



JANUARY 2016

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THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS OF THE SIGNALER

Website: www.troop264olney.net

Contact: connect264@verizon.net

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/T264Olney/>

Two New Eagles Nathaniel Kinzer and Adam Russell

We congratulate T264's newest Eagle Scouts – **Nate Kinzer and Adam Russell** -- who passed their District Board of Review on December 18, 2015. This lofty rank may appear to be shared by many, but in reality it is only a few that reach this summit. Nationally, only about 2% of all scouts make Eagle. And most boys are not scouts. Reaching Eagle requires a lot of work over a period of years, with lots of potential distractions along the way that can permanently sidetrack a scout's progress. Eagle Scout also says a lot about the work ethic of that person. For these reasons, colleges, employers, and others view Eagle rank as a factor strongly supporting the holder. It says this person can get things done.

A date will be announced for the Eagle Court of Honor for these scouts. Again, congratulations to both!

9th Annual Webelos Visit Night – January 11, 7 PM

The troop will hold its Ninth Annual Webelos visit night on **Monday, January 11, 7:00 PM to about 8:30 PM**, at St. John's, in place of the regular patrol meeting. **THIS IS ONE HALF HOUR AHEAD OF THE USUAL TROOP MEETING START TIME.** Webelos 1 and 2 Cub Scouts from local packs, and parents, are invited to visit. Boys who are not presently in Cub Scouts, but who may be considering Boy Scouts, are also welcome to attend, along with their parents.

Each patrol will be demonstrating skills learned and used in Boy Scouts. Patrol skill assignments will be made by the Troop Leadership Committee on January 4. **Scouts and scouters in contact with local Cub Scout packs should make them aware of this opportunity and get this on their calendars.** Questions can be directed to connect264@verizon.net.

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This has been a popular event every year to date and we expect it to be equally so this time. We want as many scouts as possible to attend and assist with the demonstrations. This is YOUR opportunity to show Cub Scouts and parents what Scouting has done for you, and how much fun there is beyond Cub Scouts. We hope it will kindle enthusiasm in the Webelos scouts to tread the same path beyond Cub Scouts, whether with Troop 264 or elsewhere. Information about Troop 264 is always available on the troop's website, www.troop264oheey.net, and in the recent Signaler newsletters therein, and via e-mail at connect264@verizon.net.

Sugarloaf Mountain Hike & Campout – January 23-24

The Crusader Patrol is putting together a day hike at Sugarloaf Mountain. Tentative plans call for meeting at the West parking lot on Sugarloaf Mountain at 10:00 AM, with a hike on some of the trails on the mountain (see the trail map at http://www.sugarloafmd.com/sl_trails.html). Wear suitable shoes, dress in layers (take some off as you warm up, put them back on when you stop). Bring a bag lunch to eat while you are on the trail, and Leave No Trace.

T264 will host several Webelos 2 from Pack 434 (possibly also Pack 1074), so we will need your help to show them what Boy Scouting is all about. This will help these Cub Scouts earn their Arrow of Light, which is the only Cub Scout award they can carry over to Boy Scouts on their uniform.

Following the hike, we will drive approximately two miles from Sugarloaf Mountain to the Monocacy Aqueduct on the C&O Canal. We will camp overnight at the Indian Flats hiker/biker campground a couple of hundred yards north of the Aqueduct. This is winter camping so come prepared for the weather, whatever it may be. Campfire for certain. Sunday morning, a short breakfast and then pack everything out to the parking lot.

There will be a signup sheet at the troop meetings on January 4 and January 11. Polar bear points possible but not guaranteed.

Personal Fitness Merit Badge – January 25

To those scouts who have been working with Mr. Justus and Dr. Levy on the Personal Fitness merit badge: Dr. Levy will meet with these scouts on Monday, January 25 (TLC/BOR/Patrol meeting night), to review the medical portions of this merit badge

Scouts must bring completed worksheets to the meeting and be prepared to discuss the material. Scouts who come prepared can finish the remainder of that merit badge that night and receive it at the...

