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Cherokee Scouter

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Reach Out and Philmont Someone December 3rd

Over 3,040 people have committed to "[Reach out and Philmont someone!](#)" on Saturday December 3rd, 2011. Advertised on Facebook as an Event, over 4,200 individuals have been



invited. The Facebook event page states that it "is a social experiment to see how many Philmonters are lurking around in our every day lives." The event organizer is crowning the first Saturday in December to be "Find a Philmonter Day!".

The idea is that everyone who has been to Philmont, worked at Philmont, gone on a trek, gone on Rayado, worked on Trail Crew, wears their Philmont staff shirt, trek shirt, hat, or other prominent Philmont gear on December 3rd, 2011. Then as you spend time out at about, going about your daily life business, see who you might connect with. The goal of the event is to see how many other invisible Philmonters there are in your area/life that you always pass that you would never know have a Philmont connection.

[The Facebook event](#), says an important part of the experiment is to come back to the Facebook event and post who you saw, what you talked about, and tell a story.

Some members of the group are asking members not to just be seen, but to be heard as well. The Philmont Staff Association (PSA) has the Philmont Hymn ring tone available for purchase at <http://www.philstaff.com/?p=2970>. The ring tone is in "chime" form and can be downloaded to your personal electronic device. It's a great way to let people know you are a part Philmont. The cost is only \$2 and 100% of the proceeds go to the PSA Staff Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund endows seasonal staff members with up to \$1,500 to help with their higher education.

Will you Reach Out and Philmont someone on December 3rd?

Area Christmas Parades

BARTLESVILLE

With the Christmas season fast approaching, preparations are well under way for one of Bartlesville's traditional holiday events — the Christmas parade. This year, the parade will be held at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 17th in downtown Bartlesville.

Entries are currently being accepted. The entry fee must be paid at the time of registration and is \$10 for a non-profit organization.

Entrants are requested to refrain from having a Santa Claus in their float, as Santa appears at the end of the parade.

Floats are allowed to distribute candy, however, they must have someone walking to pass it out for the safety of the children. No candy should be thrown from the float.

Registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce office at 201 S.W. Keeler from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information call 918-336-8708

DEWEY

Dewey will hold its annual night parade on Saturday, December 10th. The parade starts at 6 pm. Entry is FREE!

Entry forms are available at Arvest Bank and at City Hall, and are due at City Hall or Dewey Arvest by December 6. Download an entry form

<http://www.cityofdewey.com/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=fz7bn-pqYG8%3d&tabid=83>. If you need the form faxed, call Craig at 337-3379 or Cassie at 534-2272. All entries welcome!!!

GROVE

Grove's Annual Lighted Christmas Parade - December 10, 2011

The streets of Grove come alive on this very special night! Celebrate your holidays by joining us and over 75 lighted floats, bands and organizations all decked out for the Christmas Season.

Grove Area Chamber of Commerce
(918) 786-9079
www.groveok.org

Eagle Scouts

Only 2 percent of the Scouts have achieved Eagle rank, Cherokee Area Council ranks above the national average in Eagle rank achievement.



Our congratulations go out to the following Scouts who have achieved Eagle rank in the last month:

- Travis Carpenter – Troop 66 (South Park restoration)
- Skyler Rogers – Troop 1 (Sooner Park playground restoration)
- Michael Tillett – Troop 6 (Red Cross Disaster Center)
- Sawyer Vaclaw – Team 101 (building a fence for Vision Onward)
- Ammon Jeffrey – Team 101 (book drive for Concern Center)

Cherokee Area Council is proud of these Scouts' achievement.

New Eagle Project workbook

Just as a reminder....any Eagle project submission after December 31st, 2011, must be on the new BSA Eagle Workbook form. The new form is available here http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-927_fillable.pdf

Don't try to fill in the online copy without saving it locally, or it will be lost as you can't save it online.

BSA has also made their new Advancement Guidelines manual also available here <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>

National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award

The National Eagle Scout Association has established the **Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle**

Scout Service Project of the Year Award to recognize valuable service of an exceptional nature by a Scout to a religious institution, a school, community, or other entity. The award recognizes the Scout for his Eagle Scout leadership service project, which is part of the requirements for earning the Eagle Scout Award. Each local council will choose a council-level winner, and from that pool, each region will pick a region-level winner.

