



the signaler



<https://home.comcast.net/~t264>

March 2007

Volume 27, Number 3

TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS OF THE SIGNALER

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines (Refer to calendars for specific times.)

Mar 5	Patrol/Venture Mtg.	April 2	Patrol/Venture Meeting
Mar 10-11	Assateague barrier island backpacking trip	April 9	Troop/Patrol Meeting
Mar 12	Troop Meeting	April 11	District Roundtable
Mar 14	District Roundtable	April 13-15	Laurel Caverns trip
Mar 15	Troop Adult Meeting	April 16	TLC/BOR
Mar 17	Food Bank/Nursing Home	April 19	Troop adult meeting
Mar 19	TLC/BOR	April 21	Food Bank/Nursing Home
Mar 21	Signaler Meeting	April 21-22	Old Rag?
Mar 23-25	Naval Military Weekend	April 23	Patrol/Venture Meeting
March 24	Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation	April 25	Signaler Meeting
Mar 26	Court of Honor	April 27-29	Webelos Weekend
		April 30	Troop Meeting

MULCH!!!!

Mulch sales are beginning!!!

Important Dates:

March 19, 2007- Last day to place orders for lawn chemicals.

March 28, 2007- Last day to place orders for mulch and fertilizer.

March 31, 2007- All orders be delivered

To order please see a scout or please see Mr. Hoggard or call 301-570-1252 for more information.

Get 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 email, to the Signaler staff by the monthly deadline. Email lists to T264Signaler@verizon.net. **This month's deadline:** Friday, Feb. 19.

... And make sure everyone in your patrol gets the Signaler

Each patrol leader needs to send an updated patrol roster to the Signaler as soon as possible. This will enable the Signaler Staff to update the email distribution list so no one is left out. Also, please let us know which of your members don't wish to receive large attachments on their email (they can receive a link to the Web site instead). Having lots of pictures increases the size of the newsletter file. Recently we've had a lot of great photos! **Send your patrol rosters and feedback to:** T264Signaler@verizon.net.

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
4	5 Patrol Meeting 7:30 pm Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm	6	7	8	9	10 Assateague Barrier Island Hike Tentative (Sharks- Wilbur)
11 Assateague Barrier Island Hike Tentative (Sharks- Wilbur)	12 Troop Patrol Mtg 7:30 PM Open: Vikings Service: Javelins Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm	13	14 District Roundtable Montgomery General Hospital 7:30 pm (Foxes)	15 Troop Adult Mtg Brookeville Academy 7:30 pm	16 Deadline for April Signaler	17 Food Bank 8:00 am (Vikings) Friends Nursing Home 11 am (Foxes)
18	19 TLC/BOR Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm Last Day for Lawn Fertilizer Sales	20	21 Signaler Meeting 6:30 PM	22	23 Military Weekend (Hawks- Mr. Justus)	24 Military Weekend (Hawks -Mr. Justus) Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation
25 Military Weekend (Hawks - Mr. Justus)	26 Court of Honor 7:30 pm Open: Vikings Service: Javelins Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm	27 No School	28 Last day for Mulch & Fertilizer Sales	29	30	31 Mulch Pick Up from RELS

2007

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 Patrol Meeting 7:30 pm Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm No school	3 No school	4 No school	5 No school	6 No school	7
8	9 Troop Patrol Mtg 7:30 PM Open: Javelins Service: Foxes Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm No school	10	11 District Roundtable Montgomery General Hospital 7:30 pm (Sharks)	12	13 Laurel Caverns (Vikings – Mr. Bickel)	14 Laurel Caverns (Vikings – Mr. Bickel)
15 Laurel Caverns (Vikings – Mr. Bickel)	16 TLC/BOR Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm	17	18	19 Troop Adult Mtg Brookeville Academy 7:30 pm	20 Deadline for May Signaler	21 Old Rag? Food Bank 8:00 am (Javelins) 11 am Friends Nursing Home (Sharks)
22 Old Rag?	23 Patrol Meeting 7:30 pm Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm	24	25 Signaler Meeting 6:30 PM	26	27 Webelos Weekend	28 Webelos Weekend
29 Webelos Weekend	30 Troop Meeting 7:30 pm Open Javelins MB: Hawks Skill: Sharks Service: Foxes Ventures Mtg @ St. John's 6:30 pm					

2007

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

Naval Military Weekend Campout set for March 23-25, 2007

Troop 264 will have a Naval Military Weekend Campout with tour of Norfolk Naval Base: 23-24-25 March 2007. Scouts and Leaders will tour three types of US Naval vessels at Norfolk Naval Base on Saturday, 24 March with two nights of tent camping.

