



Cherokee Area Council
 520 S Quapaw
 Bartlesville OK 74003
 Phone: 918-336-9170
 Fax: 918-512-4789
 Toll Free 888-269-1328
<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org>

Cherokee Scouter

An official publication of the Cherokee Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

August 2012

In this Issue

Meet the new Osage Hills District	
Leadership	1
Updated Popcorn Fundraiser for 2012 ...	2
2012-2013 Scouting Year	
Calendar Released	2
Safe Swim Defense Safety Afloat	
Training Offered	3
Fall Camporee	3
Cub Scout Fun-O-Ree	3
OH District Training News	4
Training – Wood Badge	4
OA Fall Program	4
Helpful Day	5
Cub Scout Belt Loop Festival	5
A New trend in Grand Lake	
Lawn Care?	6
Council Special Needs Report	6
New Program Guide to Cub Scouts	6
Jamboree 2013	7
NAYLE	7
Update: Online tour plan made easy.....	8
Lowe’s National Eagle Scout Project	
Impact Grant	8
Adult Youth Protection training	9
Cyber Chip and Youth Protection	9
Start Now for 2014 High Adventures ...	10
Triple Crown Award	10
BSA Introduces Search and Rescue	
Merit Badge	10
BSA’s New NOVA Awards Program	11
Training Awards Updates	11
Presidential Active Lifestyle Award	12
BSA Messengers of Peace	12
Scouting Alumni Association	13
Be Prepared: There’s an app for that... ..	13
Scientists unveil new mobile app	
to identify trees	14
Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?	15
Adopt-a-School	15
Upcoming Key Dates	17

Meet the new Osage Hills District Leadership

The Osage Hills District has a new District Executive, Will Arnold.



Hello Scouters,

My name is Will Arnold and I’m excited to be in the Cherokee Area Council and to serve the Osage Hills District as your District Executive.

My professional service has been extensive, having served in several councils

as a District Executive, District Executive Multi-person, and Field Director. I look forward to meeting you, and working together hand-in-hand to serve the youth in northeastern Oklahoma.

Due to a hearing loss, I must ask that if you need to call me, please call me on my cell at (225) 362-3121. You can also call the Scout Service Center and leave a message for me. I will return your call promptly.

God Bless you for investing your time and talents to the service of our youth.

The OH District Committee also has several new members:

- Candi Barlow - District Chairman
- Becky Balli - Roundtable Commissioner
- Michele Robertson - District Membership Chairman
- John Wurtz - District Advancement Chairman

Rounding out the OH District Committee is:

- Ray Peaster – District Commissioner
- Mike Hurd – Eagle Boards of Review
- Charlie Lewis – District Training Chairman
- Sean Stedwell – District Social Media Chairman
- Linda Cole – District Camping Chairman
- *Your name could be here* – District Activities Chairman
- David Cragun – OA Chapter Advisor
- Luis Bali – OA Chapter Chief

Updated Popcorn Fundraiser for 2012

After multiple taste tests for popcorn, the council selected Campmaster as their popcorn supplier. Popcorn sales will fund the unit for the year, and this year there are lots of incentives for Scouts to sell.

The units this year will receive 30% of the popcorn sales for use in their Scouting programs. And more good news, tins are back!

The Council Scout incentive program this year is the \$1000 Popcorn Club for anyone who sells \$1000 or more of popcorn. All who qualify get an invite to an exclusive \$1000 Club party AND 1 ticket in a drawing for additional cool prizes (such as a Kindle Fire, Xbox 360, PS Vita, bicycle & more) AND 1 ticket for every \$200 in additional sales over \$1000. The top seller in the council earns first choice of any prize & is also entered in drawing. Scouts do not have to be present to win,

Cubs get a free Cherokee Area Council Day Camp for 2013 for themselves AND a newly registered friend in their unit. Boy Scouts get a \$150 voucher for 2013 to the Scout Camp of their choice.

Also, Scouts can turn in a copy of their filled sales form (each page is an entry) for a prize drawing on October 1 and 15, 2012 (filled forms must be dropped off at the Scout Service Center 520 S. Quapaw, Bartlesville any day prior to the drawing or faxed to 918-512-4789). The winner of the filled form drawing will be notified and have their choice of a \$100 gift card or Nintendo DS lite.

Campmaster Scout incentives include a patch for any sales, with a patch and level prize for different levels (with the capability to select prizes from different levels as long as total for areas selected do not exceed sales total). For the high achiever prizes (\$1500 and above), Scouts may only select their prize from one level.) Also, when a Scout fills all 30 lines of the sales form prior to the due date for order forms, they will earn a special patch.

Osage Hills District popcorn training is August 7th at 5:30 pm or 7:00 pm at the Scout Service Center with free hot dogs at 6:30 pm.

http://www.cherokeebbsa.org/activities/2012_Popcorn_Kernel_Training.pdf

Grand Lake District popcorn training is August 9th at 7 pm at the Afton Technology Center with free hot dogs at 6:30 pm.

Your unit Popcorn Kernel needs to attend your District's Popcorn Training so your unit will be ready to go the first day of popcorn sales!

2012-2013 Scouting Year Calendar Released

The coming year's Scouting calendar has been released and is posted on the council web site

http://www.cherokeebbsa.org/activities/2012-2013_CAC_Calendar.pdf

The calendar gives the dates for council and district events starting in August 2012 and runs through the end of the year in 2013. Not only can you find out the dates for unit planning for the coming year, but there are some new items that came onto the schedule.