A national winner then will be selected from the four regional finalists. **Council Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award.** On or before **January 21** of each year, an Eagle Scout, his parents, or any registered BSA volunteer (with the Eagle Scout's permission) may submit his Eagle Scout leadership service project for consideration. The Scout must have passed his Eagle board of review in the prior calendar year (January 1 to

December 31). Each council NESA committee will choose one winner from among the council nominees. The winner will receive a certificate and a bronze device for the Eagle Scout embroidered knot from the National Eagle Scout Association.

In addition, it is recommended that each winner's name be added to a perpetual plaque located in the council service center or other prominent local council facility, and provided by the council. All council winners will be considered for the Regional Eagle Scout Project of the Year Award. Council winners are encouraged to submit a link to an HD video about their project to the national NESA office.

Regional Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award. Regional NESA committees will select one winner for each region on or before **March 31** each year. Regional award winners will be considered for the *Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award*. The three regional winners who do not win the national award will receive \$500, to be available for their future educational purposes or to attend a national or international Scouting event or facility. The local councils of those three regional winners (not the national winner) also will receive a \$500 award. All regional winners will receive a certificate and a gold device for the Eagle Scout embroidered knot.

Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award. One winner will be selected by **April 15** of each year, in time to be announced at the National Annual Meeting in May. The

national award winner will receive a certificate, a silver device for the Eagle embroidered knot, and a cash award of \$2,500 that will be available for the Scout's future educational purposes or for him to attend a national or international Scouting event or venue. The national award winner's local council will also receive a \$2,500 award.

Submission Guidelines

The nomination shall be submitted to the NESA committee of the council in which the service project was completed on or before January 21 of each year. The submission must include the application (found on www.nesa.org), a name and summary of the project, and the Eagle Scout's contact information. A complete duplicate copy of his *Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project Workbook* (previously submitted by the Scout to his Eagle board of review committee) must be attached to the application.

Evaluation Criteria

Each local council NESA committee shall select one service project of the year from among those meeting the submission guidelines.

The included criteria and other factors are all appropriate for consideration by the committee in selecting the winners. Evaluation criteria for this award should include consideration of at least the following:

- ▶ Project planning required
- ▶ Effort to develop the project
- ▶ Extent and character of the leadership provided by the Scout
- ▶ Extent of achievement of the planned result, including changes or modifications required to complete the project
- ▶ Project's impact on the beneficiary and/or on the community at large
- ▶ Originality of the project
- ▶ Scope of the work
- ▶ Time and materials contributed
- ▶ Level of skill employed to complete the project

Each council should e-mail a scanned copy of the winning Eagle Scout leadership service project workbook—including attachments—to the National

Eagle Scout Association at adamsaward@scouting.org by February 28 of each year. Hard copies will be returned and not considered for the regional award. NESAs will only accept the winning projects submitted by the local council staff or local council NESAs committee representative.

Applications received will be considered for selection of the *Regional Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award* winner. Regional NESAs committees will select one winner for each region on or before March 31 each year.

2013 Council Philmont Treks

The council is anticipating receiving two 2013 council Philmont treks (though this has not occurred as of the newsletter publication.) Units cannot attend two years in a row, so anyone that has a trek for 2012 will not qualify for these.

If your unit is interested in a trek be sure to register online for the Philmont lottery which is for any area Nov 28 to Dec 4. You should get notified via e-mail whether you get a trek or not by mid-December.

If you do not get one through the Philmont lottery, then you can participate in the council lottery for one of two treks. Participating in the Philmont lottery also increases your chance in the future of getting a Philmont trek in the Philmont lottery.

You can include Scouts from multiple units in these if your unit does not have enough to fill the twelve slots.

To enter the council lottery please submit (1) your unit type and number, (2) name, (3) contact e-mail and/or phone, and (4) most recent year your unit attended Philmont to the Scout Office by December 21st. The units selected will be notified December 22nd.

You may e-mail your information to DeAnn at dcurtis@bsaemail.org, or contact the Scout Office at 918-336-9170.

Preference will be given to units that have not attended for more than three years. If you receive a unit trek in the Philmont lottery for 2013, then you will not be eligible to take a council trek.