Scouts and Leaders will need their Class A uniform to wear on the naval base tour, and you may bring your camera.

Important note: All Scouts and Leaders who wish to attend must give their name to Mr. or Mrs. Justus not later than the regular Scout Meeting on Monday, 12 March. The base for our camping requires 100% identification and verification of all visitors. So if you even think you may want to go, it is better to put your name on the list and then not go because if you show up at St John's for departure on Friday night...and your name is not on the list...you will not be able to participate. Leaders/drivers will need to provide their vehicle license plate number so it can also be verified at the gate.

Schedule:

Friday 23 March

7 pm depart from Olney/St John's, drive 3hr 10 min + 20 min rest stop; 178 miles

10:30 pm arrive US Naval Supply Center Cheatham Annex near Yorktown and Williamsburg, VA; check in, set up camp & sleep. Showers & rest rooms are available.

Saturday 24 March

6 am Reveille

7 am depart Cheatham enroute to Norfolk Naval Base, drive 45 mins

8am arrive Naval Base Gate 5 & have breakfast in Base Galley

9-10:30 am tour aircraft carrier

10:30-12 noon tour destroyer

1200-1pm lunch at Base Galley

1-2:30 pm tour fast attack submarine

3 pm depart Naval Base for return to Cheatham; dinner will be purchased by each Scout at a suitable restaurant on the way back to camp.

5 pm arr Cheatham

8 pm Evening activity and campfire.

Sunday 25 March

0600 am Reville, breakfast at site & prepare for departure

0800 am clear site & dep Cheatham

1200 noon arr Olney

Meal charges: Saturday breakfast \$1.50 & lunch \$3.50; evening dinner approximately \$10 each (suitable location to be determined)

Sunday breakfast: hot water provided for hot chocolate, coffee, oatmeal. Easy cleanup.

Bring a few dollars for a snack/rest stop going to Norfolk & coming home to Olney.

***** Permission slip to participate in Naval Military Weekend *****

I give permission for my son _____ to participate in Troop 264's trip to Norfolk, Virginia on March 23/24/25, 2007. In an emergency, I can be reached at _____. If I cannot be reached in a timely fashion, I authorized qualified medical personnel to administer any necessary treatment to my son for illness or injury. My son is allergic to the following medications:

Parent or Guardian

Date

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter



Laurel Caverns – April 13 -14 -15

Troop 264 goes UNDERGROUND! A summary of this outing was published in the February 2007 Signaler, please refer to it for an overview and a list of costs. Here is additional information for the scouts and scouters who have signed up. Final details will be provided in the April Signaler.

Climbing Merit badge. Presently I have **16** scouts listed for the Saturday morning/early afternoon climbing merit badge. I have tentatively arranged for 20 scouts; 26 scouts is the maximum that the climbing class can accept. Over the next month, scouts who have signed up should:

- 1) Obtain a blue merit badge card from Mr. Bogan;
- 2) Work on the six knots referenced in the merit badge book; and
- 3) Work on the First Aid requirements in the merit badge book.

These items should be signed off on before you go. Mr. Proedahl has generously offered to assist scouts with the knots, Mr. Hoggard the same for the first aid requirements. Scout and parent need to complete the Laurel Caverns waiver forms below.

Cave Exploring (2 PM Saturday Afternoon). Each Scout and each scouter need to complete the Laurel Caverns waiver form below. Include both page 1 (items 1 through 8) and page 2 (items 9 through 14) when you turn it in. Pay particular attention to the recommendations and warnings covered in the waiver form.

Geology merit badge (Sunday morning). Scouts who have signed up for this merit badge should

- 1) Obtain a blue merit badge card from Mr. Bogan; and
- 2) Review the Geology merit badge book before they go.

PARTICIPANTS TAKE NOTE: Because of the preparations the Caverns needs to make, we cannot obtain a refund on Climbing merit badge cancellations made after Wednesday MARCH 21. If a scout finds he cannot participate after that date, he will still be obligated to pay for the climbing merit badge class (\$39) unless we can find a scout to take his place. For the Cave Exploring and Geology merit badges, we can make adjustments without penalty up until Monday April 9. Let me know of any changes promptly!

Moral: Double-check your calendars now!