Winter Court of Honor – February 1

Less than a month to go. Put the date on your calendar, and keep working on those merit badges and rank advancements with the goal of finishing them no later than **January 25**. All completed blue cards for merit badges must be turned in on that date, if they are to be awarded at this Court of Honor.

The Winter Court of Honor will take place on February 1, 2016 at 7:30 PM. Rank advancements, merit badges, and other awards will be presented at that time. Scouts, you have to work 'em to get 'em.



2016 Duty to God Award

The new 2016 Duty to God "Mountain" Patch has been released! All Scouts and Crew members interested in earning their Duty to God Patch, please contact Dr. Paul Fowler at prfowler9@gmail.com or the Chaplain's Aide Joey U. Still time to join up!

Merit Badge College at Salisbury University February 6 and March 5

The Delmarva Council is holding a merit badge event at Salisbury University on the Eastern Shore (3 hours distant from Olney) on February 6 and March 5 (must attend both dates). Mrs. Patel has confirmed that that scouts from outside the Delmarva Council can attend this merit badge event. A scout must attend BOTH dates to complete the merit badge. There is also work that must be done in advance (see the prerequisites list BEFORE you register for a merit badge).

We have no plans to do this as a troop, so please register online individually if you plan to attend. You must make your own arrangements for transportation. However, carpooling is a possibility. Scouts must get a blue card for the merit badges before going, and Class A uniform is to be worn.

Website is <http://www.delmarvacouncil.org/activities/boy-scout-activities/merit-badge-college/58395>

Thanks to Mrs. Rekha Patel for passing this opportunity along.

Merit Badge Madness – April 1-3

Info has just been posted for Merit Badge Madness 2016. This event provides scouts with the opportunity to pick up merit badges over a weekend camping outing in a grassy level field. It is hosted by the Four Rivers District of the Baltimore Council. Cost for scouts is \$15, cost for adults is \$7 for the weekend. This does not include food costs which will be worked out later. It is held at the Annapolis Christian School in Severn, MD, about 45 minutes from Olney and not far off MD Route 32. The merit badges offered include some that are hard to find elsewhere (Drafting, Plumbing, Auto Maintenance).

We DO do this event as a troop, so we have to register as a troop. That means you have to pick out merit badges and advise Mr. Bickel what they are so that he can complete registration. The earlier the better since that enhances the chances of getting what you want. Early registration also gets us a campsite closer to the parking area, so we don't have to carry equipment as far.

Sign up with Mr. Bickel at connect264@verizon.net, and include:

<i>Scouts:</i> Name	<i>Adults:</i> Name
Phone Number	Phone Number
Merit Badge(s) for Saturday and Sunday	
Preferred alternate merit badges	

Registration costs of \$15/scout or \$7/adult will be collected once the registration form is sent in.

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MERIT BADGES OFFERED

<u>Merit Badge</u>	<u>Periods</u>	<u># Scouts</u>	<u>Merit Badge</u>	<u>Periods</u>
Archery	Sa1, Sa2		First Aid	All
Art	Su		Forestry	Sa1, Sa2
Auto Mech	Sa1, Sa2		Genealogy	Sa2
Camping	Sa1, Sa2		Mammals	Su
Citizenship in Community	Sa1, Sa2		Medicine	Sa1, Sa2
Citizenship in Nation	Sa1, Sa2		Photography	Sa1, Sa2
Citizenship in World	Sa1, Sa2		Plumbing	Sa1, Sa2
Coin Collecting	Sa1		Programming	Sa1, Sa2
Communications	All		Radio	Sa1, Sa2
Crime Prevention	Su		Robotics	Sa1, Sa2
Drafting	Sa1, Sa2		Safety	Sa1, Sa2
Electricity	Sa1, Sa2		Search & Rescue	Sa1, Sa2
Electronics	Sa1, Sa2		Skating	Su
Emergency Prep	All		Space Exploration	Sa1, Sa2
Environ Science	All		Sports	Sa2
Fingerprinting	Su		Traffic Safety	Sa1
Fire Safety	Sa1, Sa2		Wilderness Survival	All

NOTES:

If a merit badge has Sa1, Sa2, then the merit badge requires all day Saturday to complete. (Exception: Photography really is a half day session, offered in the morning or the afternoon Saturday.)

