and out of sight from the trail and all lakes.

The KT is well marked by 3-inch by 6-inch white paint blazes on trees near eye level to the right of the trail. In addition, mile markers are generally posted along the trail which corresponds with those indicated on the KT trail map. You can purchase high quality maps of the KT from DNR Map Sales (317-232-4200) at a cost of \$4.00.

WARNING/SAFETY: The KT should be considered a rugged trail, as there are numerous "ups and downs" marked by 300 foot rises and falls along the trail, many of them are very steep. Also note that water is generally not available along this trail. As such, Units will either have to carry

and/or cache water for use along the trail. Units planning an overnight stay on the KT should register with the DNR South Region Headquarters in Bloomington, IN at (812) 837-9536. It is also a good idea to check for [trail advisories](#) before going, as storm damage and/or logging activities may require you to alter plans along specific sections of the trail.

WHEN: The KT is open year-round.

COST: This is a relatively low cost outing, with the only costs being transportation and food for the trail.

MORE INFORMATION: You can check out the online information on the KT provided on [Indiana Outfitters](#) and [Indiana Department of Natural Resources](#) website. You can also refer to the detailed write-up of the various sections of the KT found in the following book:

Hiking Indiana, 2nd: A Guide to the State's Greatest Hiking Adventures written by Phil Bloom

We would love to hear about your experience hiking this hidden gem of Indiana hiking trails!

[<Return to Top of Page>](#)