



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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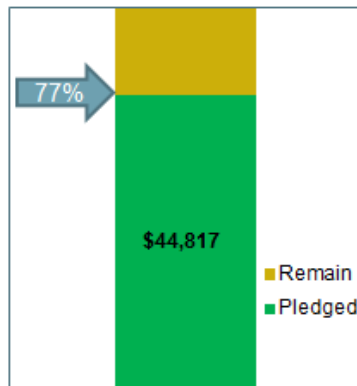


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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

2016 Northeast District
Friends of Scouting Pledge Gauge



In the Next 30 Days

- Mar 16, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioner Mtg
- Mar 18-20, 2016
[Wilderness First Aid](#)
- Mar 28-31, 2016
[Spring Break MB Camp](#)

Northeast District Spring Camporee Approaching!

When you receive this issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, our district **Spring Camporee** will be only a little over a month away. As previously announced, we will descend upon **Ransburg Scout Reservation** over the **April 22-24, 2016** week-end. The theme of this event is Wilderness Survival. So what do you need to do to prepare for this camporee?

- Pre-register Troop/Crew [on-line](#). The cost for this event is \$15.00 per person. Registration for this event closes at midnight on **April 21, 2016**.
- Prepare for the known camporee skill challenges by reviewing (1) your first aid skills and procedures, (2) survival essentials and shelter construction principles, (3) fire building basics, (4) water treatment procedures, and (5) orienteering at Troop/Patrol meetings during the month leading up to the camporee
- Plan and pack your Patrol/Troop Bug-out Bag...it should contain everything you need to "Be Prepared" for a hike in the woods.
- Develop a Troop plan for the campsite and gateway competitions and review it with Troop/Crew participants prior to departure for the camporee.
- Don't forget your Scout spirit. Do you have your Troop and Patrol flags on your packing list for the camporee?
- Check in on **Friday evening, April 22, 2016** at Ransburg Scout Reservation ready to have some fun!

For more information, download a copy of the Northeast District Spring Camporee [packet](#) available on our district website.

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It's Pinewood Derby Time!

Nothing beats the excitement of racing, and this year's Pinewood Derby experience is shaping up to be another exciting time! In addition to unit competitions there are two opportunities approaching to have more fun.

The first is a joint effort between the Indiana State Museum and the Crossroads of America Council Boy Scouts of America. Every Cub Scout is invited to bring their Pinewood Derby car for a fun run down the two-story, 125-feet of track at the Indiana State Museum during the morning of April 2, 2016. Don't have a Pinewood Derby car...no problem...you may borrow a car from the museum to use. The [championship race](#) is on **Saturday, April 2, 2016** in the afternoon. All participating cars must be registered by 1 pm. The same day, there will be a [Best in Show](#) competition. All cars participating in that event must be registered by 2 pm. Daily museum admission during the Museum Pinewood Derby is \$4 per person for all Scouts and families.

The second is the **Northeast District Pinewood Derby** scheduled for **Ed Martin Honda** located at **770 North Shadeland Avenue** on **Saturday, April 9, 2016**. All Cub Scout Packs in the Northeast District are eligible to attend, with each unit being able to send 5 cars maximum per Pack (top 4 cars in speed and the car that won the Pack's Best of Show). In the event that any of the top 5 cars from a Pack cannot attend this event, substitutions may be made at the Packs' discretion. All entries must [pre-register on-line](#) by **April 2, 2016**! There is a \$6.00 charge per car entry.

- Mar 29-Apr 3, 2016
[CAC Pinewood Derby](#)
- Apr 1, 2016
[Adult Minisino Nomination](#)
- Apr 1, 2016
[Youth Minisino Nomination](#)
- Apr 3, 2016 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Apr 4, 2016 (6:00-9:00 PM)
[First Aid Training](#)
- Apr 6, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Apr 7, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- Apr 8, 2016
[Cub Scout "Early Bird" Due](#)
- Apr 9, 2016 (8:30 – 1:00 PM)
[NED Pinewood Derby](#)
- Apr 9, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- Apr 9, 2016
[Scouting for Food Ends](#)
- Apr 10, 2016
OA Vigil Honor Selection Mtg
- Apr 13, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables
- Apr 14-16, 2016
[Spring Wood Badge 1](#)

In the Next 60 Days

- Apr 20, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg.
- Apr 22-24, 2016
[NED Camporee](#)
- Apr 29, 2016
[Camp Card Sales End](#)
- Apr 30-May 1, 2016
[Spring Voyageur #1](#)
- May 1, 2016 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- May 2, 2016 (6:00–9:00 PM)
[CPR/AED Training](#)
- May 3, 2016 (6:00-9:00 PM)
[First Aid Training](#)
- May 4, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED NED Committee Mtg.

