



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

- Nov 18 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Nov 18 (7:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Trng](#)
- Nov 19 (6:30 PM)
NED OA/Firecrafter Mtgs
- Dec 2 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Dec 3 (7:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Trng](#)
- Dec 6 (4:00 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Dec 9 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables
- Dec 12 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- Dec 14
FOS Governor’s Luncheon

In the Next 60 Days

- Dec 16 (7:00 MP)
NED Committee Mtg
- Dec 17 (6:30 PM)
NED OA/Firecrafter Mtgs
- Dec 31
2015 Unit Charters Expire
- Jan 8-10
OA Winter Gathering
- Jan 9, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- Jan 10, 2016 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Jan 13, 2016
NED Award Nominations Due
- Jan 13, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables
- Jan 16, 2016
CAC University of Scouting

In the Next 90 Days

- Jan 20, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Feb 3, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg.
- Feb 7, 2016 (3:30 PM)

Membership Update – The Northeast District Needs You NOW!

The dust has settled on a very successful Cub Scout Fall Recruiting Blitz. While we have grown the Cub Scout ranks, overall we currently have 14 less boys in the Northeast District than at the end of 2014, which makes us short of our District Journey to Excellence membership goal of growing Scouting by 2%. Here’s how you can help...[read more](#)

Passing the Reins...Welcome to New District Chair Steve Creason

As we head into the holidays and wind down a great year in Scouting, I am enthused about the future of the Northeast District as we welcome a new District Chair – Steve Creason. Steve is a dedicated and experienced scouter who has accepted the call to step into top District leadership starting in January 2016.



....[read more](#)

Northeast District Awards Nomination Deadline Approaching

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Annual Friends of Scouting Campaign Approaching

Believe it or not, the Annual Governor’s Luncheon for Scouting is just around the corner. This year’s event will be held on Monday, December 14, 2015 at the J.W. Marriott Hotel. As in past 19 years, this will serve as the kick-off for the annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign. So what are so important about the Governor’s Luncheon and the FOS Campaign?....[read more](#)

Northeast District Fall Camporee Highlights and Award Winners

Over the October 16-18, 2015 week-end, a total of 80 participants (60 Scouts and 20 adults) from Troop 88, Troop 100, Troop 133, Troop 335, Troop 446 and Troop 183 (Del-Mi District) gathered at Camp Kikthawenund for **The Amazing Northeast Race** Fall Camporee. Great fun was had by all! Check out the award winners and a few photos from the event...[read more](#)



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The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – Blue Springs Cavern

Are you looking for a unique experience for your Webelos and/or Troop? Do you think that activities in winter need to be limited to only those completed indoors? Well today’s NED Outdoor Experience Exchange will describe a unique “outdoor” outing that can be completed at any time of the year including the dead of winter. How about going “underground” with your monthly winter outing? Temperatures in a cave in Indiana stay close to 52°F year-round, and this outing can have a real bonus during winter...how about making it an overnight stay deep in a cave!....[read more](#)

NED Eagle BoRs

- Feb 10, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Recognition Dinner
- Feb 13, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- Feb 17, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg

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?

Contact: [Mike Chambers](#)

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We have a **CHALLENGE** for every Pack, Troop, Crew and Ship in the Northeast District. We need **EVERY UNIT** to reach out and bring in a minimum of **TWO NEW SCOUTS** into your units before **December 31, 2015**. Every unit **CAN DO THIS!** With 43 units in the district, we will reach our goal of 86 additional Scouts when we meet this challenge.

How can you do this? Re-purpose one event or meeting that you already have planned before the end of the year into a "bring a friend" event. Have a parent or leader designated to greet the parents and have a registration packet ready for them when they visit. Be sure to recognize scouts in your unit that bring a friend.

Is there an incentive you can offer to your Scouts to engage in this challenge? You bet you, if you use your imagination. How about treating Scouts in your unit who successfully recruit a friend to one meal cooked by the adults on a future monthly outing!

Is there an incentive that the Northeast District is offering? Units who meet the **CHALLENGE** will be recognized at the Northeast District Dinner in February. Not only will this help the Northeast District meet our Journey to Excellence Golden goal, but it will also move your unit closer to your own goals.

How will the District help? Commit to the week of your event. Send your date to [Adam Walden](#) and he will print "Peer-to-Peer" or "Invite-Your-Friend" cards for your unit and deliver them to you.

So send your date to Adam today and let's be on our way to new heights in Scouting!

Your Northeast District Membership Team,

Steve Terry

[Steve Creason](#) and [Terry Prather](#)

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

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As we head into the holidays and wind down a great year in Scouting, I am enthused about the future of the Northeast District as we welcome a new District Chair – Steve Creason. Steve is a dedicated and experienced scouter who has accepted the call to step into top District leadership starting in January 2016.