Venturers to Trappers January 13-15

An activity suggested for Venturing Crews is the Trappers Rendezvous which is held January 13-15, just west of Newton, KS. This is an event that expects to host over 4,000 Scouts for a winter camping weekend of fun.

Events include Chili and Spam Cook-off, best tracker, snow snakes, B-B Gun Range, black powder rifle shooting, hawk throw, flint & steel fire start, trapper's village, buzzard's gulch, ark river trading post, red dog saloon, liar's club, beaver trapping demo, John Colter's run, Native American field game, patch trading extravaganza, Coleman store, and trading, trading, trading, ...

Check here for more details and registration information <http://www.quivira.org/Districts/White%20Buffalo/Trappers%20Rendezvous>

Florida Sea Base Reservations for 2013 January 15

Sea Base begins their reservation process for 2013 adventures on January 15, 2012, and it ends on February 15, 2012. This is an online system where users log into their account (or create an account if you don't already have one) and enter the information for your request for 2013 Sea Base adventures. They have an open enrollment for the month, and it closes on February 15, 2012.



After the closing, a lottery is done to see who gets the reservations for adventures. Units are notified via e-mail of the result.

If you are not successful in getting your reservation by e-mail, check back immediately on their website for open adventures, as some other dates that you didn't select may be open and acceptable. You can immediately reserve those via the online system at that point. Don't

delay once you get the e-mail that says you did not get a reservation in the lottery system as other units will be doing the same.

Sea Base has several different types of adventures - snorkeling, Scuba, sailing adventures, etc., so be sure to check their web site at

<https://scoutnet.scouting.org/seabase/> to find out which adventure you want to take. Different adventures have different crew sizes, so find an adventure that works for your unit size.

First Aid / CPR Certification January 19

Venture Crew 911 Leaders are offering Scouters a CPR/ First Aid Certification Class, January 19, 2012 at 06:00. Cost is \$35.00 for a 2 year certification. Class is limited to the first 12 participants.



For more information or to register for the class please email: charlielewis@yahoo.com .

This is a special Discount class not offered to the general public at this price.

Other training dates

First Aid/CPR/AED – February 4, Tulsa, 9 am to 4:30 pm
<http://www.okscouts.org/2011/11/first-aidcpraed-training-2/>

CPR/AED Red Cross Certification - February 25, Bartlesville, 8 am to noon at Merit Badge Festival

First Aid Red Cross Certification - February 25, Bartlesville, 1 pm to 5 pm at Merit Badge Festival

Wilderness and Remote First Aid February 4-5

Wilderness First Aid is again coming to The Washington County Red Cross and is being taught by Venture Crew 911.

Wilderness First Aid is a 16-hour training course, which is now **required by BSA for Philmont** and other backwoods activities. It also offers enhanced content to meet OSHA's *Best Practices for Workplace First Aid Training Programs*. Wilderness and Remote First Aid training is also strongly suggested anytime a group is more than 20 minutes from Professional Medical help.



This course includes instruction, participant interaction, and many scenarios. Participants should be at least 14 years old; knowledge of First Aid and Current CPR is a prerequisite for this class.

Cost for this Course is \$65. A 25-question test requiring an 80% or better and satisfactory completion of all skills are required for completion.

The dates for the course are: February 4th and February 5th. You must attend both classes in order to complete the course. Class will start at 08:30 am and be completed before 6:30 pm each day.

The class will be limited to the first 24 participants. Registration will end on January 30.

For further information and to sign up, email Charles Lewis at charlielewis@yahoo.com.

Other training dates

Wilderness and Remote First Aid – February 11 & 18, Tulsa, 8 am to 5 pm
<http://www.okscouts.org/2011/11/wilderness-and-remote-first-aid-training-2/>

Wilderness First Aid Red Cross Certification - May 5 & 12, Tulsa, 8 am to 5 pm
<http://www.okscouts.org/2011/11/wilderness-and-remote-first-aid-training-may/>

Wilderness First Aid – May 5 & 6, Oklahoma City, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
<http://www.lastfrontiercouncil.org/registration/calendardetail.asp?ActivityKey=1013860>

Scout Sunday February 5

The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. However, each chartered organization can use either of two other options to celebrate this special day.