A couple of council Helpful Days have been scheduled (Sept. and Mar) for Camp McClintock which all Scouting units are encouraged to attend. A Scout is helpful, and the Order of the Arrow Lodge will be providing leadership for various projects during the day for all ages. The Lodge will also be doing their Ordeal that weekend, where Scouts learn about cheerful service as a part of the Scout Law and spirit.

A council Venturing geocaching event has been scheduled for Oct.

A council First Class Weekend has been added to help units complete some of the skills needed by Scouts for

Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st Class ranks. This will be a chance for units to come and camp, and Scouts can pick up skills needed with each of the three days focused on a different rank. It does not replace unit instruction or summer camp advancement, but can be a very helpful tool to get Scouts completed in various ranks who may have requirements pending.

More information will be forthcoming as each of these events comes closer in the schedule.

Safe Swim Defense Safety Afloat Training Offered

Osage Hills District Training team is offering Safe Swim Defense Safety Afloat Training for those who would prefer to take the course from a trained Red Cross Life Guard.

Class will begin at 6:30 p.m. on August 28th at the Boy Scout Service Center on Quapaw with no cost to the participants.

Please register at the Cherokee Area Council Office before August 23 for this training event.

Fall Camporee

The Fall Camporee will be held September 7-9 at Camp McClintock. This year we will have an Order of the Arrow call out, so be sure to contact Sean Urban or you unit's OA rep to have your OA elections prior to coming to the Camporee.

This is setup so that The Ordeal will be done the following weekend at Camp McClintock, so the new candidates will not wait long before being inducted. And while the Ordeal is going on, there is a council Helpful Day (see other information on this in the newsletter) so that the whole troop can participate, so check out this possibility for everyone attending.

With the capital campaign that people supported in the council, several new additions have occurred at the camp. This year we will have a shooting sports competition at the new shooting sports pavilion.



There will also be a climbing experience at the new 44 foot tall climbing tower.



Other competitions include fire building, model campsite, and cracker barrel. Cost for the event is \$6 per person, and units should pre-register at the Scout Service Center. A flyer on the event is posted on the Council web site here

<http://www.cherokeebbsa.org/activities/2012-Fall-Camporee.pdf>

Cub Scout Fun-O-Ree

The Fun-O-Ree is a big recruiting event for Cub Scouts. The best way to be successful in recruiting is for your Pack to have all the Cubs attending sometime during the day, and for each one to bring a friend. Nothing helps recruiting like a friend asking you to come to the event, and nothing helps retention in units like Scouts having a friend in their unit. So, make this something which increases your unit membership by 30% to 60% by getting all of your Scouts to invite a friend.

All Packs and Troops are encouraged to staff an activity for this big recruiting event, which is a great way for new people to get to see what Packs are available and for Webelos Dens to see what Troops are in the area. If you have a freebie handout for those that come by your booth that is even better for helping attract new people into Scouting and into your unit.

All units should contact the Scout office with the information of unit number, meeting location, address, city, best contact: phone, e-mail, and meeting day and time. This will be put into a handout for all attendees, so that people have a listing of the choices available to them.

Remember that the Scouts earn a recruiter patch for each Scout they recruit, and new Cubs earn their first pinewood derby car for free! The Districts will also be advertising the event in Grade School Roundups and in the media.

The Osage Hills event will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 from 11 am to 4 pm.

<http://www.cherokeesba.org/activities/2012-OH-Fun0ree.pdf>

The Grand Lake Fun-O-Ree will be held on September 29, 2012. <http://www.cherokeesba.org/activities/2012-GL-Fun-O-Ree.pdf>

OH District Training News

Training is in the air for Osage Hills Leaders

Osage Hills District offers a variety of training for leaders at every level. The training team has put together an incredible training season for all adult leaders. The season will kick off, August 28, 2012 with safe swim defense and safety afloat. **There is no charge for the Scouting classes, but you must register in advance at the Scout Office.**

Check out these training opportunities:

- Aug 28, 2012 Safe Swim Defense safety afloat
- Sept 20, 2012 Youth Protection
- Nov 15, 2012 Cub Leader Essentials
- April 18, 2013 Boy Scout Leader Training

Also included at a reduced price for all Scouters:

- Jan 17, 2013 Red Cross 1st Aid/ CPR/ AED
- Feb 2,3 2013 Wilderness and Remote First Aid

In addition please look for additional training for adult leaders during the Merit Badge Fair, February 23, 2013.

For District Training assistance, contact Charlie Lewis, Osage Hills District Training Chairman (918) 333-7192

Note: Training is open to all adult leaders and parents of Cherokee Area Council.

Training – Wood Badge

The Council has been approved for a Wood Badge course for Sept 2013. Karen Slagel has been approved as the Course Director and John Wurtz will be her back up course director.

Please be thinking about scheduling this training for any and all unit leaders. Various prerequisite training will be held over the next 12 months for addressing those needs.

Those from the last course are encouraged to complete their tickets and consider staffing upcoming course.

Wood Badge is a council's premier adult leader training which is available to Cub, Boy, Venture, Varsity, district, and council volunteers. The course's design is to allow adults to participate in a model Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout troop as they also observe their staff model the unit committee.

Limited scholarships will be available though units are encouraged to budget assistance for their leaders as they will all benefit from this first rate training.

Questions: call Donna Copeland, Council Training Chair.

OA Fall Program

The Lodge has a new schedule for this coming year. It begins with the OA callout at the Camporee in early September. Be sure to have your OA elections prior to the camporee (contact Sean Urban for an election team to come to your unit).

