

Council Fires

This is a publication of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scout of America, PO Box 1356,
Oneonta NY 13820 (607) 432-6491

www.otschodela.org

September 2007

Dates to Remember:

September:

- 1 Trails End Popcorn Sale Begins
- 3 Service Center Closed, Labor Day**
- 5 Council Staff Meeting 9-10:30 am Office Closed**
- 10 Race to Cub Scouting Kick-Off
- 30 Race to Cub Scouting Finale

Council Auction

The 2007 Council Auction will be held at Morris Hall SUNY Oneonta on the evening of November 10th, Live and silent auction items
Light food and beverages

Partial list of items:

Tandem Load of Stone
Dicks Sporting Goods Certificates
Whitewater Rafting Certificates
Premium Leather Boots
Sport Tech Gift Certificate
Watercolor Painting by Harriet Otis
Guided 1 Day Kayak Trip
Otesaga & Brooks Gift Certificates
Fuel
Custom Embroidered Clothing
Tony Mongillo D & H Railroad Print
Dan Tennant Print
Binghamton Senators Hockey Tickets
Binghamton Mets Baseball Tickets
Week at Elmore Lodge, Crumhorn
4' carved Eagle
2 weeks summer camp at Henderson-(1 Scout, 1 Webelos 1, and 1 Webelos 2)
Golf Package Gift Certificates
1 Day Snow Shoe/Ski Tour
Attorney Simple Will Services
Automotive Services
Tree Service Certificates
Restaurant Certificates
Crumhorn Lake Camp Weekend
Hartwick College Coaches Club
2 YMCA Family Guest Passes
Catskill Symphony Subscriptions



Ski Plattekill Tickets
Health Links Membership
Business Printing
Wine
Pet Lovers Gift Basket
6 Month Daily Star Subscription
Oneonta Tigers Tickets
2 Nights Holiday Inn Express, Cooperstown
2 Cases BK Coffee
Carpet Steam Cleaning Services
Pest Control Services
4th Lake Adirondack Cottage
Rental Gift Certificates
Chimney Cleaning
Subaru Service
Electrician Services
Herkimer Diamond Pendant and Earring Set
Ruby Pendant and Earring Set
Blue Topaz Bracelet, Earring, and Ring Set
Peridot Necklace, Earring, and Ring Set
Brewery Omegang Ales
10 Yard Dumpster (5 days)
Maple Ski Ridge Package

Auction Needs

Baskets for Gift Baskets - call 1-800-778-6813.

See our website www.otschodela.org for monthly updates starting in October. We will accept online bids at the auction link on the website starting October 15th.

Cub Scout Day Camp

Day camp experienced another successful year of operation thanks to over fifty volunteers from Otschodela Council and Crew 4051 from Americorps who staffed the three camps under the direction of Camp Directors Nancy Rigley and Jennifer Gilmartin. While the Cubs completed several of the requirements and electives in the new Wolf or Bear Book the important thing they came away with was a spirit of working and playing together while having fun on their "Amazing Adventure". We extend a special thanks to each of



the parents and leaders who brought the Cubs to Day Camp and spent part of a day or in some cases the whole week with the boys at camp. Your dedication is what makes our program work! Have a great year in Cub Scouting. We are already beginning to plan



for next year. If you would like to be a part of next year's Day Camp staff, or if you have ideas or suggestions that will improve the Day Camp program, join the Cub Scout Camping Committee on September 17, 2007 for their first meeting.

Race to Cub Scouting

Start your engines! This race is one where Everyone Wins as new Cub Scouts and Parents join our Scouting programs. Let us give them the best that we have of fun and adventure by planning your Ideal Year of Scouting, Setting up the Budget Plan, and when you recruit new Cub Scouts, invite their parents to be a Scout Parent. This and more is possible through the Scouting Family Nights. Just schedule a night, meet with your local Boy Scout Troop to plan games and activities, contact your Unit Commissioner, order Pizza and Drinks and most importantly HAVE FUN as the new boys and parents join your Unit. All new Cub Scouts will receive a Special Race Car for joining and all boys who recruit a friend can earn a Special Recruiter Patch. Join us on August 28 at the State University College at Oneonta at the Dream the Big Dream Event as we introduce all of the new resources available for your Pack in this important race! In Foothills District, call your Unit Commissioner or District Commissioner Paul Beames at 607-563-1111. In Deerslayer District, contact your Unit Commissioner or District Commissioner Wade Blanchard at 518-284-9203.