The Northeast District Pinewood Derby will be conducted under the published Northeast District Pinewood Derby [rules](#). Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place overall in Speed, also a trophy for Best of Show, and a participation certificate will be given to all participants. The schedule for the Northeast District Pinewood Derby follows:

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
Friday, April 8, 2016	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Pinewood Derby Car Pre-Registration
Saturday, April 9, 2016	8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Sign-in
	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Race
	12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Hot Dogs provided by Ed Martin Honda
	12:30 PM	Award Presentation

For additional information about the Northeast District Pinewood Derby, please contact [Adam Walden](#).

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Local Service Opportunity Approaching

Is your Boy Scout Troop looking for a local service project that will get Scouts out-of-doors? If so, **Saturday, April 9, 2016** may provide just what you are looking for. This is the date for the BRAG Clean-up Day (BRAG is the area around Binford and 71st). For more information visit www.greatindycleanup.com or you may e-mail Joseph at jjarzen@kibi.org.

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Don't Have Plans for Spring Break? We Got Something For You

If you don't already have plans for your spring break week (March 28 to April 1, 2016), then Crossroads of America Council has you covered. Once again a [Spring Break Merit Badge Camp](#) will be offered at the Golden Burke Scout Center. During this week-long camp, the following merit badges will be offered:

- Public Health
- Soil & Water Conservation
- Fish & Wildlife Management
- Nature
- Digital Technology
- Cyber Chip
- Energy
- Forestry
- Environmental Science
- Sustainability
- Reptile and Amphibian Study
- Nuclear Science
- Oceanography

Also note that if a Scout is in need of Den Chief Training, it will be offered on Monday, March 28, 2016 (only). As a special bonus if a Scout may earn the William T. Hornaday badge if he completes 3 of the following merit badges (Energy, Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, Forestry, Public Health and Soil and Water Conservation, plus two more merit badges from the William T. Hornaday badge list). **PLEASE NOTE** that for a Scout to work on any of the merit badges offered at this camp, he MUST bring Blue Card(s) for each merit badge that has been signed by his Scoutmaster.

You may register to attend an individual day or two at \$40 per day. Or you can sign-up for all five days at a discounted rate of \$125! Registration/drop-off begins at 8:30 AM each day; the Spring Break Merit Badge Camp runs from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with pick up time between

- May 5, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- May 6, 2016
Boy Scout Early Bird Summer
Camp Payment Due
- May 11, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Roundtables/Program
Kickoff
- May 11, 2016
[Scouting for Food Patch
orders due](#)
- May 12-14, 2016
[Spring Wood Badge 2](#)
- May 14, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)
- May 14-15, 2016
[Spring Voyageur #2](#)
- May 15, 2016
Nat Jambo Payment2

In the Next 90 Days

- May 18, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- May 18, 2016 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg.
- Jun 2, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
[MB Counselor Training](#)
- Jun 5, 2016 (3:30 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Jun 6, 2016 (6:00–9:00 PM)
[CPR/AED Training](#)
- Jun 11, 2016 (2:00 – 5:00 PM)
[WD9BSA On-the-Air](#)

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](#)

5:00 and 5:30 PM. Don't forget to bring a Lunch! You may bring snacks and drinks and wear a Scout uniform (Scout t-shirt). Check out all of the details at the [Spring Break Merit Badge Camp](#) website.

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Putting Youth Leadership on Steroids - White Stag Approaching

Does your Troop currently run smoothly under your senior youth leadership? Have you been actively developing your younger youth leadership as part of an intentional multi-year youth leadership succession plan? If the answer to either of these questions is NO, then White Stag may just be what you have been seeking to take your Troop to the next level.

White Stag, also known as National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT), is an action-packed six-day program patterned after a month in the life of a unit which has been designed to provide Scouts with the enhanced leadership skills they can use in their home units. The course integrates the best of modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of the Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussions and audio-visual support, NYLT / White Stag participants will be engaged in a unified approach to leadership that will give them the skills and confidence to lead well. During an NYLT / White Stag course, team members find themselves going through the stages of team development. Their challenges heighten the team development process, enabling them to use their awareness of the stages to build a highly effective team that can reach its full potential.

Crossroads of America Council will offer three sessions of [White Stag](#) this year:

- The first session will be held over two mandatory week-ends (**March 18-20, 2016** and **April 8-10, 2016**) at **Camp Kikthawenund**.
- The second and third sessions are for an entire week (**June 12-18, 2016** or **July 10-16, 2016**). Both week long sessions will be held at **Camp Red Wing**.