Waiver forms can be turned in at any time this month to Mr. Dale Bickel, 301-774-0416, bickeldc@verizon.net.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

LAUREL CAVERNS - CLIMBING AND RAPPELLING

READ CAREFULLY WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of Laurel Conservancy Incorporated, doing business as Laurel Caverns furnishing services and/or equipment which enable me to participate in climbing and rappelling, I agree as follows:

I fully understand and acknowledge that outdoor recreational activities have:

(a) inherent risks, dangers and hazards and such exists in my use of equipment and my participation in climbing and rappelling activities; (b) my participation in such activities and/or use of such equipment may result in injury or illness including, but not limited to bodily injury, disease, strains, fractures, partial and/or total paralysis, death or other ailments that could cause serious disability; (c) these risks and dangers may be caused by the negligence of the participants, the negligence of others, accidents, breaches of contract, the forces of nature or other causes. Risks and dangers may arise from foreseeable or unforeseeable causes including, but not limited to, instructor decision making, including that an instructor may misjudge terrain, trail, risks of falling, and other such risks, hazards and dangers that are integral to recreational activities that take place in an underground environment; and, (d) by my participation in these activities and/or use of equipment, I hereby assume all risks and dangers and all responsibility for any losses and/or damages whether caused in whole or in part by the negligence or other conduct of the owners, agents, officers, or employees of Laurel Caverns or by any other person.

I, on behalf of myself, my personal representatives and my heirs hereby voluntarily agree to release, waive, discharge, hold harmless, defend and indemnify Laurel Caverns and their owners, agents, officers and employees from any and all claims, actions or losses for bodily injury, property damage, wrongful death, loss of services or otherwise which may arise out of my use of caving or rappelling equipment or my participation in caving or rappelling activities. I specifically understand that I am releasing, discharging and waiving any claims or actions that I may have presently or in the future for negligent acts or other conduct by the owners, agents, officers or employees of Laurel Caverns.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE STATEMENT OF AWARENESS, WAIVER AND RELEASE AND BY SIGNING IT AGREE. IT IS MY INTENTION TO EXEMPT AND RELIEVE LAUREL CAVERNS FROM LIABILITY FROM PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE OR ANY OTHER CAUSE. I BELIEVE MYSELF TO BE OF SOUND HEALTH WITH SUFFICIENT MATURITY AND EXPERIENCE FOR THE RIGORS AHEAD. FOR MY FEE I EXPECT ONLY THE OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF LAUREL CAVERNS TO ALLOW ME TO CLIMB AND RAPPEL IN THE CAVE AT MY OWN RISK. THOSE UNDER 18 YEARS MUST HAVE THE CO-SIGNATURE OF A PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR ADULT SUPERVISOR WITH A LAWFUL ORGANIZATION INVOLVING FULL PARENTAL AWARENESS.

PARTICIPANT'S NAME

AGE

DATE

PARENT (Guardian, Supervisor)

DATE

THOSE UNDER 18 YEARS MUST HAVE THE CO-SIGNATURE OF A PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR ADULT SUPERVISOR WITH A LAWFUL ORGANIZATION INVOLVING FULL PARENTAL AWARENESS.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

LAUREL CAVERNS LOWER CAVING RELEASE FORM

(A signature is required at the end of this form.)

Be sure to carefully read each numbered "point to know."

1. Laurel Caverns has 28 programs, only four of which require release forms.

- ★ lower caving (ages 12 & up)
- climbing and rappelling (ages 12 & up)
- upper caving (ages 9 & up)
- Adventure Sports Badge (ages 9 & up)

★ *This form only applies to the LOWER CAVING program.*

2. Lower Caving has requirements for group rates, registration, and the like.

- Open registration caving is available at 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. on every Saturday and Sunday Laurel Caverns is open.
- Reservations are not required for the open registration trips.
- Groups of six or more may enter on other days with a ten day prepayment.
- Please visit our website at www.laurelcaverns.com or call us at 724-438-3003 if you require further information.

