



The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

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

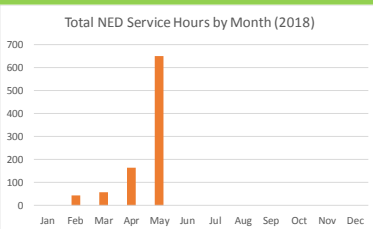
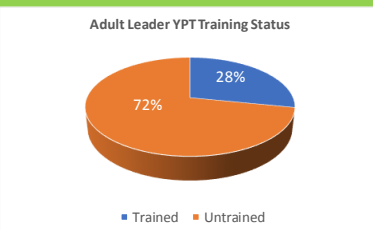
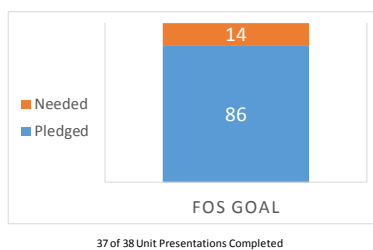
"All the News...That Is News...for Pack, Troop, Crew & Ship Leadership in the Northeast District"

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IN THIS ISSUE

- [Northeast District Spring Camporee Recap](#)
- [Summer Camp - Funds for Financial Assistance Still Available Reminder...Northeast District Roundtables on Summer Hiatus](#)
- [Breaking News...Duty to God Retreat Details Updated](#)
- [Preparing Your Unit for Summer Camp – Part 2 of 2](#)
- [Friends of Scouting Update – Your Help Needed](#)
- [Northeast District Swim Test Details Available](#)

Northeast District Spring Camporee Recap

The Northeast District Spring 2018 Camporee at Camp Wildwood is now "in the books". For once, "Mother Nature" cooperated and all who attended this camporee experienced "Chamber of Commerce" weather!



This camporee was a success, largely thanks to Crew 427 who helped to staff the various stations. We are also happy to report that every patrol completed every station, thus allowing all patrols to be in the running for the Top Patrol Award. The patrols (Troop) who finished one-two-three on the various competitions are as follows:

Astronomy

- Invisible Man (133)
- Patrol Patrol (133)
- Awkward Turtle (100)

Compass Course

- Banana Buckets (276)
- Awkward Turtle (100)
- Flaming Phoenix (276)

Fire Building

- Flaming Phoenix (276)
- Bionic Toitles (335)
- Moose Masters (276)

First Aid

- Patrol Patrol (133)
- Bionic Toitles (335)
- Moose Masters (276)

Fishing

- Griffins/Deez Boys (157)
- Bionic Toitles (335)
- Invisible Man (133)

Pioneering

- Griffins/Deez Boys (157)
- Invisible Man (133)
- Patrol Patrol (133)

Tracks and Traps

- Moose Masters (276)
- Invisible Man (133)
- Alpha Apes (276)

Additionally, the top three patrols and the top three troops were also recognized at our camporee. The winning patrols and troops were as follows:

Top Patrol Award

- Bionic Toitles (335)
- Invisible Man (133)
- Griffins/Deez Boyz (157)

Top Troop Award

- Troop 335
- Troop 133
- Troop 157

You won't want to miss our STEM-focused Fall Camporee! More details about this event will be shared as we get closer to the Fall Camporee.

[Return to Top of Page](#)

Summer Camp - Funds for Financial Assistance Still Available

Crossroads of America Council does not want any Scout to miss the fun of Summer Camp purely due to finances. That is why the council offers the Annual Popcorn Sale and the Camp Card Sales opportunities. Both of these programs provide revenue sharing back to the unit so that Scouts who participate in these sales efforts can earn money to help offset the cost of camp.



In an earlier issue of The Northeast District Monthly Gazette, the Crossroads of America Campership program was spotlighted. This is a special program where the Council will help offset the cost of camp for individuals who require financial assistance, in return for completing an approved service project. While the original deadline to apply for financial assistance has passed, it has come to your district's attention that funds are still available.