The Ordeal will be the following weekend. Also on Saturday, we are having a council "Helpful" Day to bring other Cub and Boy Scouts and parents to camp to give better visibility to the program to help recruitment/retention of youth and also help with the

many camp projects. Troops are encouraged to invite a Webelos Den to camp with them Friday night before the "Helpful" day on Saturday.

Fall Fellowship will then be in October for Brotherhood conversion, fun, food, training, games, and fellowship.

Don't forget the OA One Day of Service in your community on Oct 27.

Vigil weekend will be Nov 16/17.

All events are to be held at Camp McClintock, except the One Day of Service.

This new approach of separating Ordeal from Fellowship should permit the new OA Ordeal members to fully participate in their first Fellowship soon after becoming an OA member. This should provide a more relaxed and fun OA schedule for the youth and adults.

We also encourage OA members to become very engaged and visible in your community on the OA One Day of Service, a national program to make Scouting visible in the communities and provide cheerful service to these communities for much needed projects. Check the *Warrior* newsletter (posted on the website and e-mailed to Lodge members) for details of cost, etc. on each of these events. And be sure to remember your pledge to help promote camping in your unit. The unit's OA Representative can help get their unit engaged in outdoor camping.

For a list of the OA Fall Program see the flyer on the Council web site here <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/2012-OA-Fall-Program.pdf>

Helpful Day

Helpful Day at Camp McClintock is a new addition to the 2012-2013 Scouting Calendar. This event is intended for Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and all leaders and parents. It is a chance for any Scouting person to make contact with the many others in the council and find out about units and activities that are available.

At the same time, all the people will be helping out to do helpful things at the Camp to make it a better place for units for their Scouting activities. Remember that any council unit can camp at McClintock and use most of the

facilities for free (a few items have rental costs.) Come join the eager Scout beavers to do cutting edge work at the upgraded Camp McClintock. Troops are encouraged to invite Webelos Dens to camp with them at this weekend.

This is a work day for camp, bring your tools to help out. Also intended for people to be able to see other units and find out about Scouting activities. The Order of the Arrow Ordeal will be going on at the same time, so people can observe the OA and find out more about this organization.

The intent is to help Scouts learn to be helpful, provide a chance for service hours for advancement, help Scouts learn about other organizations in Scouting which helps recruitment and retention in the Scouting program. It will be fun for all, so come and enjoy!

Helpful Day will be held at Camp McClintock, September 15, 2012, 9 am to 4 pm with no cost. Attendees should bring a sack lunch.

For more information see the flyer on the Council web site here <http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/2012-Helpful-Day.pdf>

Cub Scout Belt Loop Festival

On October 6th from noon to 6 pm the 2012 Cub Scout Belt Loop Festival will be held at Camp McClintock. This is a wonderful afternoon of fun for Cub Scouts where they can earn up to five belt loops.

Two sports oriented belt loops are being offered - Ultimate and Kickball – along with four others - Art, Good Manners, Language and Culture, and Music. The sports belt loops are two hours each and the others one hour each, so if Cubs take one sport they can take four other belt loops, or if they choose to take both sport belt loops, then they can earn four belt loops during the afternoon.

The cost is only \$5 which includes a snack and patch, and Cubs and parents need to eat prior to coming. The registration form is available at the Scout Office and on the Council web site here

<http://www.cherokeesbsa.org/activities/2012-Belt-Loop-Festival.pdf>

Registration needs to be submitted by Monday, October 1st. Registration is setup to be done by Dens,

as the den moves together through the belt loops, since the sports require groups to play the games.

A New trend in Grand Lake Lawn Care?

(Reprinted from the Vinita Daily Journal and the Grand River Chronicle)

This may not be the most efficient way to manicure a lawn in Duck Creek, but it is a great way to log in some extra hours strapped to the pack before the trip, says Dan-O Childers, the District Chair for Grand Lake District Boy Scouts of America and one of Troop 66's leaders in Vinita Oklahoma.



The local Vinita Troop sent a contingent of eleven Boy Scouts and Leaders from July 6th-20th to a dream destination for Scouts and hikers alike, known as Philmont Scout Ranch, to carry packs such as the one pictured above, on their 71-mile trek. Troop 66's Scouts-Bailey Hollabaugh, Calvin Wynn, Elijah Sooter, Bailey Potter, Steven Stecklein, Kellyn Andrasko, Austin Warren, and Crew Leader Chase Childers were accompanied by Leaders Kim Wynn, Sam Wynn, and Dan-O Childers.

For Troop 66's Philmont crew members and crew leader Chase Childers, this meant challenging themselves and others to learn new, and refine existing outdoor skills and abilities. "I liked being able to learn life skills through the merit badges I earned, while also having the chance to test my leadership skills and to teach others what I have already learned along the way", says Chase.



Chase lead the other Scouts from Vinita's Troop 66 in their 71-mile trek, where they backpacked, learned Indian folklore, panned for gold, rock climbed and rappelled, shot rifles and shotguns, as well as learned about life as it was in the southern U.S. during the 1800s and early1900s.

One of the many stops they made along the way, included the Tooth of Time and Mt. Baldy.

Council Special Needs Report

Several boys from Troop 8 (Salvation Army) attended a mini-camp at Will Rogers in early July. This was their second camp experience as a troop, and they had a great time. The boys focused on work to earn merit badges.

Also the Bartlesville Public Library stepped forward by offering the literacy program to a Scout needing developmental reading opportunities.

