



Serving Scouting Volunteers and friends in the Northwest Suburban Chicago area of the Pathway to Adventure Council (PTAC).

Districts served include Blackhawk, Northwoods, Signal Hill, and Pathfinder Districts

The Boy Scouts of America
providing youth life-long skills and memories for over 100 years.

News for July 2015

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Northwest Suburban Community Newsletter

The Mission: Build a community of informed scouting volunteers.



Blast into Scouting

Blast into Scouting is a coordinated program of Northern Illinois BSA Councils with the common goal of registering boys in Packs on Thursday September 17, 2015 from 7-8 pm at local schools. The program is supported with public media announcements, unit event materials, unit press packets, and free Estes rockets for new scouts.

Five Reasons Your Unit will Want to Participate:

1. **Scouting is fun and builds communities**
2. **Build your unit “bench strength”**
3. **Gain knowledge to be successful**
4. **Leverage Available Resources**
5. **Be Part of a Major Scouting Event**

[Read More](#)

Five Key Dates::

1. **District Kickoff Event**
2. **September District RoundTable**
3. **Signup Event - September 17**
4. **September pack meeting with New scouts and parents**
5. **October 3 – Launch Event**

[Read More](#)

The Challenge: Provide timely scouting event and activity information to all volunteers.

The Community Newsletter is designed to provide volunteers and scouting friends in the Northwest Suburban Chicago area with timely information.



Welcome to the first issue of the Community Newsletters across Pathway to Adventure Council. Just like the good ol’ USA, out of many, we are one. While we are one Council, we are made up of Communities with rich histories and traditions and treasured events – all of which contribute to our community culture. And still, we are all one under Scouting. The beauty of the Community Newsletter is that while it shares local stories, it also binds us together as one Council and helps us live ‘Scouting without Borders.’ I encourage everyone to contribute stories for publication. Simply go [HERE](#), select Newsletter Submission and indicate which Community you wish to publish your article. There are so many great things happening! Let’s celebrate Scouting!

Yours in Scouting,

Mary Beth Swibes

Internal Communications Chair, Pathway to Adventure Council



Popcorn Kickoff

Popcorn Sales are an Scouting institution and major local scouting community fundraiser. Kickoff for the 2015 Popcorn Sale begins in August. Attendance at the Kickoff helps units qualify for the 4% bonus commission.

The NWSC kickoff is Tuesday August 18 at St Simon's Episcopal Church from 6 - 9 pm

[RSVP for Kickoff due by Tuesday, August 11 Click here to register](#)

For more information:

check out the [2015 Popcorn Website](#) and contact your District Popcorn Kernel.

Key Scouter Message



From Alex Lohse, Field Director - Northwest Suburban Community,

Thanks for your work as volunteers. Scouting would not be possible without your dedication and commitment to Scouting and our youth. I hope you can assist me in two ways to bring scouting to more youth and make the program the best possible for youth.

First, I am looking to meet with possible chartering organizations. If you can introduce me to a community organization or worship institution leader that does not currently sponsor a Scouting

unit, it would be most appreciated. Only an introduction is needed. I will take it from there. Your introduction can help Scouting reach more youth.

Second, I am looking to get 2014 Journey to Excellence records for unit participation. This information helps the professional staff determine the best strategy to support healthy and strong units. If your unit hasn't filled out a scorecard for points earned in 2014 and turned it in with your Re-chartering package, please contact me. (Contact me, if you are not certain too.)

You can contact me directly at 630-796-4262 or send me an email at Alex.Lohse@scouting.org.

Thanks, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Alex Lohse

The Johnny O'Bryant Skills Development Clinic with NBA basketball star Johnny O'Bryant

Free to All Scouts 8 years and older, Clinic Starts promptly at 10 am Friday August 7th at the Joy of the Game Gym in Deerfield, Illinois Youth need BSA medical form, athletic shorts, t-shirt, gym shoes. Complementary lunch will be provided.

Space is limited, [Register Here](#)



Newsletter Submissions

If you are planning an event, or have a unit accomplishment that you desire to have published in the PTAC Northwest Suburban Community Newsletter submit the information through the PTAC website.

News and information for the community newsletter can be submitted at the PTAC web site under [Resources > Marketing](#) using the “Newsletter Content Submission Form.”

There is a positive correlation between event publicity and attendance. Make your event know to over 2,000 volunteers in the four Northwest Suburban Community districts by submitting the event information.

[Click here to submit news for the NWSC Newsletter](#)



Ask An Expert - Scouter

If you have a scouting question, our Ask A Scouter corner will provide answers. Questions that need an answer from an experienced scouter might be: Where can I find program ideas that will interest boys? What are ways to make the Pack meeting memorable? What can we do to get parents engaged in the Pack? What camping gear should we buy for a Tenderfoot scout?

Send the question to NWSCNews@Yahoo.com and we will do our best to find an answer from our pool of experienced scouters.

Send in your questions and get answers you need!



STEM and Citizenship Merit Badge Clinic

The Signal Hill District will be hosting a merit badge clinic on Saturday morning October 31.
Scouts: Be prepared and don't be spooked, plan to attend the clinic Halloween morning from 9 to 11:30 am advance registration will be available on line.

Counselors: If you are a counselor for a STEM qualifying merit badge, see [STEM requirements](#), or any of the three Citizenship Merit Badges, interested, and can participate as a counselor, send your name, contact information and merit badge names to SHCubNews@yahoo.com

Summer Game Days

The White Sox, Boomers, and Cougars offer special Scout Days. They provide a great outing for the Pack, Den, Team, Troop, Patrol or family. Available dates and where to purchase tickets are available at



CHICAGO WHITE SOX

Schaumburg Boomers: July 24 and August 7 [Click here for more information](#)

Kane County Cougars: August 13 [Click here for more information](#)

Chicago White Sox: August 29 [Click here for information](#)

Opt-Out Option

As a registered scouting volunteer you will be sent the **new PTAC Northwest Suburban Community Newsletter**. The newsletter will bring news and features about scouting to volunteers and friends of the four PTAC districts; Blackhawk, North Woods, Pathfinder and Signal Hill Districts. The newsletter will be published monthly in electronic email format as well as being available on the District PTAC web sites,

If you DO NOT desire to continue receiving the PTAC Northwest Suburban Community Newsletter please send your email address and request to Opt-Out to [NWSCNews @Yahoo.com](mailto:NWSCNews@yahoo.com)