3. Our cave has four zones:

- (1) the easy and well-lit portions of the traditional guided tour
- (2) the untouched maze of unlit but safe crawl passages off the guided tour
- (3) the untouched, unlit, huge rooms below the guided tour path
- (4) the mile of untouched, unlit, forty-foot high corridors that go to the base of the mountain

4. Lower Caving involves zones (1), (3), & (4) and is strenuous.

Laurel Caverns is the only developed cave in the northeast United States that offers exploring. It is Pennsylvania's largest, with three miles of passages having over 2.5 million cubic feet of air space. Laurel Caverns has a total elevation drop of 464', the deepest in the Commonwealth. Most of the cave is left in a natural state and its large, deeper, passages necessitate this form. Be prepared for steep slopes, slippery mud, streams and hard sharp rocks. None of the lower caving passages are lighted and no conveniences exist in this section of the cave. It is just as it was a thousand years ago. As a rule of thumb, if your health prevents you from the ability to climb the steps of a 45-story building you should not engage in this program.

5. Participants must have reached their 12th birthday, no exceptions.

6. Participants under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign this form in addition to the participant.

7. Participants not properly prepared will not be admitted.

8. Lower caving is dangerous.

We cannot make the cave safe for those of you going into its undeveloped areas. To do this would mean complete commercialization and the idea of the exploring trip is to let you see the cave in its natural state. Accidents have occurred involving broken bones and the removal of an injured person is extremely difficult, taking as long as twelve hours. In that we cannot research each one of you we must rely on your word that you have sufficient background and physical ability to handle yourself in the cave. Please be aware that participants go into an underground area completely in its natural state and that in many places the footing is slippery, uneven, and treacherous.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

- 9. Participants who appear under chemical influence or are resistant to our safety rules will not be allowed to enter.**
- 10. Proper preparation involves FIVE things. (very important)**
1. Participants must be wearing shoes with good tread and good ankle support.
 2. Participants should wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt.
 3. Participants must bring their own lights. Two sources of lights are required, no keychain lights, please.
 4. Knapsacks will be searched. Picnic food and weapons are prohibited.
 5. Hard hats are required and Laurel Caverns will supply hard hats at no extra charge, for anyone not having his or her own hard hat.
- 11. Your Exploring Director has the sole task of showing you the best route through the cave's maze and making sure you do not get lost. He or she can neither provide discipline nor medical advice.**
- 12. It is humanly impossible for your Exploring Director to watch every movement and every step of every caving participant.**
It is impossible for the Laurel Caverns staff to know the physical abilities of each participant. Responsibility for such things as the tread of shoes, loose clothing, poor ankle support, medical history, physical ability, medical vulnerabilities, the brightness of lights, the fit of hard hats, discipline failures, the rocks and drops before each participant, and all other things which fall under the immediate purview of a participant must be, and in all fairness can only be, the responsibility of each participant.
- 13. Injuries are inevitable in caving and some have occurred in Laurel Caverns, even involving broken bones.**
Something as simple as a twisted ankle may require a long tortuous removal process involving up to twelve hours of immobilization in a rigid basket, thirty or more rescue personal, an ambulance ride and hospital stay for X-rays and observation at the participant's expense, and finally, exposure to unbelievably hyped media attention on your "dramatic cave rescue." We average about one such major "rescue" a year.
- 14. Parental signature is required for participants ages 12 through 17.**
Laurel Caverns has no power to research any participant's family situation. A signature by one parent will be taken as consent by all involved.
★ IF ONE PARENT CONTESTS APPROVAL, OR IS IGNORANT OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS FORM, THE OTHER PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST NOT GIVE APPROVAL.

I (we) affirm that I (we) have carefully read and understand ALL FOURTEEN of the above points and that I (we) will neither hold Laurel Caverns, nor its owners, nor its agents responsible for the any problem or injury due to anything covered in the above fourteen points.

Participant: _____ Date: _____

Parent: _____ Birth-date (if under 18): _____

Please present this form when you check in.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

***** Permission slip to participate in Laurel Caverns trip (bring April 13th) *****

I give permission for my son _____ to participate in Troop 264's trip to Laurel Caverns on April 13/14/15, 2007 near Uniontown, Pennsylvania. In an emergency, I can be reached at _____ . If I cannot be reached in a timely fashion, I authorized qualified medical personnel to administer any necessary treatment to my son for illness or injury. My son is allergic to the following medications:

Parent or Guardian

Date

Do You Need to Review Your Knots?

If you need to review your knots prior to your next BOR or the next campout, check out the site below. It is very good for visually demonstrating how to tie knots. Click on the Scouting Emblem for knot demonstrations.