8. [Firecrafter Mid-Summer Ritual Approaching](#)
9. [Whoops...Correction on Earlier University of Scouting Article](#)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In the Next 30 Days

- May 14-18, 2018
Outdoor Challenge Days
- May 17, 2018 (6:00 PM)
OA/Firecrafter Mtg
- May 18-20, 2018
OA Ordeal
- May 19, 2018
Voyageur Kayaking Certification
- Jun 1, 2018
NED Swim Test @ LN
- Jun 3, 2018
NED Eagle BoR
- Jun 10-16, 2018
Wood Badge Summer Course
- Jun 14, 2018 (6:00 PM)
OA/Firecrafter Mtg

In the Next 60 Days

- Jun 17-23, 2018
NYLT Summer Course
- Jul 6-8, 2018
Firecrafter Mid-Summer Ritual
- Aug 1, 2018 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Aug 3-19, 2018
Base Camp @ State Fair
- Aug 5, 2018
NED Eagle BoR
- Aug 8, 2018
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Aug 8, 2018
NED Round Tables
- Aug 10-12, 2018
Firecrafter Grand Ritual

In the Next 90 Days

- Aug 16, 2018 (6:00 PM)
OA/Firecrafter Mtg

If you have a Scout who needs financial assistance to attend any of the Council's Summer Camps, please download an application form, complete it, and along with a letter from your unit leadership, submit this to the Crossroads of America Council office as soon as possible.

Let's go camping!

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

Reminder...Northeast District Roundtables on Summer Hiatus

This article is your reminder that Northeast District Monthly Roundtables will not be held during the months of June and July. Monthly Roundtables will return starting in August, with the next scheduled **Northeast District Monthly Roundtable** will occur on **Wednesday, August 8, 2018** beginning at **7:00 PM** at the **Golden-Burke Scout Center**.

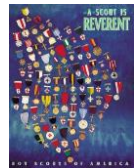


Please mark your calendar now so that you won't miss out. We are looking forward seeing you there!

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

Breaking News...Duty to God Retreat Details Updated

As mentioned in April's issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, a **Religious Retreat** will be held at **Gateway Church** on **Friday, January 18, 2019 (from 6 to 8 PM)** and **Saturday, January 19, 2019 (from 10 AM to 8 PM)**. Participating youth may earn their God and Me (Cub Scout), God and Family (Webelos), and God and Church (Boy Scout) religious awards.



Now, for the **BREAKING NEWS**...due to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, this retreat will be **FREE** for all participants! For now, please mark the event on your calendar and make plans to attend. More information will be provided as we get closer to the retreat.

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

Preparing Your Unit for Summer Camp – Part 2 of 2

The month of May looks like it will go down in the record books as one of the hottest in history. Consider this your "warm-up" drill (pun intended) for your unit's upcoming Summer Camp week. As promised in last month's issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, here is Part 2 with tips to survive your time in camp.



Health and Safety (All Camps)

- ☑ Your main "mantra" for the week from a health and safety perspective is **"Hydrate your inside, and keep your exterior dry every day...all day!"**.
- ☑ Make sure that everyone has and carries a refillable water container. Consider bringing low sugar tea/lemonade packs for those who won't drink well water. Keep tabs on how often Scouts (and adults) are using the restroom. If they are not going, they aren't drinking enough water!
- ☑ Keeping the outside of your body dry will also be very important. Wear good hiking shoes/boots and hiking socks which will help to keep your feet dry! If you feel a hot-spot starting to form, stop and treat it before it becomes a painful blister. Also, be on the lookout for heat rash. This can happen when wet/moist underwear or wet swim suits are worn under hot conditions. Your best bet is to stay away from cotton (it will never dry out at camp). Instead, use synthetic/dry-fit clothing (including underwear).
- ☑ Encourage use of sun block, insect repellent and hats at camp on a daily basis.

- Aug 17-19, 2018
OA Ordeal
- Sep 5, 2018 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Sep 7-9, 2018
Voyageur Fall Course
- Sep 8-10, 2018
Wood Badge Fall Weekend #1
- Sep 9, 2018
NED Eagle BoR
- Sep 12, 2018
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Sep 12, 2018
NED Round Tables
- Sep 14-16, 2018
OA Lodge Ordeal
- Sep 15, 2018
Voyageur Kayaking
Certification

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](#)

Make sure sun screen and insect repellent are non-aerosol. Aerosol sprays are flammable and trust me, while Scouts will think it is cool, it is dangerous! Make sure that the insect repellent is composed of at least 40% DEET. Make sure that all campers perform a tick check every evening.