Dream the Big Dream!



Now is the time to jump-start your Scouting year with the greatest stuff on earth, Trail's End Popcorn. This year's Popcorn Sale will begin on September 1 and continue with

all orders to the Council Service Center by Monday October 22. Your Scouts can have an Ideal Year of Scouting through this one FUNdraiser by working as a Den or Patrol during the sale, as well as through the Show and Sell, and Show and Deliver Programs. Remember Popcorn also makes great gifts for family and friends and for our Servicemen and women

throughout the world with an APO Address. We look forward to seeing you at the Dream the Big Dream Event on Tuesday August 28, 2007 at the Morris Conference Center, State University College at Oneonta starting at 6:30 pm. Come learn how you can earn up to 45% cash commissions and 5% Trails End prize program if you come to this event with your Unit's Planned Program and Budget. District Popcorn Kernels will be working with your Pack, Troop, or Crew this fall to help you have a successful sale. Popcorn can also be ordered year round at www.orderpopcorn.com, found on the Council Website. For more information on the Trails End Sale, contact Bonnie at 607-432-6491 or e-mail at bparslow@bsamail.org. Have a great time with your sale and let us deliver that Ideal Year of Scouting to every child in the Otschodela Council!

Special offer- All Scouts in Foothills District who sell \$500.00 or more will have a chance to throw a pie in District Executive Trey Miller's Face at your Unit's 2008 FOS Presentation in Jan., Feb. or Mar. Scouts selling \$3,000 or more will have an opportunity to "Shave his head", at the First Aid Meet.

Scout Parents- Scouting Parents make great parents too!

Otschodela Council is pleased to announce the new National Parent Initiative "Scout Parents". This program is designed to engage Parents, Grandparents, relatives or Adult Partners in all Scouting Units through a partnership with their child as a Parent Helper. All units will be encouraged to adopt this program as an integral part of their Units program. Through Scout Parents, families are encouraged to: Influence their child to become a Scout; Participate in Scouting with their child; go to and observe Scout meetings; be part of the Units program- meetings, outings, Merit Badge Counselors etc.; support Scouting financially; coach their child's advancement; and serve in one SUPPORT role during the Scouting year- Blue and Gold Dinner, Pinewood Derby, Trails End Popcorn, Summer Camp Coordinator etc. Active parents are encouraged to register on the committee or serve in leadership roles where needed in their Unit. More information is available on www.otschodela.org and www.scoutparents.org. We look forward to hearing about your Unit's success with this great program.



Attention Unit Leaders and Advancement Chairs

As time goes by the advancement program in ScoutNet is becoming more refined. Beginning rank advancements must be submitted.

For Cub Scouts the first rank every scout must complete no matter what grade they start at is the Bobcat requirement. The requirements for this badge are at the beginning of each handbook. When the Scout has had all requirements checked off an advancement report must be turned in.

For Boy Scouts all new Boy Scouts must complete the new Scout Requirements (page 4 in the Boy Scout handbook). The unit leader or advancement chair must submit an advancement report to receive the new Scout badge. Until these requirements are met I am unable to enter any merit badges or other ranks to the Scout. Any questions please contact Mary at (607) 432-6491 or 1800-778-6813.

Also, please remember to put the names in alphabetical order on your advancement report.

Thanks

Mary

Philmont - 2008



Philmont Scout Reservation located in Cimarron, New Mexico is the ultimate Scouting location for a High Adventure Experience. The

Otschodela Council is preparing for two crews to experience what Philmont has to offer.