Kudos to Doug Banner for putting plans in place to initiate a special needs Cub Scout Pack in Grove.

New Program Guide to Cub Scouts

BSA has issued two new program guides that cover a year's program for a Cub Scout Pack. These are noted as Year A and Year B, the difference being that Year A does not separate the Cubs into Dens assuming that there is not yet sufficient adult leadership to provide the

leadership for Dens at each level. The Year B program assumes that there is sufficient adult leadership and has programs for each different level of Den.

Each of the program guides is a comprehensive program for the year for Tiger through Webelos Dens, and accomplishes the needed advancements for each of these ranks. It even has a copy of all of the needed forms. It is extremely convenient to have it electronically, as you can use part or all of this as needed.

For the new Pack, this provides a great way to get started when the leaders are wondering what to do each week and how to make a plan for the year. For existing Packs, it becomes a superb resource for supplementing the program and providing new ideas as to how to provide an exciting Cub Scout program for the youth. This includes openings, games, activities, materials needed, etc. - in short, everything you wanted to run a Cub Scout Pack. Be sure to download these to get ideas for the coming year.

Jamboree 2013

The Council is gearing up for the 2013 National Jamboree to be held in the **NEW** Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia (<https://summit.scouting.org>).

This exciting event is for Scouts who will be 12 years old by July 15, 2013 or 11 year olds who have graduated the sixth grade, and will not be 18 before July 24, 2013. Scouts must be at least 1st class in rank.



This Jamboree will include tons of activities including, but not limited to: kayaking, shooting sports, archery, mountain biking, rock climbing, five 3,000 foot zip lines where scouters can reach up to 50 mph!!!!, scuba and more!! Visit <https://summit.scouting.org/en/Jamboree2013/Pages/Activities.aspx> for a complete list of activities available and Boy Scout qualifications.

For the 2013 Jamboree our Contingent total cost will be \$1,600/per person. This includes the jamboree fees, transportation there and back, pre-defined amount of spending money and one Cherokee Area Council 2013 Jamboree patch set. There will be other personal fees (uniform, items purchased on the way to/from the event, etc) that are not included in this fee. Tentative plans are for the contingent to depart Saturday, July 14 and return Thursday, July 25 2013.

According to Contingent Scoutmaster Bruce Hendren, "We will have several fund raising opportunities between now and December 2012 to help offset the cost of the National Jamboree". Steak & chicken dinners and selling Daddy Hinkles marinade are two of the fundraisers that will be done to help offset the costs.

Signing up is easy by just going to <https://summit.scouting.org/en/Jamboree2013/Pages/default.aspx> and using your BSA membership ID number (which is found on your membership card or by checking with the Scout Office). If you do not already have a MyScouting.org account you will need to set that up as well. Once you have both your summit account and MyScouting.org account set up it will allow you to link the two and register for the National Jamboree. At the end of your online registration you will print out the paper form and bring it to the Scout Service Center with your \$100 deposit and any additional payments to get you caught up with current Payments due to National.

Should you have any questions, feel free to email Sean Urban, 2nd Asst. Scoutmaster at jambo2013@cableone.net. Other adult leaders include Bruce Hendren, Jon Copeland, and Larry Eide.

NAYLE

Dale Copeland, Council Properties V.P., recently returned from Philmont where he served as a course director for N.A.Y.L.E. (National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience) held at Rocky Mountain Scout Camp.

NAYLE is a week long outdoor program that emphasizes placing leadership principals learned during NYLT training into action. A wide variety of activities including Team Challenge/C.O.P.E., Geocaching, Wilderness First Aid, Search & Rescue, Hiking, and the Friday morning climb of the iconic Tooth of Time are part of this program.

Seventy-one staff and participants from across the country and around the world participated in N.A.Y.L.E., Session 4 – including Scouts from Japan and Tiawan.



NAYLE and its parallel adult leadership program, PLC (Philmont Leadership Challenge) are intended to allow leaders the

opportunity to enhance the skills learned in NYLT and Wood Badge with hands on, action oriented activities in the beautiful outdoor settings of Philmont.

For more information about N.A.Y.L.E. or PLC visit

<http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC/YouthPrograms/NAYLE.aspx> or
<http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC/FallWinterSpring/PhilmontLeadershipChallenge.aspx>

Or contact Dale Copeland at
Dale@CopelandAppliance.com or

Donna Copeland, Council Training Chair at
Donna@CopelandAppliance.com

Update: Online tour plan made easy

BSA has updated the online tour plan, and it makes it simple to do everything from your computer and be done with your part. Simply sign into www.myscouting.org and click on tour plan. You can create a new plan, and now they have your registered leaders with their training automatically coming into the plan when you select them.

One exception to the training plan is the youth protection, and you must check that someone is youth protection trained (within the last two years) in one of the bullets when you add the adult. It does not automatically update this from the training record. If you aren't sure whether someone is youth protection trained or not, then you can check by selecting "Training Validation" and entering the person's ID number or name and it will show you their training record.

One other anomaly at this point is that if you select the "other" activity for the outing, then the system incorrectly thinks that someone must be trained in CPR and First Aid, and the www.myscouting.org message notes that

you should ignore this flag when you select other until they get this corrected.

When you go through the plan, it will flag items in red that must be resolved prior to the trip, and you will need to certify that these will be corrected to complete the tour plan and get a printout of your tour plan. Once you certify the tour plan, the system will route it for review to the council and the unit.