If a merit badge shows Sa1 (no Sa2), then it is Saturday morning only. Pick a Sa2-only merit badge for Saturday afternoon.

In either case, you can pick a Su Sunday morning merit badge.

If a merit badge is listed as ALL, then it requires all day Saturday plus Sunday morning to complete. No other merit badge may be selected.

Alternate merit badges are strongly encouraged. But by registering earliest, you should get what your first choice.

New scouts just coming into T264 – I recommend Fire Safety for Saturday and Fingerprinting for Sunday. These merit badges are better suited for newer scouts.

Some merit badges have had age or rank limits in the past – check the prerequisites before you select your merit badges. First Aid, for example, required a minimum rank of First Class, while Search and Rescue had a minimum age limit. Check the prerequisites on pages 12-35 at

<http://www.baltimorebsa.org/document/2016-merit-badge-madness-leader-guide/156841> .

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Skating requires you to bring your own roller skates. Must have them to complete this Sunday badge.

Cooking opportunity: This event presents an opportunity for some scouts to complete Second or First Class cooking requirements, by preparing meals for troop scouts and adults. Please let Mr. Bickel know if you are interested in that possibility.

The BSA Youth Leadership Training Series: Overview and Course Dates

Troop 264 Adult Contact: Gary Sherman: 301-651-9639; garybsherman@outlook.com
Last revised 12-14-15

The three principal levels of Boy Scout youth leadership training are summarized below. While there is no requirement to participate in any of these BSA leadership training opportunities for rank advancement, our troop ***strongly*** encourages all Scouts to take ILST at least once, and all boys aspiring to troop-level leadership elective office (e.g., SPL, ASPL) to take NYLT. For additional official BSA Youth leadership training information, please visit <http://www.scouting.org/Training/Youth.aspx>.

LEVEL 1: *Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)* **For Scouts ages 10-15**

Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) is the first level of formal BSA 'servant leadership' training. While ILST is designed to introduce Boy Scouts 10 to 15 years old to key leadership principles in a fun and engaging way, this training is also appropriate for Scouts of any age who have not had the opportunity to take any official BSA youth leadership training previously. It is recommended that all boys take ILST one or more times during their Scout career to help them explore the challenges and rewards of stepping up, in a prepared way, into Patrol- or Troop-level leadership positions. ILST is offered by Troop 264 once or twice a year, typically on a single Saturday morning (~8am to 12:30pm) in late spring and/or in mid-Fall (2016 date(s) to be determined). The venue may change but has been St John's Church in recent year. **NOTE: Successful completion of ILST is a prerequisite for the more advanced BSA youth leadership training described below.**

LEVEL 2: *National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)* **For Boy & Venture Scouts age 14-18**

The next step in the BSA Youth Training continuum is *National Youth Leader Training (NYLT; also called IMPEESA in the NCAC Council)* which is offered by the Council as a week-long residential camp, or sometimes as two long weekends. Visit this link for additional information and registration instructions: http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=118944&id=249876

The following are NCAC course dates for 2016:

- One two-weekend course offering in Winter:
 - o **January 16 - 18 AND February 13 – 15** (both weekends must be attended) OR:

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- Three 1-week-long course offerings during Summer:
 - o **June 19 – 24**
 - o **July 10 – 15**
 - o **July 31 - August 5**

NYLT courses are ‘away’ training camps. Once again, the venue for all 2016 camps will be the American Legion Youth Camp at 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD (about a 1h drive south from Olney area). The objective of the NYLT program is to equip Scouts with ‘servant leadership’ skills to help them succeed in their scouting program, and in life. NYLT brings together Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice leadership techniques in a programmatically well-organized, engaging, risk-free, Scout-friendly environment. This training is aimed at older Scouts (14 to 18 year olds) aspiring to serve as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) or other Troop- or Crew-level leadership positions. A maximum of 2 boys from a single troop is allowed to enroll in a single NYLT training course. Pre-requisites include successful completion of ILST and recommendation of the Scoutmaster.

