



Sugar Creek District “Creekside” December 2016



Crossroads of America Council

“Ice Age” Klondike Derby

By: Mike Thompson

The Klondike Derby will be held on January 20-22nd, 2017 at Camp Cullom. Cost is \$8.00 per scout with an additional cost of \$6.00 for the Firecrafter Dinner. On-line registration will be available 30 days before the event. Please select the link below to be directed to the site. <https://scoutingevent.com/160-SC2017Klondike>
The link also has all information about location, events, sled requirements and a leader guide.



Silver Beaver Awards 2017

By: Mike Thompson

Congratulations to **Andy Fulks** and **William Turner**, who will be honored with the Silver Beaver Award at the University of Scouting in January. The Silver Beaver Award was introduced in 1931 and is a council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult volunteers who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest honor Crossroads of America Council may bestow on a volunteer.

This makes five recipients in Sugar Creek district in the past four years, which shows that the district has quality volunteers and that we are making great progress. Because the council can only award one for every 60 units in the council, a district the size of Sugar Creek should expect on average one recipient every two years.

District Awards

By: William Turner

District award nominations are *due at the December roundtable*. Please nominate deserving scouts, and encourage others to submit nominations as well.

http://sugarcreek.homestead.com/index.html?_id=1478598983335



Report Community Service Hours

Helping others is one of the fundamental values of Scouting and allows Scouts to see the value to contributing to their community. Scouts and units are encouraged to participate in community service activities regularly including those offered by the council, district or

unit. <http://www.crossroadsbsa.org/BSA160page123.php>

Commissioner's Minute

By: William Turner

Christmas and the new year are almost upon us, and that means we are nearing the end of all the units' charters. Almost a quarter of the units have not yet submitted their recharter paperwork electronically, which is well behind where we were at this point last year. More than another quarter have not submitted their paperwork to the district, and all but a few units still have outstanding defects that need to be fixed before the charters can post. Please take care of all of those things ASAP! I will accept packets again at the December roundtable.

Also remember to submit your unit's Journey to Excellence (JTE) forms with your charter renewal packet, even if the unit does not qualify for an award since the council paid staff has announced that no charter will be processed if the unit has not submitted the form. These forms can help you see how you might work to improve your unit next year. The award is really designed to be used year-round to help improve your unit's performance, not just as a set of check boxes to fill in at the end of the year, and the 2017 scoresheets are already available on the national website. The good news is most units that have submitted paperwork have submitted their JTE paperwork.

The new year will see the Klondike Derby in January, the district dinner and Pinewood Derby in March, and the Spring Camporee in April.

Thank you to the Clinton County commissioners, led by Wendell Zetterburg, in the terrific BALOO and OWL training they put on last month at Camp Cullom.

Finally, now is the time to write nominations for the district awards. We have many deserving leaders in the district, but unfortunately often the awards committee receives only a single nomination for an award. Please nominate everyone you think might deserve it. Don't leave it to someone else because then it might not get done. I would love to see nominations coming from every unit in the district! Please see article/link on front of this newsletter.

Yours in Unit Service,
William Turner
District Commissioner, Sugar Creek District



National Jamboree Staff

By: David Hovde

David Hovde is seeking scouts and scouters interested in participating in the 2017 National Jamboree. In particular, David is looking for staff for Skateboarding (no experience necessary). Any questions email David at davidhovde@comcast.net, email subject line: **Extreme Sports**.

Check out this Extreme Sports video from Jamboree. https://youtu.be/kF-cN_ufAmk

Eagle Scout Torchbearer

By: Curtis Snyder



Grant Clark of Troop 337 Rossville was selected as an Indiana Bi-Centennial torchbearer. On October 6th Grant ran about 1.25 miles in Clinton County. Grant is a Clinton County Cross Country Champion and senior at Rossville High School.

Grant has served as Senior Patrol Leader in Troop 337 and has just passed his Eagle Board of Review on 11/13/16. He has also participated in High Adventure activities which include a canoeing adventure in the Boundary Waters, a sea kayaking trip in the Apostle Islands and an Appalachian Trail backpacking excursion along with his fellow troop members. Let it be noted that Grant is also a cancer survivor and provides an excellent example of endeavoring to persevere not only in cross country and scouting – but in life as well.

Rechartering

By: William Turner

Thank you to the units who have already submitted their recharter paperwork. For the rest of you—which is more than half of you—please turn it in ASAP! Contact your unit commissioner, assistant district commissioner, me, or the district executive. Please do not turn it in at the desk in the office. That will slow down the processing and make fixing defects more difficult.

I will again accept packets at the roundtable this month.

Baloo/OWL Training

By: William Turner



Twenty-four participants and a half-dozen trainers gathered on Saturday, November 19 for a combined BALOO and OWL training at Camp Cullom. Participants from across Crossroads of America and Sagamore councils spent twelve hours learning about Cub Scout and Webelos camping, and eating a lot of good food. The day went very smoothly, at least from the participants' point of view, and there was talk among the trainers of making this a regular event in the fall, perhaps also including the IOLS training and moving it earlier in the fall to allow those participants who want to camp the opportunity.

Special thanks to the Clinton County commissioners for conducting the training and to Wendell Zetterburg for organizing it.

Troop 337 Takes a Hike!

By: Cutris Synder

High adventure activities are always ones that test the skill level and adaptability of most youth scouts (and quite a few adult ones as well!) Troop 337 (Rossville) made an Annual Plan decision in 2014 that a backpacking adventure was in order. This past June, Troop 337 was able to successfully culminate all of that preparation by taking a "long hike" in the mountains. The last backpacking based, high adventure had been some years back when the Troop hiked the trails of Isle Royale. This time around the Troop ventured down several miles of the Appalachian Trail.

Scouts Blade Barrett, Grant Clark, Noah Clark, Chase Crum, Lance Dillingham, Nick Hadinger, Jackson St. Myer, Montgomery St. Myer, Josh Smith, Brent Washam, and Michael Welk spent several months getting into backpacking shape before heading out to visit Clingman's Dome and various other points along the trail. At least one lengthy backpacking outing in the Hoosier National Forest was the primary test/springboard for the trip.

The 11 scouts teamed with 7 Troop 337 adults who were divided into 3 groups of 6 to traverse sections of the Appalachian Trail and its associated branches. Each group spent 5 days hiking and 4 nights "sleeping" as they stayed in various locations along the primary and secondary trails that can be found in The Great Smoky Mountains National Forest just south of Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