<http://www.animatedknots.com/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com>

District Roundtable

Our Boy Scout Roundtables feature informative discussions on topics from youth leadership training, using OA more effectively in your troop, and summer camp experiences. Each month Bill Lanson and his crew provide wonderful presentations, from wood carving to dutch oven cooking, to help your unit leaders provide new ideas and opportunities for your troop. This year we are also asking each troop to help out by giving a presentation on a favorite activity or camping location that your troop does. Come see what great new locations your troop might want to visit!

Roundtables are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Montgomery General Hospital. Be sure to check the front desk for the room number of the meeting. The rooms will change, but the meeting is now at Montgomery General Hospital. To find out more about the Roundtable, or to sign up to make a presentation, contact Bill Lanson at (301) 774-8040 or wlanson@aol.com.

Summer Camp Dates (mark your calendar)

It's not too early to sign up! Troop 264 is confirmed for July 14 to 21 (Saturday to Saturday) at Camp Bowman this year. The cost for the regular summer camp is \$260.00. The same week, our troop is planning to go to Lenhok'sin High Adventure, which costs \$290.00 and has a separate application. To find out more about both, visit www.boyscouts-ncac.org/pages/17_goshen_scout_reservation.cfm

Assateague Barrier Island Hike

To prepare for Lenhok'sin, the Troop is planning a barrier island prep hike from the Va. to Md. side of Assateague Island. This will be a difficult hike, best suited for older scouts with some backpacking experience. We will be backwoods camping. The dates are tentatively set for March 10-11. For more information, contact Sean Wilbur (Sharks), magic7@comcast.net.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

Merit Badge Day

On February 17, 2007 the annual Merit Badge Day took place at St. Peters. The turn out was fairly good and was actually really fun. I encourage those who want to get a quick merit badge to attend next year. The following scouts earned merit badges.

Jeremy Neufeld
Victor Santos
Anthony Justus

Peter Kirk
Chris Chirigos
Jonathon Godfrey

Nursing Home

The Hawk Patrol had fun at the January Nursing Home visit on Saturday, January 20th. Scouts Zach Hopkins and Anthony Justus took turns calling the numbers for ladies Bingo, and Mr. Justus helped them find the numbers on their cards. The highlight was the last game, a blackout of the Bingo card. You could just feel the tension in the air as the game came to a close...there were only 6 numbers left when we finally had a winner. And then we found out the winner of the blackout got to choose the video for the afternoon movie party. After a brief tour of the library and country store, we left; we decided not to stay for a showing of GONE WITH THE WIND.

—*Anthony Justus*

Patrol Corners

Foxes: We are continuing the Communications Merit Badge.

Hawks: We are working on the Personal Management merit badge.

Javelins: We continue to work on our basic Scout skills.

Sharks: The sharks are working on the Citizenship in the nation.

Vikings: We are currently starting the radio merit badge.

Geezers: Digging out and dreaming of Spring

To Get Leadership Credit for Den Chief Service

If you are serving as a Den Chief for leadership credit, prior to your BOR must notify Mr. Matyas. You should obtain a note from your Pack Den Leader and or cubmaster. This letter should include: (1) the dates you served as a Den Chief (at least six months); (2), The Pack and Den you served with; and (3) include the signature(s) of the Den Leader ,Cubmaster, and /or Pack Committee Chairperson and the date they signed off. Submit this letter to Mr. Matyas prior to your BOR. (301-570-0610, grymat@comcast.net)

Note: To earn the Den Chief Service Award, you must serve the pack faithfully as a den chief for one full year.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

Winter Campout, National Marine Corps Museum Tour Feb. 3-4, 2007

Troop 264 camped at Prince William Forest, Va., and visited the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico. The following are photos from the activity (Thanks, Mr. Irvin!).



At the entrance to the Marine Corps Museum

Participants:

Mr. Irvin
Tripp Karitis
Michael Damskey
Mr. Bogan
Chris Freeman
Sean Wilbur
Mr. Freeman



Iwo Jima survivor Sgt. Gordon Ward, 84, Kensington, MD, talks to Troop 264.