Read Gavin Mangolas’ summary of the 2015 NYLT camp that he attended in 2015 as he was nearing Eagle rank: <http://www.troop264olney.net/Signalers/2015-09.pdf?page=7>

LEVEL 2a: NYLT Leadership Academy For Boy & Venture Scouts ages 14-18

Though not technically a youth leadership training level, there is another tremendous opportunity related to NYLT. It is called *NYLT Leadership Academy* (www.NYLT-LeadershipAcademy.org; flyer at: www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/NYLT_Leadership_Academy_Flyer.pdf). The following are 2016 course offering dates:

- Two one-week-long course offerings in Summer:
 - o **July 3 – 9**
 - o **July 10-16**

The NYLT Academy trains older Scouts to be top-notch presenters, evaluators, and leaders of their councils’ National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) courses. This intensive one-week course will improve course (NYLT) knowledge and problem-solving skills necessary to run world-class NYLT programs. Youth eligibility requirements include 1) have served, or have been selected to serve, on the youth staff of your local council’s NYLT, 2) have completed NYLT, 3) First Class rank or above; or a Venturer, 4) 14 years of age by opening day of course, but not yet 18; or if a Venturer not yet 21 years of age, 5) willingness to take back to your council’s NYLT the knowledge and skills acquired at the NYLT Leadership Academy.

LEVEL 3: *National Advanced Youth Leader Experience* (NAYLE) For Boy & Venturing Scouts age 14-21

LEVEL-3: The third and most advanced level of official Scout leader training is **National Advanced Youth Leader Experience** or NAYLE. It is offered both to qualifying young men and women (ages 14-21) most weeks during the summer at Philmont and, newly, on a more limited basis at all 3 of the other BSA High Adventure Bases (Northern Tier, Sea Base, and Bechtel Summit). NAYLE is the ultimate in training experiences for youth leaders who have successfully completed ILST and IMPEESA/NYLT. It is conducted for older Scouts and Ventures who have the potential for being on the staff of the council junior leader training or youth leader training conference. Scouts and Ventures must be at least 14 by the program start date but not 21 by its conclusion.

We hope Scouts will strongly consider the many opportunities offered by Troop 264, our local Council and the BSA National Council to learn, hone and grow their leadership knowledge, skills and abilities. And it all begins with completion of ILST!

Please contact me if you have any questions. YIS,

Gary Sherman

Gary B. Sherman, MS, DVM, PhD
Tr 264, Assistant Scoutmaster,
Youth Leadership Training Coordinator
garybsherman@outlook.com
Cell: 301-651-9639
Hm: 301-476-8191

Northern Tier 2016 – July 1 - 10, 2016 – Spaces available!

Two crews of scouts and Venturing crew members will be headed to the Northern Tier High Adventure base in Ely, Minnesota in 2016. From there, they will cross by canoe into the adjacent Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada.

Northern Tier is expecting a record number of crews to attend in 2016. This is a true wilderness outing: it is you, your crew, and your canoes and gear. No preset itinerary, and unlike Philmont there may be days when you see no one else at all. You do not need to have any special expertise with a canoe when you start (although there will be practice outings beforehand), but you will know how to handle one before the end of the trip. The sun rises earlier and sets later due to the northerly latitude (around 49° N). And there are FISH for you fishing enthusiasts.

T264 is cleared to attend with two crews. Figure on the total cost per person being around \$1700, including airfare and ground transportation. **Anyone having interest in attending NT, please contact Mr. Tomlinson ASAP.** Crews need to be no more than 50% adults (2 or 3 adults for a crew of six or seven, 2 to 4 for a crew of 8).

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Scouts:

Brandon S.
Luke T.
Jacob Wei.
Luke R.
Tommy B.

Venturing Crew:

Elizabeth J.
Josie M.

Adults:

Joshua S.
Rich T.
Pete Wei.
Carolyn R.
Tom B.

Space for four
scouts/crew members!
Can include adults.

Key Dates:

February 1, 2015 – deposit was paid, \$800/crew. The amount due per person will depend on the number of people that have signed on (max 16, would be \$100 per person).

October 1, 2015 - ½ of the remaining balance was paid for Northern Tier.

April 1, 2016 - Remaining balance is due. Travel arrangements will be made about this time, if not a little earlier.