Past Philmont Leader, Brian Danforth, Roy Nabinger, Dave Leidy, Paul Brody, Kathy Brody and Bruce VanHouten are all ready to meet with your Troop or Crew to help you understand more about the Philmont Experience in 2008. If you are interested in learning more or about signing a Scout or Venturer up for the Trek, call the Scout Service Center at 607432-6491 or visit www.otschodela.org for forms.

Exploring

Dates to Remember

September:

- 6 Service Team Meeting, Bolton Scout Center, Oneonta 7 pm
- 16 Firematics Competition, Stamford

Explorer Basic Training

Our basic training course for Explorer Advisors, Associate Advisors and Committee Members is only a phone call away. If interested call 1-800-778-6813 extension 205 for details or to set up an appointment.

The "Firstnighter"

The program packet containing information on setting up a "First-nighter" in your unit will be mailed to all Advisers. Included will be sample flyers specific to your units program. We ask that you forward the information you would like printed on your flyers to Scott Brady via phone 1-800-778-6813 ext. 205, via fax: (607) 432-0388, or via e-mail: Otschodela_council@yahoo.com.

Flyers will be returned via your Service Team representative or mail.

18th Annual Old-Time Fire Meet

Sunday, September 16, 2007

Location: Cherry Valley Firehouse

Captains meeting 12:45

Event begins 1:00 pm

EVENTS: MIDNIGHT ALARM, BROKEN HOSE, HOSE & WYE, BUCKET BRIGADE, WATER BALL
Skills Required: Events are set to be fun activities with very few Firematics skills required.

Awards: Competition will be based on fire units and non-fire units.

Registration: Due September 10th at the Servicenter.

Post Advisors have the program details.

Foothills District

Dates to Remember

September:

- 13 Roundtable- Sidney 7:00

October:

- 11 Coordinated District Meeting- Delhi Public Safety Building 7:00
- 12-14 Fall Camporee/Cub Scout Webelos Event- Delhi

Cub Scout Leader Basic Training

The Otschodela Council Training Committee wants to start the school year right! We have scheduled a training session in Sidney on October 20, Delhi on October 21, Oneonta on October 27 and Cobleskill on October 28 from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **We ask that you bring a snack.**

This Course is designed for: Den Leaders, Cubmasters, Committee Members, Assistant Leaders, and interested Parents.

Subjects Covered: Elements of Good Den Meetings, Committee Responsibilities Cub Scout Advancement, Activities, Elements of Good Pack Meetings and Youth Protection.

Every Pack and Troop should have at least its top two adult leaders trained. Packs should also strive to have at least 60 percent of their Den Leaders trained.

For information, contact Nancy Peck, District Training Chairman at 607-563-8119.

Cub Scout Field Days

The Cub Scout Field Days and Webelos Camporee are being held on October 13-14 in Delhi. Registration is at 12:30 for the Field Day with events starting at 1:00. The Webelos may register beginning at 11:30 am in order to set up their campsites. The committee recommends the Webelos bring a bag lunch on Saturday, and be prepared to cook their supper and breakfast meals on an above ground fire. Information will be available at www.otschodela.org and will be mailed to all Cub Masters and Webelos Leaders. If you have any questions, please call Penny Harageones at (607) 746-2965.

Boy Scout Fall Camporee 2007

The Boy Scout Fall Camporee is being held on October 12-14 and being hosted by Troops 33 Delhi.



This Camporee will be held at the BurnAyr Farms in Delhi. The theme of this year's Camporee is Leave No Trace BSA. Along with this year's theme, Patrol Method, Troop Leadership, and Youth Leadership will all be part of the program. More information will be sent to the Scoutmaster in the near future, including a Jamboree on the Air flier and is available on www.otschodela.org. If you have any questions, please call Ken Grant at (607) 538-9012.

Foothills Coordinated District Meeting

Our next District meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Delaware County Public Safety Building in Delhi. We have implemented some changes to our meetings, and look forward to seeing you there. Watch your mail or e-mail for more information. Also, check out the Foothills District area on www.otschodela.org for updates on meetings, events, and meeting minutes.