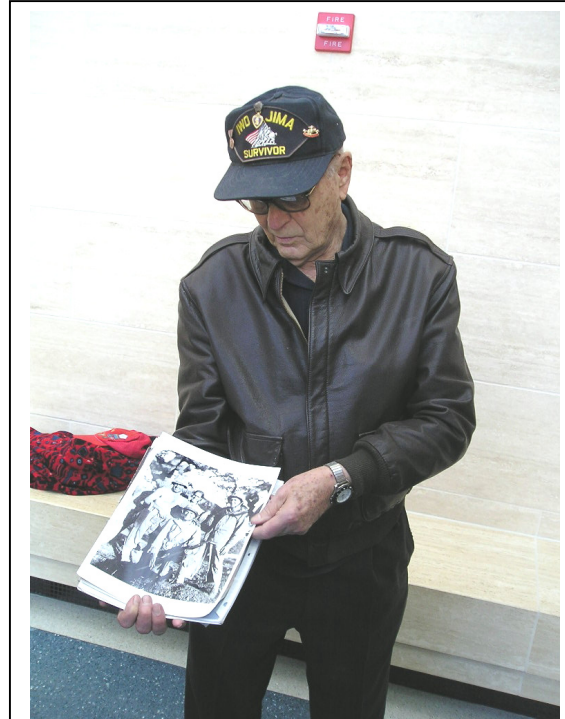
The flag that flew over Iwo Jima, with a model of the famous photo in foreground.

(For more photos, see next page)

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter



Back at camp, sawing wood for the fire.



Sgt. Ward describes his experience on Iwo Jima, where he earned the Purple Heart

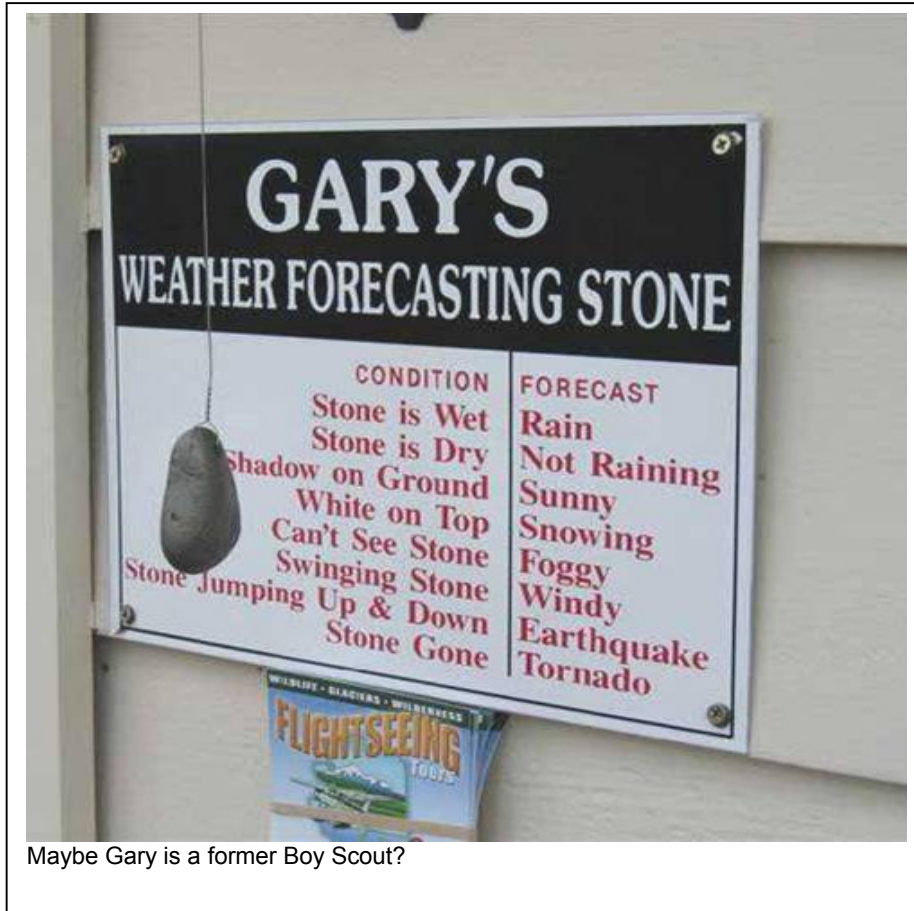


More wood action (hey—it was cold out there!)



When's dinner?

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter



TROOP CALENDAR

The 2006-2007 troop calendar is also posted to the website. Because the calendar is subject to change please note that the calendar printed in the Signaler is the most current. If you have any changes or additions contact Sheila Hopkins at 301-774-4106 or sashopkins@msn.com.

