



Serving the four Northwest Suburban Districts of the Pathway to Adventure Council

Blackhawk District - Des Plaines, Glenview, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Mount Prospect, Niles, Park Ridge, Rosemont, Schiller Park, and Skokie

North Woods District - Buffalo Grove, Wheeling, Prospect Heights, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect

Pathfinder District - Elk Grove Village, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Roselle, Schaumburg, and Streamwood

Signal Hill District - Barrington, N. Hoffman Estates, Inverness, Lake Zurich, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Kildeer, Tower Lakes, Long Grove, Deer Park, Hawthorn Woods, N. Barrington, S. Barrington, Lake Barrington and Barrington Hills

A publication made by and for volunteers.

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Scouting for Food DATE Change !!

The council-wide **Scouting for Food Service project will be Saturday, February 27, 2016 and pick-up will be on Saturday, March 5, 2016.** Scouts will be collecting food donations throughout Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana to replenish the shelves and ease the pain of hunger in our local community through the Greater Chicago Food Depository. We want your unit to participate so put Scouting for Food on your unit calendar and register now. More information and registration is available now. [More](#)

Social Media and Scouting

Social media can play a critical role in your unit recruiting and program promotion success. To help develop the right tactics, the PTAC Social Media Committee has developed the [Social](#)



Camp Registration is Open

The Pathway to Adventure Council, PTAC, will be operating three Boy Scout camps in 2016: Camp Napowan in Central Wisconsin and Owasippe Scout Reservation's Camp Blackhawk and Camp Wolverine in lower Michigan. Site registration for the 2016 Boy Scout Resident Camp is now available online to plan your troop's summer camp schedule. [For more information about our PTAC Boy Scout Resident Camps Click Here.](#)

Cub Scout Overnight camp, Webelos Overnight Camp, and Cub Scout Day Camp registration is expected to be available online by the end of the year.

Camp Kick-Off

A camp kick-off and preview will be February 13, 2016 at Cabela's in Hammond, Indiana, 7700 Cabela Drive, and February 27, 2016 at Cabela's in Hoffman Estates, 5225 Prairie Stone Parkway. Camp-kick off is a great way for boys and families to get an introduction to the exciting opportunities available at Boy Scout and Cub Scout Summer

[Media Best Practices for Units](#) guide. It provides a handy reference of Do's and Don't when working with Social Media. It also provides contact information for questions you or your unit leaders have about using social media to best reach on-the-go parents about Scouting events and programs. [More](#)

Camps. There will be Camp staff available to answer questions and provide a personal overview of the programming available in 2016. There will be activities and things for the whole family. Make Camp Kick-Off a unit and family outing. Mark you calendar now. No registration required but available. [More](#)



District Leader Message from:

From: Al Preusker, Northwoods District Commissioner

The November/December issue of Scouting magazine talks about Order of the Arrow #DareToDo movement. Daring to do some good. Do a good turn daily revisited and now posting for the world to see.

Although units have had their own food drives in the past, we have an opportunity to join the Pathway to Adventure Council in a huge Scouting for Food service project early in 2016. Not only will we be collecting food and non-perishable items for those in need, we will be showing Scouting in action, and what Scouting teaches our young men, the Scout law: helpful, courteous, friendly, kind and cheerful.

These are two acts of cheerful service to ponder and act upon as we approach giving thanks.

Yours in Scouting,

Al Preusker,

Northwoods District Commissioner



Chicago Toy & Game Fair on November 21 and 22 at Navy Pier is FREE to Scouts in uniform and Scout leaders with credentials. Register at the Fair entrance, or online now and bring your admission ticket with you to save waiting in line. Preview and play with toys and games from around the world and meet Toy and Game Inventors! Check out the PAW PATROL Bus, Lifesize Tonka Truck, Giant Jenga, Settlers of Catan Tournament, Star Wars Lunch, GameTruck, Stage Events, Magic, Giant Bubbles, Contests, Giveaways, Maker Stuff, Game Café, Mascots, Laser Tag, Ride-on Vehicles, Adventure Sandwich, Characters, ChronoBomb, Electronic Petting Zoo, Puzzle Hunts, and Robotics. Visit the Boy Scout booth for activities that include board games, paper airplanes, Snap Circuits and more. [More information and signup](#)

Rechartering Help is Here

All Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Committee Chars, and Charter Reps should have received their unit charter application package via the email address on file with the Boy Scouts of America. **If your unit does not have the charter application package, IMMEDIATELY contact your unit commissioner or District Commissioner to get your charter application package.** The charter application package has instructions on use of the online chartering process and other registration and payment options.