An organization can adopt a specific Sunday to celebrate. In the instance of the United Methodist Church, Scout Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. It also is permissible for a local church to celebrate on the Sunday most acceptable to the pastor and congregation.

A suggested format for your unit's annual Scout Sunday observance is available here

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/Media/Relationships/ascoutisrevernt.aspx>

Start planning your unit's Scout Sunday observance now.

Merit Badge Festival Planning February 25

The Merit Badge Festival is February 25 at the Tri-County Technology Center, Bartlesville. This annual Boy Scout event will offer around 35 merit badges, including all Eagle required merit badges.

A number of different merit badges will be offered this year for returning Scouts. Some updates have been made to the facility to make it more efficient for us this year, so we are looking forward to a fun event.

Adult education will also be possible during the MB Festival with a Red Cross certification class on First Aid and CPR/AED, both of which may be required on the tour plan depending upon the activity. Scoutmaster Leader Specific training will also be offered. There will also be adult leader training for Cub Scout leaders -

BALOO training which is required for at least one leader on any Cub Scout overnight event. New training opportunities on BSA Outdoor Ethics (front country Leave No Trace) and God & Country will be offered this year as well.

In addition all online courses can be taken while at the MB Festival in the computer lab, so this is a good time to update any courses that have expiration, such as youth protection, hazardous weather, safe swim, and safety afloat.

Registration forms will be available later in December for youth and adult registration for sessions. Registrations for units will begin on January 3rd and will end on February 15th. Please note the event is limited to 300 Scouts. Units can camp at Camp McClintock for no charge for the weekend.

Out-of-council units can submit requests for participation January 3rd through January 15th, with a lottery to select slots for attendance. They will be notified via e-mail of lottery results, and will be confirmed for attendance by February 1st.

In-council units can be assured of attendance by registering prior to February 1st. Check the web site later in December for registration forms and specifics on registration.

Endowment Corner

Why Review Your Will

What if you bought a new car and never cleaned it or repaired it? What if you never landscaped your yard or repainted your house? You would own a car or a house that looked like a lot of people's wills.

Having any kind of a will is better than no will at all, but updating your will gives maximum protection to you, your family, and the organizations you support. As you add to your estate, as your marital and family situation changes, if you move to another state, if tax laws change, if your preferences and charitable interests change that's when you need to update your will.

If you would like more information about this or other ways to make a charitable gift, please contact John Howk. You can reach him at 918-293-7572 or contact the Scout Service center to arrange an appointment.

Please note: The information in this communication is not legal or tax advice. The BSA Cherokee Area Council # 469 is pleased to offer complimentary gift and estate planning assistance, however, we urge you to seek the advice of a competent professional before implementing any ideas we suggest to you.

Endowment Recognition Awards

The Boy Scouts of America offers three distinct recognition awards.

The James E. West Fellowship Program

James E. West was the first Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, and he served in that position for more than three decades. The West Fellowship award is available for gifts of \$1,000 and up in cash or marketable securities to a council endowment fund. The gift must be in addition to – and not replace or diminish – the donor's annual Friends of Scouting support. Many individuals and corporations make these gifts either on behalf of someone else – such as in honor of an Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver recipient, a retirement, a special accomplishment, or anniversary – or in memory of a special individual.

The 1910 Society

Founded in 1910, the Boy Scouts of America has grown into something larger and more significant than anyone anticipated. We honor that special date by presenting the 1910 Society award to donors who make gifts of \$25,000 or more to their council endowments. These gifts can be in the form of cash, securities, land, five-year pledges, or other property suitable for a council endowment fund or easily converted to cash.