NOTE: Deposits are NON refundable (unless we can fill your spot -- no guarantees).

Additional information can be found at www.ntier.org

Four openings presently exist. We can include scouts/scouters/Ventures from other units besides T264. Don't miss this opportunity, it probably won't be before 2019 or 2020 that T264 takes another paddle at NT! Must be at least 14, or 13 and finished the eighth grade, by July 1, 2016. T264 "scouts" aged 18 to 21 can also attend this great trip (they are considered scouts for the High Adventures trips).

FOR INFO: ret103022@verizon.net Mr. Rich Tomlinson

2011 photo in Quetico National Park



Seabase 2017?

In December, we had a short meeting to see who might be interested in trying for Seabase 2017. That meeting showed that there is enough interest to apply. Next question is what to try for. It seemed that most were interested in the 20 person tall ship trip, but it was not clear whether the Florida Keys or its counterpart in the Bahamas was preferred. So it's time to make your preference known: send a note to connect264@verizon.net and say what you prefer. I'll tally the responses and let all know the results.

Cost for the Florida Keys tall ship was approximately \$1200 per person in 2014; Bahamas was approximately \$1700 in 2010. Crew members need to be at least 14 years old by the sailing date in 2017 (or 13 and finished 8th grade). Crew should be at least 50% youth, we have that right now.

Second, we need an adult or two to take the lead on this. For now that consists of putting the troop's request when the lottery registration opens January 15 and passing along the results once they are announced in the second part of February. See reservation procedures at <http://www.bsaseabase.org/Resources/Procedures.aspx>. Gary Sherman can provide guidance based on his experiences leading the group in 2010.

Dale Bickel connect264@verizon.net

Troop 264 Facebook Page

It's posted at the top of this page, and it's also available at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/T264Olney/>. Mrs. Josey Simpson moderates this site and does an excellent job at transferring events and notices sent out to the troop by Mr. Bickel. Presently there are about 70 members in this closed group. To sign up, contact Mrs. Simpson at joseysimpson@verizon.net.

West Rock Paper Mill Tour – December 5

Scouter Jim Bickel offered T264 scouts and scouters the opportunity to tour the paper mill in Covington, VA where he was employed for a semester as a co-op. Only a small number could attend, but because of that, the attendees were able to go more places within the plant. This plant runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, to the extent possible, and produces high quality white paper used in many food container and related items. Curiously, much of the output is destined for China where such paper is in demand.

Another co-op intern, Zeb from Western Michigan University, escorted the group through the paper-making machinery. The machines that turn pulp into paper are approximately ¼ mile long, but because of the many large rollers that the paper feeds up and down through, the distance travelled by the paper is about 2 miles in length. Paper comes out of the process onto 30 ton rolls, after which it is later cut into smaller rolls for shipment to the customer.

Power to run the plant is generated on site, and Jim took us through the various levels of the new boiler facility. This generates steam to generate electricity and run plant equipment. Excess electricity is sold to the grid. The floors in this facility are, in large part, metal grating, and you could look down past your feet to several floors below.

A big thank you to Jim Bickel for arranging this unique tour! And a thank you too to Mr. Delaney for his 8 hours of driving that day.

Participants: Matt D. Sean D. Mr. Ian Deveau Mr. Dennis Bogan Mr. Jim Bickel
Mr. John Delaney Mr. Dale Bickel



This plant visit applies toward Item 7b of the Pulp and Paper merit badge.

American Legion Flag Retirement Ceremony – December 5

American Legion Post No. 68, the sponsor of Troop and Venturing Crew 264, was greatly pleased with the scout turnout at the 1 PM flag retirement ceremony. Several Cub Scouts came out as well.

In attendance: Dillen P. Daulton S. Fate S. Jacob Wei. (Bugler) Mr. Al B.
Mr. Dennis S. Mr. Jim S. Mr. Pete W.

Olney Farmers' Market – December 6

T264 set up a booth at the December 6 Olney Farmers' Market, and sold some remaining ornaments and a wreath or two. More importantly, the troop's presence there helped make local people more aware of the troop. Scouts tended the fire and helped with the event's set up and clean up.

Attending: Matt D. Sean D. Mrs. Danielle D. Mr. John D.