The Signaler - Troop 264 Newsletter

INFORMATION PAGE

Attention: Board of Review (BOR) Procedures

A few years ago we set up a new procedure for scouts to follow for requesting Board of Reviews. Being a large troop, we needed to give the adults sitting on the BORs some lead-time. Recently the procedure has been sliding and the adults are getting short notice because of last minute BORs being scheduled. Therefore we are restating our policy. FORGOT THE PROCEDURE? NO PROBLEM – It is almost always on the last page of each Signaler edition. Also, you can look at any past edition of the Signaler for this information.

BOR

Any scout needing a Board of Review should call 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. Dress Code for BOR: Class “A” shirt, neckerchief, slide and scout pants (khaki or black pants can be substituted). A scout hat is preferred.

April Signaler Submittal Deadlines:

Information Due to Reporters: February 16

Signaler Distribution Date: February 25

Articles Due to Mr. McFarlane: Weds. February 21 at the Signaler Meeting – No articles accepted after Mar 16.

The Signaler Staff

Editor:	Victor Santos	301-260-8605	ejsmd@msn.com
Webmaster/Reporter	Sean Wilbur	301-774-9287	magic7@comcast.net
Reporters:	Zach Hopkins	301-774-4106	crazeeman0490@msn.com
	Jimmy Bickel	301-774-0416	bickeldc@verizon.net
Signaler Adults:	Mrs. Evans	301-260-1042	klasevans@comcast.net
	Mr. McFarlane	301-570-5508	t264Signaler@verizon.net
	Mrs. Hopkins	301-774-4106	sashopkins@msn.com
Adult Advisors:			
Scoutmaster:	Mr. Bogan	301-774-2768	dennisbogan@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Mr. Sponaugle	301-774-4814	rsponal@yahoo.com
OA:	Mr. Patterson	301-774-0330	
Advancement Chairman:	Mr. Matyas	301-570-0610	grymat@comcast.net
SPL:	Zach Hopkins	301-774-4106	Crazeeman90@msn.com

Adult activity coordinators – please submit information about upcoming activities to Mr. McFarlane (electronically or hardcopy) by the deadline. Please contact a Signaler reporter if you would like to have a Scout generate the announcement for you. If any information or participants of activities have been left out of the Signaler, corrections will be made in the next issue. Please send any corrections to Mr. McFarlane at t264Signaler@verizon.net.

ADVANCEMENT INFORMATION PAGE

BOARD of REVIEW (BOR)

Any scout needing a Board of Review should call **Mr. 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 for a month.

If your scout is scheduled for a 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.

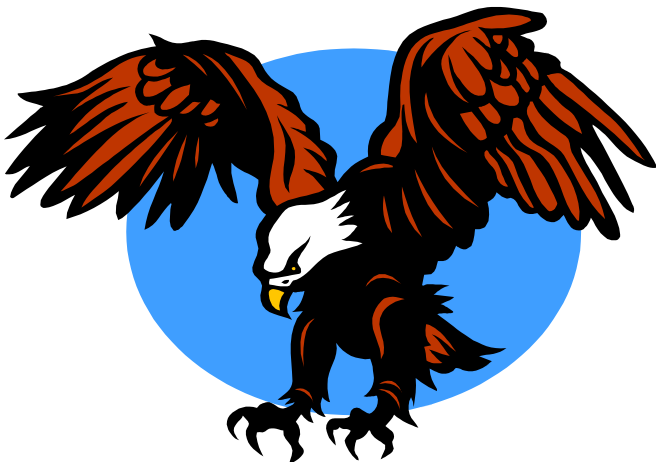
Scout dress code for BOR will include Class "A" shirt, neckerchief, slide, and scout pants (khaki or black pants can be substituted). A scout hat is preferred.

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 1st class, needs to contact one of the following for a conference:

Mr. Kennedy	301-774-5014
Mr. Greenspon	301-774-5394
Mr. Laing	301-570-4235
Mr. Long	301-924-4365
Mr. Pitts	301-774-3208
Mr. Predoehl	301-774-0974
Mr. Culbertson	301-774-7049
Mr. Zuccaro	301-774-0824

Scoutmaster Conferences for Star, Life, and Eagle must be held with Mr. Bogan - (301-774-2768). Preparation for their BOR must include being prepared to answer skill, citizenship, first aid, and merit badge questions.

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).**

You would be the fourth person on the Board. While you wouldn't have a vote, you would have input into the decision-making process and add invaluable knowledge and insight by asking questions that perhaps scouters wouldn't think to ask. This is a great way to give back to and maintain the quality of your troop.