There are four levels of recognition in the 1910 Society that honor four very special individuals who shaped modern-day Scouting:

1) **Ernest Thompson Seton**, nationally known artist and naturalist, author of the first official American Scout handbook and many other books important to Scouting:

Seton Level membership: \$25,000 minimum gift

2) **Daniel Carter Beard**, first chairman of the National Court of Honor; national Scout commissioner, and author of many well-known books and stories for youth;

Beard Level membership: \$100,000 minimum gift

3) **Theodore Roosevelt**, first Chief Scout Citizen, first vice president of the BSA, and president of the United States,

Roosevelt Level membership: \$500,000 minimum gift

4) **Waite Phillips**, one of the BSA's first benefactors, and donor to the BSA of almost 130,000 acres of land in New Mexico which became Philmont Scout Ranch;

Phillips Level membership: \$1,000,000 and up

Phillips Silver Level: \$5,000,000 minimum gift

Phillips Gold Level: \$10,000,000 minimum gift

The Founders Circle

The Founders Circle is intended to recognize *deferred* gifts designated for council endowment funds. Donors are recognized for gift commitments with a minimum value of \$100,000. Unlike the other endowment recognition awards, a donor may qualify for membership with gifts made through:

- Charitable bequests in a will or codicil
- Charitable trusts, such as unitrusts, annuity trusts, and lead trusts
- BSA Gift Annuities or BSA Pooled Income Fund gifts
- Life insurance/retirement plan designations
- Other deferred gifts approved by the local council

As with the 1910 Society, there are four levels of membership within the Founders Circle. They are:

- Bronze \$100,000 minimum gift commitment
- Silver \$250,000 minimum gift commitment
- Gold \$500,000 minimum gift commitment
- Platinum \$1,000,000 minimum gift commitment

World Friendship Fund

At the end of World War II, Scouts of all ages in war-torn countries had lost everything and needed help to restart their Scouting programs. In response to these Scouts' needs, the World Friendship



Fund was created. Fundraising efforts were successful and, through the contributions of members of BSA, made many things available in the years just after the war, such as equipment, uniforms, insignia, program material, and camping gear. As a result, Scouting is now flourishing in these countries.

Since that war, we have seen the development of new nations and the democratization of others. These nations want their youth to have the benefits of Scouting. They need funding and materials for training, camping, manuals, and uniforms.

The World Friendship Fund gives the members of BSA an opportunity to help fellow Scouts in other countries who are in need of their support. BSA Scouts and Scouters are eager for ways to help, and by holding a World Friendship Fund collection, they can be a part of worldwide Scouting in a personal way.

The Scout Office has a DVD that can be used in units to highlight this event, and stickers that can be wrapped around a can for Scouts to bring donations. Once a unit has completed their effort, then you can submit your contributions to: World Friendship Fund, BSA International Department, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. Make checks payable to World Friendship Fund, and include your Unit name and number, Council name and number (469), Council headquarters city, and who a certificate should be made out to, along with and address for the certification mailing.

Thanks for your help to other Scouts around the world.

Learn More about the Guide to Advancement (And spend a week in the Florida Keys: Jan. 16–21, 2012)

The Florida Sea Base beckons. Escape the cold or snow, and join us at tropical Islamorada in the Florida Keys, about two hours south of Miami.

Course Description: The Mechanics of Advancement
Advancement is a key indicator of a successful unit. Learn how to enhance the program for your Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, Venturers, and Sea Scouts by increasing your knowledge of the BSA's procedures governing advancement.

This conference—designed for unit, district, and council-level volunteers and professional Scouters—will connect participants to the essentials of advancement, steer them toward a wealth of advancement resources available on www.scouting.org, and engage them through group discussions on effective ways to resolve advancement issues and challenges. The new *Guide to Advancement* and revised Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook will be featured and covered in detail.

Space is limited and registration is first-come, first-served. Reservations must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2011. The course begins with check-in Monday afternoon, Jan. 16, 2012, and concludes Friday, Jan. 20, 2012. Housing will be provided through Saturday.

Wednesday afternoon is devoted to free time to enjoy local attractions. Spouses are welcome to attend, although no family programs are offered.

The \$400 course fee includes meals, dormitory housing, sheets, towels, and course materials.

To obtain a registration form, send an email to judy.maldonado@scouting.org. See the "Training" page on www.scouting.org for more information.

Pack Meeting Plans

The pack meeting is the culmination of four or five weeks of den activities of all the dens. Dens may participate in the pack meeting by presenting a song, skit, ceremony, or other presentation.

Boys will receive their advancement badges and other recognition items, such as patches for day camp participation, Cub Scout Academics and Sports belt loops and pins, and other awards. Every boy has a chance to be individually recognized. Be sure to recognize parents who have helped during the month, either in the dens or with the pack committee.