To assist units in completing the application process before the December 15 due date, each district is holding Rechartering training or workshops conveniently located in the District. [More](#)



Be entertained by the World Famous Harlem Globetrotters Tuesday December 29 at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont. Doors open at 6 pm, game at 7 pm. Turn in signed release [waivers](#) and get a chance to be picked for one of the event perks. Don't delay. Tickets are available at the PTAC Service Center; 617 E. Golf Road, Suite 101, Arlington Heights; now through December 16. [More information and release form.](#)

District Annual Meetings

Each district will have an annual meeting to elect district officers for the coming year to serve the units and youth in their district, and nominate a District Commissioner. District Members at Large and Charter Organization Representatives are encouraged to attend. Meetings planned are:

Pathfinder Annual District Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd at 7:30-8:30 pm at Lord of Life Church at 119 W. Wise Road, Schaumburg, IL 60193

Signal Hill Annual District Meeting will be held Thursday, December 10 in Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047. The meeting will be starting at 7:00 pm. Contact Terry Parke for more information and confirm your attendance, cityparkxx@yahoo.com, 847 846-9400.

Blackhawk – for date, time and place contact Brett Williams Brett.Williams@Scouting.org 630-796-4257

North Woods - for date, time and place contact Brian Mulcrone Brian.Mulcrone@Scouting.org 630-796-4258



National Jamboree - Call for Leaders

The Pathway to Adventure Council has begun planning for the recently announced 2017 National Scout Jamboree. This will be the second Jamboree at the new permanent home, the National BSA Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. The PTAC Jamboree Committee is seeking adult leaders for the PTAC Jamboree Troops. [More](#)



Holiday Social for Scouting

You are invited to the December 9th Holiday Wine Tasting Social hosted by the Signal Hill District Senior District Executive, Terry Parke. The party will benefit Scouting and help assure the Scouting program stays a part of our community with the resources needed to provide quality and engaging programming for youth. The party is Wednesday December 9 at Cooper's Hawk Winery and Restaurant in Arlington Heights, 798 W Algonquin Road at Golf Road, from 5:30 to 8:30

pm. Admission is \$50 with sponsorships available. Proceeds support Boy Scouts of America Northwest Suburban Community, must be 21 or over to attend. For more information contact Terry Parke at cityparkxx@yahoo.com and 847 846-9400. Toast in the holiday and support Scouting on December 9. [More](#)



Merit Badge Counselors Needed

The Merit Badge Clinic this Halloween morning was made possible because more than 20 merit badge counselors volunteered their time. However, it was not possible to provide every Scout who wanted to see a counselor the opportunity to do so due to the lack of available counselors. These Scouts will be calling on counselors to arrange a meeting at another time. But, we want to assure all Scouts can meet with a counselor for a merit badge of interest.

There is need for more merit badge counselors. Adults are able to qualify as a counselor if they are registered as an adult with the BSA or provide a BSA adult application with a Merit Badge Counselor Application. There are [over 130 merit badges](#) many don't have a counselor in the Northwest Community. There is also need for more counselors for Eagle required merit badges. Review the [merit badge requirement](#) for those that interest you, check out the on-line [Counselor orientation](#), and then submit an [application](#). It is not hard, but it is rewarding service that Scouts appreciate.



Pathfinder District

2nd Monday of the month at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
(1320 W Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg)

- 7:30 to 8 pm General Meeting

- 8 pm Boy Scout Split
 - December – Troop Electronics Policies, Scout Book/ Troopmaster, BSA Policies, Urban Legends and Trivia
- 8 pm Cub Scout Split
 - December – Scout Law > Trustworthy, Theme > “The Great Race”
- 7:30 pm OA Chapter meeting
- 9 pm “After the Meeting” Fellowship

Questions or announcements contact Debbie Nudo, Nudedo83@comcast.net

Signal Hill District

First Tuesday of the month Immanuel Lutheran Church, Palatine (200 N Plum Grove Road)
Thursday December 3 7:30 pm start -Joint Cub Scout and Boy Scout leaders

- Ÿ Making the Webelos Transition
- Ÿ Bridging Ceremonies that impress, engage and are fun
- Ÿ Catering Expo with food to sample for you Blue and Gold or Court of Honor
- Ÿ Marine presentation and Drive for Immanuel Food Pantry drive and Toys for Tots

Blackhawk District

- Roundtable and OA Chapter meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 pm at Christ Church, 1492 Henry Rd. in Des Plaines.