- ☑ Plan for emergencies. Be knowledgeable of where the Camp's First Aid Shelter is located and the fastest route there from all parts of the camp. As thunderstorms can pop-up quickly in the summer heat, it is a good idea to monitor the weather and make sure that everyone knows where the nearest hazardous weather gathering spots are around camp.
- ☑ Everyone should use the Buddy System while at camp. Scouts should check-in and checkout with adults at the campsite if they are leaving camp. Make sure that showers are done as a patrol or a group of similar aged youth...not as single Scouts.
- ☑ Everyone should have and carry a "to go" bag while away from their campsite. Keep these "to go" bags to the essentials, including but not limited to your re-fillable water container, rain gear, extra socks, sunscreen and insect repellent. Scouts should also bring their Handbooks and merit badge worksheets. Don't forget a small pad and pencil for taking notes and a camera for capturing memories.

Firecrafter Coordinator

(All Camps)

- ☑ Enhance opportunity for Scouts at Ransburg Scout Ranch or Camp Krietenstein to achieve their next rank in Firecrafter by identifying a unit "in-camp" Firecrafter Coordinator (track completion of rank advancement during week).
- ☑ For Cub Scouts attending Adventure Camp, make sure that you have a plan for your den to complete the Webelos Camper & Webelos Firelight requirements. They are not difficult to completed, but it can be easy to overlook. After lunch is a great time to work on a requirement. Make sure to get your patch order in on the first day.

Dealing with Homesickness

(Adventure Camp and Boy Scout Summer Camp)

- ☑ Summer camp stays at either Adventure Camp or Boy Scout Summer Camp can be the first-time campers are away from their families. As such, it is not unusual for some campers may experience home sickness. Be prepared to listen to their concerns and help them work through these feelings. Don't hesitate to contact your site guide/staff member when a scout is experiencing serious feelings of being homesick. They are trained to deal with this situation!
- ☑ Discuss homesickness with first year parents BEFORE their son(s) leave for camp. Encourage parents to join the unit on parent's night (usually mid-week). Be ready for some tears at the end of parent's night. Try not to let scouts leave at the end of parent's night.
- ☑ Don't let the Scouts call home. It is a good idea to lose cellphones or establish unit rules that severely limits their use for making and receiving calls. Communications should be through the camp office.

Adults at Camp

(Adventure Camp)

- ☑ Your primary Leader should bring 2 signed blank checks to camp. One for Firecrafter patches, t-shirts, parent's night dinner and one for any unpaid camp fees
- ☑ Keep some quick energy snack in your "to-go" bag just in case. Behavior issues are often because of dehydration and/or hunger; many kids are used to grazing all day instead of eating only three square meals a day.
- ☑ As soon as swimming is done, have an adult collect the suits and towels and head back to camp to hang them up to dry.
- ☑ Adults should be up and ready to go before waking the Scouts. Webelos are

generally slow to rise, so make sure to get up early enough so you're not late to flags.

- ☑ Schedule 1 or 2 times to go to the Trading Post and let the Scouts know when that is so they aren't constantly asking to go to the Trading Post.
- ☑ It is a good idea to get your dinner “hoppers” (table waiters) assigned for each daily meal prior to arriving at camp. This will assure that everyone get’s a fair share of “kitchen duty”.

Adults at Camp

(Ransburg Scout Reservation & Camp Krietenstein)

- ☑ Assure that you have enough adult leaders in camp throughout the week to meet camp guidelines. Also have a “hard-copy” of the Adult Leaders Guide handy at your campsite to check last minute details.
- ☑ It is a good idea to get your dinner “hoppers” (table waiters) assigned for each daily meal prior to arriving at camp. This will assure that everyone get’s a fair share of “kitchen duty”.
- ☑ Assure a busy schedule of rank advancement, merit badges, Firecrafter, etc. This is particularly true for first-year campers. It is also a good idea to assign an adult at camp to help them get to classes on time.
- ☑ Monitor free time to assure that Scouts are using it to their benefit. Also have an adult leader assigned to “pass by” the Trading Post to check for Scout campers that may be just “hanging out” instead of attending their Merit Badge classes. It is also a good idea to have an adult at camp serve as the unit “banker” to help meter out spending money sent to camp.
- ☑ Reinforce that Scout campers should not leave camp early. All hands on-deck will be needed for campsite clean-up and assigned camp-wide clean-up assignment. It is a good idea to set expectations for campsite cleanliness during the week. If followed, it should make end of the week checkout easier.
- ☑ Establish a “Lost and Found” location at your campsite...check for owners of lost items daily (reason for putting name on every item sent to camp). Have black Sharpies at camp to label items that were sent to camp without personal identification.
- ☑ BSA Adult Training Courses are available during your week at summer camp. Take advantage of these offerings to complete required training. There will also be special adult leader-only activities at camp. Take advantage of them to meet other adult leaders. Take advantage of the adult leader lounge during the week as well...air conditioning and electrical outlets to charge electronics happens here.
- ☑ Consider bringing a battery powered fan for use in tent at night (and don’t forget spare batteries). Additionally, an inexpensive bug net is also a good investment for a good night sleep if you elect to sleep in the camp provided platform tents. They can be tied up in the platform tent and draped over the cot.