Commissioners Needed

The Foothills District is looking for Volunteers who would like to join a staff of Commissioners dedicated to helping our District Packs, Troops, and Crews be the best they can be. Commissioners are needed especially in Schoharie County, Roxbury and Stamford areas. If you are a good listener, have a cheerful disposition, and would enjoy visiting units in our District, please call Paul Beames at 563-1111.

The Sky's the Limit!

Attention all Scoutmasters! Do your older boys and/or girls seek more adventure in their lives? Encourage them to join a Venture Crew. Whether they are interested in High Adventure, SCUBA Diving, Fly Fishing, Sailing or just some fun with other teenagers there is a Crew for them. Exciting programs are being planned for all Venturers in 2006-2007. For more information on starting a Venture Crew or working with an existing Crew, contact Paul Brody at 518-299-3141.

FOS Update



Thank you to Troops 33, 34, 58, 59, 88 and 99 and Packs 11, 30, 33, 45, 74, and 88 for joining this years Friends of Scouting Program. The contributions of the Leaders, Parents, and Family members of these Units have supported approximately 30 Scouts who would not be in Scouting without their help. Thank you to all local leaders and businesses that supported

Scouting through the Friends of Scouting Community Campaign. Through your contributions, 126 young men and women are receiving the values and skills of the Scouting program. Thank you for your generous support!

Scouting for Food/Good Turn for America



Packs and Troops throughout our Council will join Scouts across the country on November 3rd and 10th for our Scouting "Good Turn". Pastor Jeff Staples of the First Baptist Church in Delhi is chairing this important good turn for others. Why is this "Good Turn" so important? It is important because hunger in our communities never goes away. The economy, medical issues, unemployment, and life events are causing many of our neighbors to seek food assistance. Through your efforts last year the food banks in Otsego, Schoharie, and Delaware County received over 49,000 food items. This effort was especially helpful as it came in just prior to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Will you and your unit be a part of this year's good turn? We hope so. Door tag distribution will take place on November 3rd. Food items will be picked up on November 10th.

Special Note- Units are encouraged to help in all projects that will bring Food, Clothing, Shelter, and Health Products to those in need and record your hours on www.goodturnforamerica.org. Our

Oath states we will “Help other people at ALL times” and here is our opportunity to show it!

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God’s Love. This unique project of Samaritan’s Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in simple, hands on outreach while showing that you care about people around the world. This simple project can be done as a family, Den, Pack, Patrol, Troop, Crew or Post. Share Scouting with others around the world with this fun “Good Turn for America” project. You can drop your gift-filled shoeboxes off at a local Church during the week of November 12-19, 2007. For more information visit www.operationchristmaschild.org. Here are some suggestions for your Unit’s Project.



Host a shoebox gift packing party. Supply empty shoeboxes or shoebox sized plastic boxes for every family. Ask families to bring filler items for their boxes and to share with each other.

- Invite a trained Operation Christmas Child Volunteer to you Pack or Troop Meeting.
- Have Scouts write personal notes to the children who will receive their shoebox gifts.
- Promote Operation Christmas Child in your community’s schools and retirement communities.

Individuals and Families

- Pack a shoebox in honor or in memory of someone.
- Moms and Dad’s can have a special shopping day with their children to pick out shoebox filler items.
- Have a neighborhood packing party.

Cub Scout Dens/Packs

- Find on a map or globe where shoeboxes were delivered. Mark the countries with a pushpin.
- Choose one of the countries to study. Select books about the country and share them with the Den.
- Find out about the people and their customs, flag, geography, etc. What is life like for a child in that country? Have boys draw pictures about what they learn.

Boy Scout Patrols/Troops

- Ask Scouts to research current events in one or more of the destination countries. Have Scouts share their findings in a Patrol or Troop meeting.

- Role play- What have Scouts in these countries experienced? War? Poverty? Diseases? What gifts would you want if you were in their situations and what might not be appropriate?
- Have Scouts write personal notes to the children who will be receiving their shoeboxes. Possible topics could include: school, family life, sports, pets, hobbies, Scouting.