North Woods District

- Roundtable and OA Chapter meetings are December 8 from 7:30 pm to 9 pm
Contact Brian Mulcrone Brian.Mulcrone@Scouting.org 630-796-4258



The Friends of Scouting, FOS, campaign is about to kick off across the PTAC with unit presentation scheduling. FOS is an important part of keeping the Scouting program strong and demonstrates, in a tangible way, the commitment leaders, parents and friends have for the value of Scouting. Unit leaders, look at your unit calendar and identify the date of your unit Blue and Gold event or Court of Honor when parents will be present to see and hear the 5 - 10 minute Scouting in action story. Let your District Executive or Unit Commissioner know the date and time so they can assure your unit is prepared for 2016. [More](#)



Scouting is not hard, but adult leaders need to understand principles of Scouting and have the knowledge and skills to deliver the age appropriate Cub Scout, Boy Scout or Venturing program. That is why **every Scout deserves a trained leader**. Much of the training is available online through My.scouting.org allowing everyone the flexibility needed in fit training in their schedule.

All Registered Leaders should check on the training needed to be considered trained for your volunteer position. [Click here](#).

[More](#) on how to check MyScouting.org for your training record to verify you are "trained".



Help More Boys to be Scouts!

On September 17th this year, nearly 3,000 new boys became part of the Scouting family in our council! One day of recruiting nearly topped three months work last year. While this is exciting, we still need to make every opportunity to introduce more kids to Scouting.

We know that there are missing applications, contacts not followed up, and challenges reaching out to new families. If your Pack is holding applications until recharter or hasn't connected with those families, make the move now! Your District Membership Chairs are ready to help facilitate the growth of your unit.

As we head into winter, we also need to keep in mind that bridging from Cubs to Boy Scouts is just around the corner. Your District Membership Chair can connect your Webelos Dens with Troops in the area to make the decision on that next step so much easier. Cub Scouts is only the beginning of the journey! Troops can also utilize the District Membership Chair to push their event and contact information to Packs.

Our Northwest Area is a strong Scouting community, but we need your efforts to make it even better.

Please reach out to your District membership team today!

Pathfinder District: Mark Miller mafmiller@comcast.net

Blackhawk District: Ted Begley begley129@gmail.com

North Woods District: Mark Kaiser mark.kaiser@comcast.net

Signal Hill District: Tim Schneiderwind tim.schneiderwind@gmail.com



Cub Scout Leaders – Philmont Training Center calls

The Philmont Training Center is the premier BSA training facility offering a great experience for leaders and their families. This year three Cub Scout leader courses will be offered:

- Elevate!...to a High Performing Cub Scout Pack!
- Cub Scouting's Outdoor Skills & Fun
 - Fun in Dens and Packs

All courses are taught by seasoned instructors who know Cub Scout program from practical experience and have the best training materials and facilities available, the Philmont Training Center. Courses last seven days and include time to experience the Philmont Ranch. [More](#)



25% OFF
When you buy 2 or more pairs
LIMITED TIME ONLY

Offer good November 8, 2015 - January 2, 2016. ©2015 THOR•LO, Inc.



Wish your favorite Scouts and Scouters a Happy Holiday this season and Happy Hiking the rest of the year... give them a Scout's supply of THORLOS for 2016!

From November 8 through January 2, SAVE 25% when you buy 2 or more pairs of premium Thorlos brand socks. Good on all Thorlos styles and sizes, clinically tested to reduce blisters, pain, and pressure.

- Made in the USA, these socks offer:
- Strategically-placed cushioning
 - Superior protection without added weight
 - Excellent moisture management
 - High durability
 - Blister reduction

Some styles and sizes may be limited and selection will vary by store and online. May not be combined with other offers. Offer valid at www.ScoutStuff.org and [participating Scout Shops](#).

Newsletter Submissions

Planning an event, or have a unit accomplishment you desire included in the PTAC Northwest Suburban Community Newsletter, submit it through the PTAC website Resource > Marketing > ["Newsletter Content Submission Form."](#)

Make it known to over 2,000 volunteers in the four Northwest Suburban Community PTAC districts. Newsletters publish mid-month with submissions cut off 10th of the month.

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

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