The reviewers will get an e-mail notifying them of the submitted tour plan. The tour plan can either be reviewed on line in PDF or printed so that the reviewer can look at a printed copy. The reviewer should check to see that the plan is setup correctly, and if they see anything that is incorrect, then the reviewer needs to contact the submitter and let them know something needs to be fixed.

The red flagged items are already notified to the submitter, so typically this would be something else that the reviewer catches. Or the reviewer may have other information that would be helpful to the submitter that they may want to respond. If the reviewer doesn't see anything to be communicated, then their task is done, and nothing else is required.

There is no signoff by the reviewer, and no notification back to the submitter that the review has occurred, unless the reviewer contacts the submitter directly.

Please note the submitter must fill out the request in sufficient time for the reviews to occur.

Lowe's National Eagle Scout Project Impact Grant



About the Grant

A generous contribution from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has made it possible for local councils to present selected Eagle Scout candidates with a \$100 prepaid gift card to be used toward their service projects. [See brochure](#)

Qualifications

To qualify for a Lowe's National Eagle Scout Project Impact Grant, the individual must

- Be a registered Life Scout
- Complete and submit the [Lowe's Grant application found here](#)
- Your service project must be construction based
- Be sure the Eagle Scout service project has been approved and all signatures secured before submitting your grant application.
- Submit the grant application along with pages 6-10 of your Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook to the Scout Service Center
- Upon approval of your grant, you will receive a prepaid Lowe's gift card which must be activated by you. The gift card has a value of \$100. Cards must be used to purchase building materials and equipment for the Eagle candidate's service project.
- The card may be used at any Lowe's location or any place that it is accepted.
- Document your project with "before" and "after" photographs. Be sure the photographs show how the materials and equipment purchased with the gift card were used for your service project.
- After your service project is completed, turn in documentation (receipts totaling at least \$100) of how the gift card was used on your service project. This documentation should be separate from but turned in with your Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook to the Council Service Center.

Additional Information or Questions

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/TrailToEagle.aspx>

Adult Youth Protection training

As a reminder, in order to register new adult leaders or to renew registration of current adult leaders, the leader must have current youth protection training.

This training can be documented by having the new person go to www.myscouting.org, take the course, and

print out the certificate at the end of the process, and submit the certificate with the new application.

For those that are already registered and have setup an account at

www.myscouting.org

and entered their BSA ID number, the youth protection is visible to the Scout Office without any certificate being submitted.

The BSA ID number is on the registration card, or can be found by calling the Scout Office.



Cyber Chip and Youth Protection



To help families and volunteers keep youth safe while online, the BSA has teamed with NetSmartz®—part of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children—to create the Cyber Chip. This exciting new communication tool addresses the issues of cyberbullying, cellphone use, texting, blogging, gaming, and

identity theft.

Visit www.scouting.org/cyberchip to learn more about how units can incorporate this imaginative Youth Protection resource and help Scouts earn a Cyber Chip patch. Along with information on how each Scout can earn a pocket card certificate and patch appropriate to different grade levels, the website provides links to grade-appropriate videos and support materials that can be integrated into Scouting programs.

Cyber Chip patches, which can be earned by any youth in any BSA program, are available for purchase at www.scoutstuff.org. Other materials available include a pocket card and *Power Pack Pals* booklets that cover Internet safety and bullying.

See the BSA National web site for more information about grade-specific requirements
<http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection/CyberChip.aspx>

Start Now for 2014 High Adventures

Yes, it is the time to begin planning for your unit's 2014 High Adventure. The reservation process for Philmont will begin in November, Sea Base in January, and Northern Tier Canoe Base in April.

To be ready, a decision by the unit is needed to determine which of the adventure bases to attend. Then you need to assess whether you have sufficient interest in the unit to meet the minimum attendance for a crew, and if not solicit interest from other units. All of the high adventure bases require a minimum of two adult leaders on the crew as well. Each high adventure base has different requirements, so check out what is needed for the particular adventure as sometimes it changes per adventure type at the base.

People also need to be ready to make a deposit in short order once the reservation is confirmed. Find out what the specifics are to make the reservation, as it is different for each base. It may well be that you don't get your reservation the first year(s) that you attempt this, so it might be worthwhile to have a backup plan for an alternate.

Philmont has the highest number of people trying to reserve with Sea Base in second. Also, if you are flexible about timing on attending, you can usually find times for Sea Base and Northern Tier to attend the first part of the year of attendance (or earlier) as people always end up cancelling plans.

Another important item is that the adult leaders will need to be trained, which means for high adventure that you must be trained for your Scouting position, have Wilderness First Aid (this is a two day course), CPR, and the needed training for the tour plan (such as hazardous weather.)

Start your planning now and enjoy the benefits of Scouting's high adventure bases!

Triple Crown Award

Any Scout or Scouter that has attended all three high adventure bases is eligible for the Triple Crown Award. The link for the order form is below, and can be done through any of the High Adventure Bases.



The award is a certificate and 3" patch, of which each participant can only receive one. The Triple Crown Award is \$9 per person. There is also a 6" backpatch of the same design that can be ordered for \$10 each.

The three high adventure bases for this award are Florida Sea Base, Philmont Scout Ranch and Northern Tier.

<http://www.ntier.org/filestore/NorthernTier/pdf/TripleCrownApp.pdf>

BSA Introduces Search and Rescue Merit Badge Merit Badge Encourages Scouts to Be Prepared When Enjoying Adventure Outdoors

Every year, thousands of people who were reported missing are saved by specialized search and rescue (SAR) teams. With high-tech navigation tools readily available, many people are able to self-evacuate from remote areas. But the critical skills of SAR are still essential to saving lives.