In each month's pack planning pages, there are suggestions for topics for the pack leaders' planning meeting. All leaders—den leaders, assistant den leaders, Cubmasters and assistants, and all committee members—are invited to this monthly meeting. Make the meeting fun as well as informative.

During the monthly pack leaders' planning meeting, you will finalize the upcoming pack meeting and will plan in

detail the next month's pack meeting. This meeting is usually held one or two weeks before the pack meeting.

Plan Your Meetings

Use the meeting plan outlines. Solicit additional adult help for activities and tasks. Shared leadership of the pack benefits everyone by getting other parents involved and creating opportunities for adults to share their skills and interests with boys.

Download monthly Pack Meeting plans

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Leaders/DenLeaderResources/DenandPackMeetingResourceGuide/PackMeetingPlans.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 within Scouting today.
- ▶ Cell phone ring tones of 10 bugle calls. This is fun! Watch for people who think "Reveille" requires a salute!
- ▶ 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 BSA Supply Group. You can purchase online at

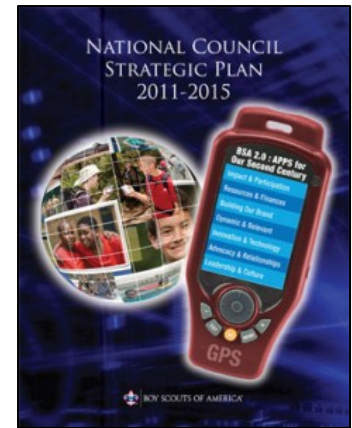
Scoutstuff.org or in person at a Scout shop at your local council service center.

- ▶ And more coming soon.

National Council Releases Strategic Plan Progress Report

The National Council has set up a special section on their website to review progress of the 2011-2015 National Council Strategic Plan. If you never checked out the National Strategic Plan, you can check it out as a [flipbook](#) or a [pdf download](#) (pdf).

The latest update is called: "[Strategic Plan Progress Report: Holiday Season 2011](#)". You can view two videos, the first is the Top Hands presentation on the Strategic Plan, Journey to Excellence, and the Main Thing; the second is a compilation of news broadcasts about The Summit. Also available is information about the pilot [Scouting Ambassadors](#) program that helps to welcome new BSA employees into the Scouting family.



This special section of the BSA website introduces the new Scouting Honors Program, which celebrates the achievements of National Council employees when they demonstrate a commitment to the BSA operating principles and deliver a quality Scouting experience to more youth. Three employees were chosen by the Diversity Committee to receive the Silver Blaze Award which was presented at the November National Staff Meeting:

Janine Halverson was recognized for Thinking and Acting in the Greater Interest of the BSA. She gives volunteers everything they need to promote international Scouting which in turn helps in retention of Scouts.

Dan Buckhout was recognized for Thinking Strategically—Acting Boldly. He pioneered the use of QR

codes in BSA's publications and marketing communications.

Corry Kanzenberg, Curator at the National Scouting Museum, was recognized for Practicing Authentic Leadership. After being at the BSA only a few days, she presented a strong case to leadership about not loaning \$8 million in BSA artwork to individual donors.

Before leaving, be sure to check out the [Strategic Plan Report](#) (pdf), which shows you the goals and progress in each area of the strategic plan.

A-B Emblem A Look Inside a 5th Generation Family Run Business

A-B Emblem of Weaverville, North Carolina is a 5th

generation family-owned embroidery business founded in the late 1800's and an official BSA licensee of custom patches and emblems. In recent years, A-B



Emblem has expanded into metal items, collegiate products, automotive interior items and embroidered imagery. According to Global Sales Director, James Melley, the core of A-B's product line has always been embroidered emblems and the company prides itself on the quality of its products. "Upon completion, every emblem is inspected at least four times before it can leave our factory," explained Melley. "The key to our successful innovation is the marriage between cutting edge technology and traditional methods of manufacturing."

According to Sandy Parrot, A-B's Sales Manager, working with the Boy Scouts of America has helped grow the entire business. "The cutting edge work behind products we develop for the Boy Scout of America, often leads to new ideas for our regular client base."