Holiday Sing-A-Long at the Sandy Spring Friends Nursing Home Saturday, December 12, 11 AM to Noon

This year was the best turnout for the Christmas caroling, that we have had for many a year. And thank you for that! So many turned out that troop scouts, scouters, and family members outnumbered the attending residents. The residents did enjoy the caroling and followed along with the words.



This picture was taken just before MORE carolers arrived.

Scouts Caroling: Ian W. Sean D. Daniel G. Thomas C. Morgan M. William H.
Daniel H. Brian H. Luca S. Atticus M. Dillen P. Evan D. Brady C.

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Adults and Family Members: Mr. Martin P. Mr. Al. B. Mrs. Duffey S. Mrs. Joan G.
Mr. Russell C. Mr. John S. Mr. Tom H. Mrs. Helen J. Mr. Rick J.
Mrs. Karena D. Dr. Paul F. Mr. Kevin H. Mrs. Deirdre C. Mrs. Jessica W.
Mr. Dale B.

Angela D. Stephanie D. Spencer C. Sylvia C. Renee C.
Michael H. Brian D.

We will start the regular patrol rotation for nursing home visits in January, with the Viking patrol leading off on Saturday January 30, 2016, from 11 AM to Noon. Other patrols will follow in turn.

Adult Opportunities for the National Jamboree in July 2017

Regular BSA troops and crews do not apply to attend the National Jamboree as a unit. The way this works, is that Council has 12 "troop" allotments for the 2017 National Jamboree. Each "troop" is made up of scouts from all over the Council. These are led by a designated Scoutmaster (who might be from anywhere in the Council), and 2 Assistant SMs and a young adult leader (who would be 18-21 in July 2017). Cost for leaders and scouts alike is \$1250.00 (reduced cost expected for the youth leaders).

The e-mail below is to anyone who might be willing to apply for the position of Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or Youth Leader for one of these provisional troops.

Alternatively, adults can apply to work at the Jamboree for a half session (\$425) or the whole session (\$850). See the info at <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/volunteers/>. Mr. Tony Laing can provide details as to how this works, having worked part of the last Jamboree.

----- Original Message -----



NCAC Adult Leader Applications *2017 National Scout Jamboree*

The National Capital Area Council is now accepting applications for 2017 National Scout Jamboree Troop and Crew Leaders. The 2017 Jamboree will held July 19 – 28, 2017 at the Summit Bechtel Family Reserve in West Virginia. NCAC plans to send 12 Scout Troops and 2 Venturing Crews to the Jamboree.

To have a successful Jamboree, the Council requires qualified and committed adult leadership. Troops require three adult leaders over the age of 21, a Scoutmaster and two Assistants and one adult between the ages of 18-21 to serve as Third Assistant. Crews require male/female adult leaders over the age of 21. Based on interest, a Council Leader Selection Committee will review all applications for leader qualifications and experience and conduct interviews of qualified applicants in early 2016.

Adult leader applicants should register online at the 2017 National Jamboree and complete NCAC Jamboree Unit Leader Experience Survey (links below). NCAC Unit Leader Experience Survey must be submitted to the Council Office (BSA – NCAC, Attn: Jamboree Leader Selection, 9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814) not later than November 30, 2015.

Council Survey: <http://www.ncacbsa.org/jamboree>

Jamboree Registration: <http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/jamboree-registration>

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Don Durbin | Director of Camping Services
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
National Capital Area Council

Marriott Scout Service Center
9190 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814
O (301)214-9188 | C (240)298-8328
F (301)564-9513
E don.durbin@Scouting.org

Tell It to Mr. Matyas!

Mr. Gary Matyas is the troop's Advancement Chair, which is a fancy (and understated) way of saying that he keeps track of all the rank advancements, merit badges, and other awards that all the scouts earn. Plus completed training for the adults, that isn't done online by registered scouters at <http://myscouting.scouting.org>. This is a big job, as you can imagine, particularly in the weeks before a Court of Honor.