That's why the BSA announced its first Search and Rescue merit badge at the 2012 National Search and Rescue Conference hosted by the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) and the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA).

Scouts aiming to earn the Search and Rescue merit badge will first learn the important differences between a search and rescue. A *search* is an emergency situation requiring a team of trained searchers to locate, access,



stabilize, and transport a lost person to safety. A *rescue* is an emergency situation where the person's location is known but he or she must be removed from danger and returned to safety. The term SAR is used together because rescues are often required after the person is found. Scouts will learn the fundamentals of SAR, but the badge will not qualify a young person as a trained searcher. While the BSA seeks to equip young people with relevant and useful skills, the organization stresses that Scouts should never attempt a search or rescue on their own.

To meet the requirements of the Search and Rescue merit badge, Scouts must complete a series of nine requirements relating to SAR fundamentals such as:

- The process and safety methods of working around specialized teams such as aircraft, canine, and aquatic rescue teams
- Identifying differences between search and rescue environments, such as coastal, wilderness, rural, and urban landscapes
- Determining when Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) and latitude and longitude (Lat/Lon) should be used

As an active SAR volunteer and former associate director of program (once responsible for backcountry operations) at Philmont Scout Ranch, one of the BSA's four high-adventure bases, Doug Palmer fully understands the importance of learning these skills. "One of the main missions of Scouting is to introduce the thrill of the outdoors to young people," Palmer said. "However, we recognize that outdoor adventure comes with some element of risk. Our job is to make sure young people are able to enjoy the environment safely."

One of the most significant lessons Scouts can learn by working toward the Search and Rescue merit badge is how to "stay found" if they lose their way and keep themselves from becoming the subjects of an SAR. "Staying found" is both a simple and easily learned concept ... and it can be a lifesaving one," said Dan Hourihan, NASAR president.

Click here for a Staying Found tip sheet
http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/staying_found.pdf

BSA's New NOVA Awards Program is Growing Minds through STEM Achievements!

Discover the coolest new ways to expand your mind and build critical real-world skills!

BSA's NOVA Awards program introduces fun and rewarding opportunities for Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Venturers to explore various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) topics.

Featuring:

- Support from a partnership with ExxonMobil®
- Honorary Chairman and National Spokesperson, Dr. Bernard Harris, former Boy Scout and NASA space shuttle astronaut
- Distinctive NOVA pocket patch with separate pin-on device, medals, and more
- Related merit badge activities and specialized programs to come!

For more information and program details, please visit here <http://www.scouting.org/stem/AboutSTEM.aspx>

Training Awards Updates

The Training Awards for adult leaders have been updated. In 2011, the National Council's Awards Committee conducted a review of the awards presented to adults in the BSA. Some awards have been eliminated and all of the requirements for the remaining awards have been updated. In addition, forms and requirements have been simplified. The training awards and keys are designed to recognize unit Scouters for tenure, basic and continuing training, and successful performance in their leadership role.



Changes include:

- The Cubmaster Award has been discontinued. Cubmasters may now earn the Scouter's Key Award and may wear the Scouter's Key knot with a Cub Scouting device.
- The Cub Scouter and Pack Trainer Awards have been discontinued. Cub Scout pack leaders may earn the Scouter's Training Award and may wear the Scouter's Training Award knot with a Cub Scouting device.
- The Tiger Cub and Webelos Den Leader's Awards have been discontinued. All den leaders may earn a new Den Leader's Training Award medal that is being created, and may wear the Den Leader's Training Award knot (identical to the previous Cub Scout Den Leader Award knot) with the appropriate device. A Tiger Cub den leader device is also being developed.

Scouters who have earned the old awards will still be able to wear the old awards and knots.

Scouters who have begun to work on the Cub Scout Leader Recognition Awards will still be able to earn them as long as they are completed by the following dates:

- Tiger Cub Den Leader Award – December 31, 2012
- Webelos Den Leader Award – December 31, 2012
- Cubmaster Award – December 31, 2013
- Pack Trainer Award – December 31, 2013
- Cub Scouter Award – December 31, 2013

Cub Scouters who have not started to work on an award may only earn the new awards and must use the new requirements.

Progress record forms with the new requirements for these awards can be found at

<http://www.Scouting.org/training>

Presidential Active Lifestyle Award

Several of our scouts and leaders have made the commitment to earn this SCOUTStrong Challenge award. You can earn the award by meeting the daily activity goal of 30 minutes a day for adults and 60 minutes a day for kids under 18 for at least five days a week, for a total of six weeks. Participants can take up



to eight weeks to complete the program. Activities can include walking, running, playing soccer...even playing Wii video games! Just about anything counts as long as major muscle

groups are engaged at a moderate to vigorous activity level.

This is a great way to commit to daily physical activity. It helps everyone set reasonable and realistic goals. It also encourages physical fitness for a lifetime. To learn more about SCOUTStrong, go to

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutstrongpala.aspx>

BSA Messengers of Peace

The Scouts of the world have been answering that call for more than 90 years. Today, Scouts in dozens of countries are working for peace by solving conflicts in their schools, building links between divided communities, teaching their peers about health and wellness, and repairing environmental damage.

To recognize their efforts—and to inspire more young men and women to help Scouting create a better world—the World Scout Committee has launched the Messengers of Peace initiative. The Boy Scouts of America is proud to join this effort in 2012.