One final **very important reminder**...everyone at camp should put each day's change of clothes in a separate labeled Ziploc bag. This will help the Scout select their clothes for the day. At the end of each day, dirty clothes can go back in the same Ziploc bag (assuming scouts change their clothes). This to help separate dirty from clean clothes and should make unpacking easier. It should be easier to know which clothes are clean and which are dirty! Adult leaders should also bring spare Ziploc bags just incase Scouts do not pack their clothes using this strategy.

Enjoy your time at camp...it’s a great time to watch your son(s) grow and learn right in front of your eyes.

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

Friends of Scouting Update — Your Help Needed

Thanks to all of the support received to date, the **Annual Northeast District Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign** has reached 86% of our overall district goal, with only one unit presentation remaining to be completed. At this time, we would like to recognize the following units who have reached or exceeded their unit FOS goal.



Cub Scout Units	Boy Scout Units	Venture Crew/Ship Units
Pack 88	Troop 88	Crew 427
Pack 236	Troop 196	
Pack 427	Troop 686	
Pack 488		

A review of unit pledge totals to date show that an additional 10 units could easily join the **Northeast District FOS 100%+ Club** with an additional \$200 pledge or less! As we still need to raise \$20,329 to reach our overall Northeast District Goal, **we need your help!** If you missed your unit FOS presentation and have not yet pledged to the annual campaign, please contact [Wally Bruner](#) or [Laura Clay](#) at your earliest convenience and join the thousands in the Northeast District who have stepped up to support the Scouting program in Crossroads of America Council. If you have already given, again, we thank you for your earlier pledge/donation. If possible, please consider increasing your pledge/donation if your financial situation allows.

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

Northeast District Swim Test Details Available

In an earlier issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, we mentioned that your district would be sponsoring a district-wide **Summer Camp Swim Test**. The date, location and cost are now known.



This first-time event will be held at the **Lawrence North High School** pool on **Friday, June 1, 2018** between **7:00 – 9:00 PM**, with start times every 15 minutes. The cost for this event will be \$3.00 per participant. We strongly encourage units to take part in this opportunity, as it will make your check-in day at summer camp less hectic. Please [pre-register on line](#) to minimize delays at the event.

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

Firecrafter Mid-Summer Ritual Approaching

For Boy Scouts who successfully finish their week-long Firecrafter candidacy at either Ransburg Scout Reservation or Camp Krietenstein, they are charged to complete the 13th requirement, "the reviews, inspections, and Unknown Test of the **Firecrafter Ritual**." During the ritual, the Scout reflects on his own skills and whether he is prepared to continue to serve Scouting in the future. The ritual concludes with the induction ceremony where the true meaning of the Fire is emphasized to the Scout.



The first opportunity for Firecrafter candidates to complete the required Ritual is **Friday, July 6 (beginning at 5:00 PM) through Sunday, July 8, 2018 (ending at 11:00 AM)** at **Camp Belzer**. Please make sure that all potential Firecrafter candidates Scouts

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

Whoops...Correction on Earlier University of Scouting Article

Thanks to a loyal reader of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, we were notified of a possible issue with the University of Scouting article in the April 2018 issue. While the writer would like to claim that this identified error was an “intentional test” to gauge readership, it was indeed an unintended typo (DRAT!).



In the earlier article, we stated that the next **University of Scouting** was scheduled for November 17, 2019...it should have read **November 17, 2018**. We sincerely apologize for this error. Please mark your calendar with the correct 2018 date. More details on this outstanding Scout training event as the date approaches.

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