White Stag is open to youth 13 years old as of the first day of the course (or older), must be at least a First Class Scout, and must have the approval of the unit leader. The cost for this outstanding youth training is \$215 per participant and includes all food and materials. Early bird fees are \$195 if paid 30 days prior to the start of the session. A deposit of \$25 per participant is required to hold a spot. The balance of payment is due 30 days before the course to receive the early bird fee, otherwise the \$215 will be due prior to the course. Financial assistance is available; [Mark D. Van Matre NYLT/White Stag Scholarship Applications](#) are due by May 1, 2016. For more information contact [Dave Wagner](#).

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MyScouting.Org...Scouting's 24/7 Online Training Portal

Clearly communicating the expectations for adult leaders in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), and providing them the training opportunities needed so that they can deliver against these expectations is one of the biggest challenges that BSA faces. In this month's issue of ***The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*** we will focus on Scouting's 24/7 online training portal, also known as www.myscouting.org, as one approach for volunteers to learn what is expected of them.

If you are a first-time user, it will be very important that you create an online account tied to your membership number. This will enable all of the training you complete on this of site to be tied to your unit and will greatly simplify the required record keeping at the unit, district and council levels. It will be important that you record the log-in and password that you used in creating your account, as you will need to use this every time you go online to complete a learning offering.

Courses offered online include:

- **Youth Protection Training** for the specific unit type you are aligned with. Estimated time to complete IS 40 minutes. NOTE: This training is REQUIRED for membership and must be RE-TAKEN EVERY TWO YEARS!
- **Fast Start Orientation** is intended to be taken by pack, troop, team, and crew leaders, as well as unit commissioners and chartered organization representatives immediately following the acceptance of their new role. This is available to meet the needs of the type of unit you are aligned with
- **This Is Scouting** provides an overview of the Scouting organization, including history, values, programs, Youth Protection, community involvement, and training. The module consists of six video sections, each followed by a brief quiz. Estimated time to complete: 50 minutes.
- **Leader Position-Specific** Training available online includes Troop Committee Challenge, and Leader Position-Specific: Tiger Cub, Wolf Cub, Bear Cub, Webelos, Cubmaster, Pack Trainer, and Pack Committee. Most of the Cub level leader position specific online training is also available in Spanish.
- **Supplemental Training** also available online includes Physical Wellness, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, Weather Hazards, Climb On Safely, Trek Safely.

In next month's issue of ***The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*** we will spotlight how to find face-to-face training opportunities in Crossroads of America Council, BSA.

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Alternate High Adventure Outings (Part 3 of 4)

The third alternate high adventure destination spotlighted in this series will allow you to paddle through one of the largest freshwater swamps in the United States, covering 1.4 million acres - an area bigger than the state of Rhode Island! In addition to its sheer size, this swamp is home to tons of wildlife large and small...including mosquitoes, crawfish, largemouth bass, American alligators, and poisonous snakes such as water moccasins and copperheads. Are you interested to learn more?

Yep, I'm talking about [Louisiana Swamp Base](#). It is one of the newest high adventure recreation bases created in 2010 by the Evangeline Area Council, Boy Scouts of America and it located in the Atchafalaya (pronounced "uh-CHA-fuh-LIE-uh,") Basin. This name comes from the Choctaw phrase for "Long River."

Transportation to and from Swamp Base: Swamp Base begins and ends in Lafayette, LA. It is about a 14-hour drive (914.1miles) by vehicle from Indianapolis. Alternatively, units may wish to look into air travel, either directly into Lafayette (via Delta, American or United airlines) or into New Orleans (via Delta, American, United or Southwest Airlines) and rent vehicles for the two-hour drive over to Lafayette, LA. (130 miles).

Your Swamp Base Adventure: Swamp Base currently offers a 61.6-mile high adventure canoe trek over 6 days/6 nights. The trek includes challenging tests of endurance and survival skills with specific lessons about the environments, cultures, and communities of the Atchafalaya.

- Paddle an average of 15.4 miles a day in our first-class Wenonah 16'9" canoes!
- A fully trained Trek Guide will join your crew for the entirety of the journey.
- Introduce yourself to Louisiana's unique cultures at the Vermilionville Folklife Park.
- Come to understand the importance of our nation's largest wetland ecosystem while staying on board the Swamp Base houseboats.
- Face the elements, and test your willingness to survive a night in the swamp at primitive Rougarou Island.
- Experience how local communities have lived on the water at Island Outpost by fishing, paddling, cooking, and recreating like the Cajuns, Creoles, and Natives of South Louisiana.

- Fly through the swamp on an airboat!

When to Go: Swamp Base currently offers treks in [June and July](#) of each year; 2016 treks are currently full and only a few more slots are open in 2017, so if you are interested you should act now!