How can BSA units participate? All they have to do is go online and register the MOP-related community service projects (including Eagle Scout projects) they undertake. Doing so adds pins to a global Messengers of Peace map, which Scouts from around the world can click on to learn how their fellow Scouts are making a difference.

Scouts who complete MOP projects will be eligible for a special recognition: a ring patch that goes around the World Crest. That patch will symbolize their participation in an ever-widening circle of Scouts who are not just visualizing world peace but are helping to make it a reality.

More information can be found here:

<http://scouting.org/messengersofpeace.aspx>

Scouting Alumni Association

The Scouting Alumni Association welcomes everyone positively and personally impacted by the Boy Scouts of America – former Scouts, family members of Scouts past and present, volunteers past and present, and the millions of Americans who benefit from Scouting in their communities every day – to join today.

Enjoy the member benefits and support the good work that the BSA continues in its second century.

Membership costs \$35 annually. Benefits include the following:

- Packet sent upon joining containing an embossed affiliation card, lapel pin, luggage tag, and window cling.
- Quarterly electronic newsletter Alumni Alive! It's a popular, convenient update of all the great happenings in Scouting today.
- Cell phone ring tones of 10 bugle calls.
- Free one-year membership to the National Scouting Museum, this world-class museum is located in Irving, Texas, across the street from the BSA national office. Membership includes access to the museum's quarterly newsletter, Bridges & Trails.
- One-time discount on a purchase from Scoutstuff.org

Being a member of the Scouting Alumni Association is a great way to show your support for America's largest youth organization.

Go to <http://scouting.org/alumni/association.aspx> and click the "Join Now" button.

Be Prepared: There's an app for that



The topic of electronics and the outdoors can be a hot button issue for many. For years many Scout units have maintained a 'no electronics on campouts' policy. That said technology adds a lot of tools, many in the form of apps. Here's a collection of apps to be prepared – for emergencies and natural disasters. In a real disaster, charging capabilities may be limited so use the apps before hand to best prepare yourself BEFORE you're called on to put those skills to the test.

[Bear Grylls – Bear Essentials:](#) A collection of wilderness survival lessons, tools, games and quizzes to test your survival knowledge.

[FEMA:](#) The FEMA App contains disaster safety tips, interactive lists for storing your emergency kit emergency meeting location information, and a map with shelters and FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs).

[Pocket First Aid & CPR from the American Heart Association:](#) First Aid and CPR training

[Flashlight:](#) When the lights go out use the iPhone camera flash as a flashlight.

[iHurricane HD](#): Track the path and intensity of a hurricane. Push notifications for alerts for your location.

[Morse Code](#): If you're in a situation and that's the only way to communicate you'll know how.

[NOAA Radar US – HD Weather Radar and Forecasts](#): The most advanced, fastest loading, and highest resolution radar/satellite app available.

[Relief Central](#): This mobile app was specifically developed to help disaster workers operating in the field. Relief Central, available for free on all the major mobile platforms, provides access to relevant reference material and supplies news feeds from government and private relief agencies.

Users can search The World Factbook from the CIA for detailed information on over 250 countries and territories or review disaster assessment and response guidelines in The Field Operations Guide from the USAID. Relief News gives you up-to-the-minute RSS feeds from trusted government, non-profit, and international resources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Red Cross, ReliefWeb, and more. With Unbound Medicine's selected MEDLINE journals users can link to the latest abstracts and articles in relevant scientific and medical literature.

[American Red Cross: Shelter View](#): Maps locations and shelter details for emergency shelters across the US.

[Survival Guide](#): Based on the US military survival manual.

Scientists unveil new mobile app to identify trees

By Brett Zongker, AP

If you've ever wondered what type of tree was nearby but didn't have a guide book, a new smartphone app allows users with no formal training to satisfy their curiosity and contribute to science at the same time.

Scientists have developed the first mobile app to identify plants by simply photographing a leaf. The free iPhone and iPad app, called Leafsnap <http://leafsnap.com/>, instantly searches a growing library of leaf images amassed by the Smithsonian Institution. In seconds, it

returns a likely species name, high-resolution photographs and information on the tree's flowers, fruit, seeds and bark.

Users make the final identification and share their findings with the app's growing database to help map the population of trees one mobile phone at a time.

Leafsnap app on Kress' iPhone along with tree leaf specimens, Thursday, April 28, 2011, at the Smithsonian Natural History Museum's specimen storage room in Washington.

Leafsnap debuted in May, covering all the trees in New York's Central park and Washington's Rock Creek Park. It has been downloaded more than 150,000 times in the first month, and its creators expect it to continue to grow as it expands to Android phones.

By this summer, it will include all the trees of the Northeast and eventually will cover all the trees of North America.

Smithsonian research botanist John Kress, who created the app with engineers from Columbia University and the University of Maryland, said it was originally conceived in 2003 as a high-tech aid for scientists to discover new species in unknown habitats. The project evolved, though, with the emergence of smartphones to become a new way for citizens to contribute to research.

"This is going to be able to populate a database of every tree in the United States," Kress said. "I mean that's millions and millions and millions of trees, so that would be really neat."

To identify a tree, it works best if users place a leaf on a white background to photograph. Engineers used facial recognition technology to devise an algorithm that could identify a leaf by its shape and features. The image is uploaded to a server, and within seconds it returns a ranking of the most likely tree species a user has found, along with other characteristics to help confirm the tree's identity.

Users make the final identification.