The Northeast District has made great strides in providing a stellar program in recent years, even achieving the Journey to Excellence (JTE) Gold level last year. This is due to our committed volunteer leaders - working in conjunction with our District Executive and Council staff - doing the right things week by week and month by month. Whether it's planning a membership drive to recruit new scouts, raising money for our program through popcorn sales and the Friends of Scouting campaign, carrying out camporees, or administrating Eagle Board of Reviews, our District Committee works hard to ensure that our scouts receive a stellar experience.

Steve is well poised to lead as District Chair, which also means he will hold a seat on the Crossroads of America Council Board. He is an Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor, and Minisino, and worked 10 summers at Camp Belzer! He has served on the District Committee for several years and most recently has been a key member of our very productive Membership Committee. He presently is Wolf Den Leader in Pack 444.

Steve and his wife Kate have three kids, including a Wolf Cub Scout. Professionally he works as an Indiana Deputy Attorney General and also teaches governmental law at IU Law School.



As I reflect on the past three years and my role as District Chair, I am not only thankful but also amazed of the quality and commitment of our volunteers who serve for one reason...to provide a life impacting experience for our District youth. We are in great hands in moving forward with Steve as District Chair and I urge each of you to welcome him and offer your assistance to help the Northeast District thrive and move to the next level.

Your Outgoing Northeast District Committee Chair,

Tim

[Tim George](#)

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

Northeast District Awards Nomination Deadline Approaching

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Every year the Northeast District has recognized selected adult volunteers with the following:

- **Northeast District Cubmaster of the Year**
- **Northeast District Scoutmaster of the Year**
- **Northeast District Crew Advisor of the Year**
- **Golden Spike Award**
- **Northeast District Award of Merit**

Two of these recognitions merit additional explanation. The **Golden Spike Award** is presented to Scouters who continually provide initiative, enthusiasm, and exceptional service to the Scouting programs in which they serve. These Scouters hold their respective programs together. The **District Award of Merit** is presented to volunteer and professional adults for noteworthy service to youth in the District for five years or more (either in Scouting, outside of Scouting, or both). The nature and value of "noteworthy service to youth" may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have been given to a small group over an extended period of time.

The District also presents the following unit recognitions:

- **Northeast District Pack of the Year**
- **Northeast District Troop of the Year**
- **Northeast District Venturing Crew of the Year**

So, what do you need to do now? Download the [nomination forms](#), complete them and turn them into the District Awards Committee on or before the January 2016 Roundtable, currently scheduled on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016**.

Let's get started on those nominations for individuals and/or units in the Northeast District!

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

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year's event will be held on **Monday, December 14, 2015** at the **J.W. Marriott Hotel**. As in past 19 years, this will serve as the "kick-off" for the annual Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign. So what are so important about the Governor's Luncheon and the FOS Campaign?

The Annual Governor's Luncheon for Scouting serves as the nation's largest Scouting event of its kind and is the Crossroads of America Council's premiere fundraiser. In past years, this event has raised more than \$1 million each year and draws more than 2,000 community and business leaders together to learn about Scouting and to contribute toward its success. As mentioned above, this has also typically kicked off the annual FOS Campaign. So why are these big deals? Did you know that the Crossroads of America Council, BSA counts on the donations and pledges secured during both the Governor's Luncheon and the FOS campaign to raise 1/3rd of its annual operating funds. Without these funds many of the programs we all use and enjoy could be severely hampered.

So what do you need to do now? First, consider attending the upcoming Governor's Luncheon (watch the Crossroads of America, BSA website for more information. When you attend and give at the Luncheon, don't forget to log your District/Unit so that it can be credited toward your unit/our District fund raising goal. If you can't attend the Governor's Luncheon, don't miss your unit FOS presentation and pledge your support for Scouting in the Crossroads of America Council. With your help we can keep Scouting Strong in the Crossroads of America Council!

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

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The award winners were:

- **Cooking – T88**
- **Gateway – T100**
- **Spirit – T335**
- **Overall – T133**



Congratulations to all the winning Troops!

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

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WHERE: [Blue Springs Caverns](#) in Marion, Indiana is located approximately 80-miles south of Indianapolis off of Highway 37. This commercial cave offers a number of activities year round from riding a boat through parts of the cave, to exploring the cave on foot, to learn about sink holes and gemstones. Probably their most unique offering occurs on Friday and Saturday nights from October through April each year when groups are allowed to camp overnight there.

WHEN: Blue Springs Caverns are open year round. As stated above, the overnight stay is only available during parts of the year. For group activities, advance reservations are REQUIRED.

COST: Check their [website](#) or call 812-279-9471 for current prices for the type of outing that you are planning. In some cases, an advance deposit will be required.

Tell us about your outing to Blue Springs Cavern by posting on the [Northeast District Facebook page](#)!

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