Costs: In addition to transportation costs from Indianapolis to Lafayette, LA (and back), Swamp Base [charges](#) approximately \$600 to \$650 per person for the trek.

For more information checkout the [Leader's Guide](#) resources on Swamp Base's website. You may also contact the Evangeline Area Council via [e-mail](#) or by calling 337-235-8551.

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Voyageur Training Opportunity Approaching

Is your unit planning a high adventure canoe outing this year? Is your canoe knowledge and paddle craft safety up-to-date? If not, Crossroads of America Council can help you close those gaps with **Voyageur Training**. This year's spring offering at [Camp Belzer](#) will be over the **April 30-May 1, 2016** and **May 14-15, 2016** week-ends (you must attend both week-end sessions).

- The first week-end session will cover the basic parts of the canoe and paddles, practice on paddling strokes and techniques, certification in Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat, water practice on Fall Creek, and trip planning and crew selection.
- The second week-end will cover loading a canoe, navigation practice, canoe rescue techniques, traversing the length of Geist Reservoir, portage techniques around Geist Dam, and will end with traveling down Fall Creek to Camp Belzer.

In past years this training has been limited to only registered adult scout leaders, but is now open to any adult over 18 as well as registered youth over 18 who have a current physical, possess a swimmer certification and sign the liability waiver. Cost for this training is \$90.00 per registered Scout/Scouter, while non-affiliated adults will cost \$120.00. This fee includes all meals, canoe equipment and training materials. For more information contact [Dave Bardos](#).

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Indiana is 200 Years Old – Celebrate by Hiking 200 Miles

Has your Troop planned to do something really “crazy” to celebrate Indiana's 200th year as a state? If you are still looking for that special outdoor activity, then the Hoosier Hiker's Council may have just the ticket. How about accepting their challenge to hike 200 miles on natural surface hiking trails throughout Indiana!

While this challenge began on January 1, 2016, it is not too late to begin your quest as the official 200 mile challenge will run through June 30, 2017. In addition to complete and [log](#) each Indiana trail hiked toward your 200 total miles, it is strongly suggested that you hike at least 10 of the trails on the [Bicentennial Trail List](#). Trails not on the list can also be used toward the goal. The trail list will be updated periodically, so be sure to check back for the latest version.

As a bonus, each hiker that meets this goal will receive a free Indiana bicentennial patch (while supplies last) and a certificate, as well as having their names listed on the Hoosier Hiker's Council (HHC) website. For more information check out the [HHC website](#) or you may send questions to HHC200MileChallenge@gmail.com.

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The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – IN War Memorial

Are you boys interested in military history and are you looking for a Saturday or Sunday outing

for your Pack, Troop or Patrol right here in Indianapolis? If so, have we have a low cost outing for you in this month's NED Outdoor Experience Exchange.

WHERE: The [Indiana War Memorial Museum](#) is located in downtown Indianapolis at 431 N. Meridian Street.

WHAT: The Indiana War Memorial Museum is a 30,000 square foot museum that portrays American military history from the Revolutionary War to the present day, with special focus on Indiana's role in our nation's conflicts. The museum includes exhibits on the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the Gulf War, the War on Terror in Afghanistan and Iraq, and various peacekeeping operations around the world.

The museum's collection includes thousands of weapons, uniforms, medals, artillery, vehicles, models, military equipment, and other artifacts. Each gallery features various firearms and equipment used by America and her allies and enemies. Artillery pieces on display include a Mexican War/Civil War bronze 6-pound cannon with limber, a World War I 75mm cannon, and a Vietnam-era 105mm Howitzer. Vehicles include an AH-1 Cobra Attack Helicopter, a Gulf War Humvee, and a World War II/Korean War-era Jeep. Also featured are large scale models of the battleship USS Indiana (BB-58) and the B-2 'Spirit of Indiana' Stealth Bomber, the control center of the USS Indianapolis (SSN-697) nuclear attack submarine, and a collection of original World War I and II recruiting posters. Also found at this museum is a fully operational recreation of the radio room aboard the USS Indianapolis, featuring original World War II equipment. The Indiana War Memorial Museum also houses the State's collection of over 400 original battle flags, the majority of which are national and regimental flags from Indiana regiments that served in the American Civil War.

WHEN: The Indiana War Memorial Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It is also open on Veterans Day. The museum is closed in observation of Thanksgiving, Lincoln's Birthday, Christmas and New Year's Day.

COST: The Indiana War Memorial Museum is free to the public. However, you will have to pay to park downtown. The closest parking facility is located at 112 E Vermont St.

Tell us about your outing to the Indiana War Memorial Museum by posting on the [Northeast District Facebook](#) page!

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