To create a reliable database as the app's backbone, the team started by photographing leaves from the Smithsonian's vast collection of specimens. It became clear, though, that they would need images of living specimens for the application to work correctly. A nonprofit group called Finding Species was called in to capture thousands of images of leaves for the app.

Beyond finding answers about the world of trees, even casual users can contribute to scientific research. Images and tree identifications are automatically sent with mapping information from the phone to Leafsnap's database. Scientists said that data could eventually be used to map and monitor the growth and decline of tree populations.

The iPad version also includes a feature called "Nearby Species" to show all the trees that have been labeled by others near a user's location.

Scientists also are getting requests to expand the app's capabilities to cover trees in France, Morocco, Thailand and elsewhere.

"We want to spread this, not across the United States, but across the world," Belhumeur said.

It's just a matter of collecting and photographing all the tree species native to a region.

Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?

Series to Debut on National Geographic Channel This Fall

New Series From Original Productions Pits Adults Against Boy Scouts for a Variety of Challenges

Irving, TEXAS — *Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?* It's the question being asked by a new unscripted series from Original Productions (*Deadliest Catch*, *Ice Road Truckers*) set to air this fall on the National Geographic Channel.

Those who have been involved with the Boy Scouts of America know how tough Scouts can be. They master hundreds of unique skills, learn what it takes to survive in a variety of circumstances, and focus on teamwork to accomplish goals that otherwise would be insurmountable. Now, as part of *Are You Tougher Than a Boy Scout?*, teams of adults from different backgrounds will have an opportunity to test their mettle against some of those Scouts in challenges based on the *Boy Scout Handbook*.

"I was three badges short of my Eagle Scout badge, and I know I am not alone," said Original Productions founder and producer Thom Beers. "This series is going to allow people like me one more chance to achieve such an incredible milestone. Plus, it's authentic, has a fun and

interesting set of circumstances and underdog characters with a story to tell. And frankly, who doesn't love the Boy Scouts?"

"This is a wonderful, unique opportunity to demonstrate the value, fun, and challenge of Scouting to audiences who might be wondering what Scouting in 2012 is all about," said the BSA Chief Scout Executive. "We know Scouts are 'Prepared. For Life.™'; so they're up to facing the challenges life throws their way. Watching them face and overcome challenges on national television will be a new way for people to get a glimpse of what it means to be a Scout."

"Partnering not only with Thom Beers, but also with an organization as renowned as the Boy Scouts of America is an incredible opportunity for us to try something different," said National Geographic Channel Executive Vice President of Programming Michael Cascio. "This series will showcase our passion for adventure and exploration in a whole new way."

The series premieres this fall on the National Geographic Channel.

Adopt-a-School

BSA Adopt-a-School is a program designed to begin proactively addressing community and school relationships. Implemented, it will be a win-win situation for both Scouting and our schools.



How does it work?

Units start with four volunteer projects agreed upon by the unit and school. The unit pledges to complete one of these projects per quarter over a yearlong period and registers them using an online pledge form. The unit then posts project hours and completion on the Internet so that this is counted toward their Journey to Excellence service hours.

All youth will benefit from the advancement opportunities Adopt-a-School presents, and the recognition elements

range from patches to certificates of participation and Progress Toward Ranks advancement. Various Cub Scout achievements (e.g., Wolf achievement 7d, pick up litter) could be earned by participating in a project to benefit a Scout's school. Elsewhere, a First Class Scout taking part in service projects totaling at least six hours could use his Adopt-a-School time to achieve the rank of Star Scout.

Units benefit in many ways, as well. Participation will show the community that Scouting is alive and well and will share the value of Scouting with the schools and the local community.

District and council advancement committee members should encourage unit advancement committees to explore these opportunities. Explain how teaming up with local schools can benefit advancement and increase community awareness of the rewards of Scouting. To learn more, see stories and pictures of successful projects at the Adopt-a-School website, www.bsaadoptaschool.org.

The first step for a unit? Go to www.bsaadoptaschool.org to register and complete an electronic pledge form. When projects are completed, return to the site and leave a blog about the accomplishments.

Upcoming Key Dates

Check the Council web site (<http://www.cherokeebesa.org>) for more information about these events.

- Aug. 2 - OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Aug. 7 - OH District Popcorn Kernel Training
- Aug. 9 - OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Aug. 9 - GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting; Membership Roundup and Popcorn Kernel Training
- Aug. 28 - Safe Swim and Safety Afloat Training
- Aug. 23 - OH District Committee
- Sept. 6 - OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Sept. 7-9 - Council Camporee
- Sept. 13 - OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Sept. 13 - GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Sept. 14-15 - OA Ordeal and Council Helpful Day
- Sept. 20 - Youth Protection Training
- Sept. 22 - OH Fun-O-Ree
- Sept. 27 - OH District Committee
- Sept. 29 - GL Fun-O-Ree
- Oct. 4 - OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Oct. 6 - OH Belt Loop Festival
- Oct. 6 - Venturing Geocaching Event
- Oct. 11 - OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Oct. 11 - GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Oct. 12-13 - OA Fall Fellowship
- Oct. 25 - OH District Committee
- Oct. 27 - OA One Day of Service
- Nov. 1 - OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Nov. 8 - OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Nov. 8 - GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Nov. 29 - OH District Committee
- Dec. 6 - OH District Roundtable, Unit Commissioners, and OA Chapter meeting
- Dec. 13 - OH District Eagle Boards of Review
- Dec. 13 - GL District Roundtable and OA Chapter meeting
- Dec. 27 - OH District Committee