You can help. Just drop an e-mail to Mr. Matyas at grymat@comcast.net for any of the following. Include the scout's name, what the e-mail is relating to, and the date(s):

Rank advancements that may not go through the 3 person Board of Review (BOR). Generally, this applies to Scout rank, most other BORs are administered by Mr. Greenspon.

Service project hours outside the troop, that a scout wants to use to meet a rank advancement or merit badge requirement. This might include, for example, an event outside of scouting where the hours are not being applied to some other purpose, whether inside or outside of scouts. Even if you mark the hours in your Scout Handbook, they aren't entered into the troop database if you don't say something. So report them early, before your Scoutmaster conference. Include a short description of the project(s) along with the date(s) and hours.

Eagle project accounting. At the end of each Eagle project, the scout assembles a table of who worked how many hours. Please provide a copy to Mr. Matyas so that he can credit project hours to each scout in the list.

Events not in the Signaler. Mr. Matyas uses the *Signaler* record to establish scouts' participation record, so he won't know of anything not published there. The best solution for that is to put an article in the *Signaler*, and give public credit to those who participated.

Your attention to these small matters will improve the function of the troop, and thank you in advance for your assistance!

Video Training for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class

Scouting.org has videos available to help scouts with the rank requirements of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. These short videos include the current requirements listed for Tenderfoot through First Class.

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Applications/RankVideo.aspx>

Troop Activity Policy

Please be reminded that it is troop policy (and common courtesy) for a scout or scouter to pay the costs associated with an event he or she has signed up for but did not attend, without being asked. No-shows increase the costs to the troop and the participants, require the troop to reserve unneeded space and transport excess equipment, and results in wasted food and materials. We realize that situations inevitably will occur that prevent a scout from attending events, and ask that the scout or scouter contact the person organizing the event right away. If the conflict is raised early enough, adjustments can often be made where food has not yet been purchased or reservations have not been finalized.

Getting Credit for Troop Activities

It’s important that everyone who participates in Troop 264 campouts, trips, and community service activities gets credit for their hard work. The *Signaler* provides the permanent record of everyone who attends these events. **Patrol leaders** need to take responsibility for collecting the names of participants in their patrols and send those lists, preferably by e-mail, to the Signaler staff by the monthly deadline. E-mail lists to connect264@verizon.net.

Troop and Crew Drivers’ Info Update Needed

Each Boy Scout troop and Venturing Crew is required to maintain some basic information about the adult drivers that may be transporting scouts to and from events. This information is kept confidential and is only used to apply for BSA Tour plans, which are required for all trips outside the NCAC Council area, and for specific kinds of activities within the Council. So that we can keep our records current, please complete the attached form with current information and return it to Mr. Dale Bickel. Thanks in advance for your assistance!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Vehicles (Make, Model, Year) _____

and No. of Seatbelts _____

My insurance meets state standards: Y / N

BSA Youth Protection online training is current (if known)? Y / N

INFORMATION PAGE

Attention: Board of Review (BOR) Procedures

Board of Review (BOR)

Any scout needing a Board of Review should call Mr. Walt Greenspon @ (301) 774-5394 *no later than two Sundays (8 days) before the scheduled Board of Review.*

Failure to give proper notification will delay your BOR until the next month. Get your Scoutmaster Conference prior to calling Mr. Greenspon. If your scout is scheduled for the BOR, he MUST bring an adult with him. That adult is needed to sit on a BOR for another scout. This way we can accommodate all scouts striving for advancement.

Scout dress code for BOR will include Class "A" shirt, neckerchief, slide, and scout pants (khaki or black pants can be substituted). Merit badge sash is recommended. A scout hat is preferred.



Scout Spirit for Advancement

We all recognize that Scout Spirit is hard to evaluate. We know Scout Spirit includes being helpful and cheerful, but it is more than that...it's giving back. In an effort to assist Patrol Dads in recognizing Scout Spirit, the following guidelines are offered.

Our troop believes that prior to each advancement, participation in the following activities exemplify the essences of Scout Spirit:

- A minimum of 1 nursing home visit
- Participation in at least 1 fundraiser
- At least 4 overnight outings per year
- Good deeds done outside of scouts

The Patrol Dad, not a senior scout, is responsible for signing off on Scout Spirit prior to your Scoutmaster Conference.