In addition to their business with the BSA, their in-house and external sales force service over 6,600 customers. A-B's emblems are for sale in The Smithsonian Museum, The Kennedy Space Center, The White House gift shop, and online.

The real key to the success of A-B emblem is in its customer service. "Whether you need fifty pieces or a million, your order will see a level of service and craftsmanship unmatched in our industry. The "whatever it takes" mentality to deliver on time no matter what!" Parrott proudly exclaimed. A-B's commitment to customer service and a quality product has played a part in earning the company the BSA's Quality Licensee Award each year since 2008.

As if to put an exclamation mark on this last point, A-B Emblem has been a recipient of the BSA Quality Licensee Award for the past three years.

Kingwood Laser Graphics Expands Nutcracker Series

Produced in the workshop of Richard Glässer in Seifen, Germany, Kingwood Laser

Graphics continues to offer new custom nutcrackers which are heirloom quality and highly detailed for 2012. Each nutcracker stands 14" tall and can be customized with a Centennial flag, a Be Prepared® flag, or the unit



or council flag of your choice. They are available now at Twelve Point Nutcrackers <http://www.twelvepointnutcrackers.com>, a division of Kingwood Laser Graphics.

Get Your Scouting Questions Answered at HalfEagle.com

HalfEagle.com has a new feature to help answer questions about Scouting. "[HalfEagle Answers](#)" is a community of cheerful, adult Scouting volunteers and professionals ready to provide helpful answers to Scouting related questions. Members use their real identities and have to login via Facebook connect.

HALFEAGLE Answers

Instead of traditional website communities, where topics can be taken over by off-topic rants and personal opinions about policies and procedures, HalfEagle Answers is different! HalfEagle Answers is set up in a way that allows logged in members to vote the best answers to the top which makes off-topic answers sink to the bottom. You can learn more about what makes HalfEagle Answers different at <http://answers.halfeagle.com/about>

A sample of the questions currently on the site include:

- [What is the best way for young Scouting alumni \(21-30\) to stay involved?](#)
- [Can a parent be a merit badge counselor for their own son?](#)
- [What order are knots supposed to be worn on an adult uniform?](#)
- [Best ways to increase Scouting for Food donations](#)

HalfEagle.com is a service project of Gregg Hilferding. Gregg is an Eagle Scout, U.S. Army veteran, and Appalachian Trail thru-hiker, and a volunteer with Gulf Ridge Council. Gregg has continually been tweaking and adding new features to HalfEagle since its inception in 2008.

If you have a question about the Scouting program, post it on <http://answers.halfeagle.com>; otherwise remember a Scout is Helpful and [answer a question](#) today

Upcoming Key Dates

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

- Dec. 1 – OH District Roundtable, Eagle Boards of Review, and OA Chapter meeting
- Dec. 6 – Popcorn money due in Scout Office
- Dec. 16 – Recharterers due at the Scout Office
- Dec. 23 – Scout Office closed for Christmas holiday
- Dec. 26 – Scout Office closed for Christmas holiday
- Dec. 27-30 – Scout Shop closed for inventory
- Jan. 2 – Scout Office closed for New Year's holiday
- Jan. 7 – OA Winter Banquet
- Jan. 12 – OH and GL District Banquets
- Jan. 21 – Scouting for Food flyer distribution in Bartlesville
- Jan. 26 – OH District Committee
- Jan. 28 – Scout for Food pickup in Bartlesville
- Feb. 5 – Scout Sunday
- Feb. 23 – OH District Committee
- Feb. 23 – FOS patron dinner
- Feb. 25 – Winter Merit Badge Festival
- Mar. 2-4 – Council Camporee
- Mar. 15 – Council Banquet
- Mar. 24 – Pinewood Derby
- Mar. 29 – OH District Committee
- Mar. 31 – Outdoor Leader Training
- Apr. 13-15 – OA Spring Fellowship
- Apr. 20-21 – Cub and One
- Apr. 27-29 – OA Section Conclave
- May 5 – GL & OH BALOO Training
- May 27–June 2 – National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)
- June 1 – Golf Tournament
- June 5-8 – OH Cub Scout Day Camp
- June 13-16 – GL Cub Scout Day Camp