Scoutmaster Conferences

Any scout needing a Scoutmaster Conference for advancement up through First Class, needs to contact one of the following for a conference:

Mr. Greenspon	301-774-5394
Mr. Laing	301-570-4235
Mr. Predoehl	301-774-0974
Mr. Matyas	301-570-0610
Mr. Freedman	301-774-7766
Mr. Bickel	301-774-0416
Mr. Irvin	301-570-5548
Mr. Kennedy	301-774-5014
Mr. Delaney	301-412-0509
Mr. Long	301-924-4365

Scoutmaster Conferences for Star, Life, and Eagle must be held with Mr. Bogan: (301)-774-2768. dbsm264@verizon.net

Preparation for the scout's BOR must include being prepared to answer skill, citizenship, first aid, and merit badge questions

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BOR for Star and Life Scout Advancements

While ropes and compasses are provided for younger ranks, by the time you are ready for Star and Life advancement, you should be responsible enough to bring your own knot rope and compass for your BOR. *We are requiring all scouts who are advancing to Star or Life to bring a knot rope and compass to their BOR.*

Life and Eagle Scouts as Advisory BOR Members

If you are a Life or Eagle Scout and would like to sit on a Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, or Star BOR, as a “Technical Expert”, call Mr. Greenspon on 301-774-5394.

**Permission Slip for Sugarloaf Mountain Hike / C&O Overnight Camp
January 23 - 24, 2016**

I give permission for my son _____ to participate in T264’s
Sugarloaf Mountain hike and overnight camping on the C&O Canal, near Dickerson, MD In an emergency, please
notify _____ (indicate name(s) and relationship to your son

at _____ (phone). If this person cannot be reached, I authorize qualified
medical personnel to administer any necessary aid or treatment to my son for illness or injury.

My son or daughter is allergic to the following medications or foods:

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

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January 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 New Year’s Day	2
3	4 Troop meeting	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 9 th Annual Webelos Visit Night 7:00 – 8:30	12	13 District Roundtable (Eagles)	14	15	16
17	18 Troop meeting MLK Day (no school)	19	20	21 Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy	22	23 Sugarloaf Mountain day hike (Crusaders)
24	25 “Last chance” BOR, TLC, and Patrol Meeting Personal Fitness MB (no school)	26	27	28	29	30 Nursing Home visit, 11 AM – Noon (Vikings)
31						

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February 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Winter Court of Honor, 7:30 PM	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Patrol meeting	9	10 District Roundtable (Vikings)	11	12	13
14	15 Troop meeting Presidents' Day (no school)	16	17	18 Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy	19	20
21	22 Patrol meeting	23	24	25	26 Early Release (MCPS) Ski Trip?	27 Nursing Home Visit, 11 AM – Noon (Eagles)
28	29 Troop meeting					

Ski trip dates not yet arranged – possibly day outings

March 2016

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Patrol meeting	8	9 District Roundtable (Hawks)	10	11	12 P.G. Skeet & Trap Shooting/ Goddard Space Center (Hawks)
13 P.G. Skeet & Trap Shooting/ Goddard Space Center (Hawks)	14 Troop meeting	15	16	17 Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy	18	19 Nuclear Science MB at Penn State
20	21 Patrol meeting	22	23	24 Spring break – No school(MCPS)	25 Spring break – No school(MCPS)	26 Nursing Home Visit, 11 AM – Noon (Crusaders)
27 Easter	28 Troop meeting Spring break – No school(MCPS)	29 Spring break – No school(MCPS)	30 Spring break – No school(MCPS)	31 Spring break – No school(MCPS)		

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April 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Spring break – No school (MCPS) Merit Badge Madness	2 Merit Badge Madness (Vikings)
3 Merit Badge Madness (Vikings)	4 Patrol meeting School resumes	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Troop meeting	12	13 District Roundtable (Crusaders)	14	15	16
17	18 TLC, BOR, and Patrol meeting	19	20	21 Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy	22 District Camporee Passover begins	23 District Camporee Nursing Home Visit, 11 AM – Noon (Hawks)
24 District Camporee	25 Troop meeting	26 Primary elections (no school)	27	28	29	30