Venture Crews

- Invite a native of one of the destination countries to make a presentation to your Crew. Ask them to focus on social/economic/political issues facing their country. Allow time for questions and answers.
- Have Venturers research and write on one of the countries where their shoeboxes might go.

Your Pack, Troop, Crew or Family could make the difference in the lives of children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. These activities can also be used toward advancement in your Unit.

O/A Get-Away Weekend



The Foothills Chapter of the Order of the Arrow is planning a get-away weekend Sept. 14-16 in the Adirondacks. All O/A members, youth and adult, are invited! We will be camping at Fish Creek State Campground (north of Tupper Lake) and activities will include canoeing (we’ll supply the canoes and PFDs), biking (you supply the bike and helmet), hiking (you supply the feet), volleyball, swimming, fishing (you supply the license and gear), hanging out, eating (everyone supplies food), and more. We may also do some sightseeing, depending on the wishes of those attending. Cost is \$8 per person, plus food. You will need to supply your own tent and personal camping gear; we will all work together to provide cooking and kitchen gear. Please notify Helen Van Houten, Chapter Advisor (607-278-5093) or vanhouhr@oneonta.edu or Derrick Mott, Assoc. Chapter Advisor (607-316-2668) or derrickmott@gmail.com by August 31 if you are interested in going.

OA Picnic and Elections

To: All Foothills Chapter O/A Members

From: Willy Barker, Chapter Secretary

Re: Something for fun and some business too!

When: August 25th, 5 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Where: Zak West’s house

Address- 88 Gay Brook Road, Oneonta, NY 13820

For directions, contact Zak at:
Home (607) 829-2146
Cell (607) 434-6900

Uniform of the day: Lodge, camp, or troop t-shirt.
Pants or shorts – your choice!

What there is to do: There will be a pool, volleyball, bonfire and other exciting activities. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. **You will need to bring a dish to pass.** Reservations are not required, but would be helpful! Your parent(s) are also welcome to stay and enjoy the food and activities.

Most importantly - the main reason for this get together is to hold chapter elections! If you would like to run for office but cannot make it, call Zak or Mrs. Van Houten (607-278-5093) and let them know.

I hope you are having a great summer and hope to see you there!

Deerslayer District

Dates to Remember

September:

- 10 Race to Cub Scouting Kick-off
- 13 Cub and Scout Leader Roundtable – Schenevus Central School

October:

- 13 Fall Camporee/ Cub Scout Event
- 21 Rain gutter Regatta
- 27 Cub Scout & Boy Scout Leader Training, Oneonta
- 28 Cub Scout Leader Training, Cobleskill



Welcome

To Wade Blanchard of Sharon Springs, newly appointed District Commissioner

Thank You

To the Scoutmasters of 23 troops who promoted our Summer Camp Program at Henderson Scout Reservation. Through your personal efforts we had 245 Boy Scouts attend, Summer Camp this year, which is about 65% of Deerslayers, registered

Scouts. Outstanding effort and job well done by our unit leaders. Thank you all so much.

Congratulations

To Troop 56 for taking three groups to Alaska. Sea fishing, fresh water fishing and exploring some of Denali Park were some of the activities the three groups got to experience.

Congratulations To Leaders Trained

Congratulations are in order for the following leaders completing BALOO, Webelos Outdoor and Scoutmaster Outdoor this summer in Deerslayer District. 80% of our units have turned in Centennial Quality Unit Commitment forms. The following units are that much closer to reaching Centennial Quality Unit for 2007.

BALOO 16-Jun-07

15	Peck, Jim	33	Storey, Tammy
33	Brundage, Mary	105	Warback, Lisa
45	Griffin, Terri	105	Schaffer, Brian
05	Graulich, Suzanne	13	Eggleston, Laura
05	Sperbeck, Joel		

Webelos Outdoor 08/04/07

45	Rob Rhinehart	10	Shannon Budine
15	Deborah Day	15	Jim Peck
05	Joel Sperbeck	05	Michelle Tyrell
10	Tammy White	34	David Ruland

SM Outdoor 08/03 – 08/05/07

168	Blake, James	09	Johnson, William
45	Cobane, Tim	18	Mellor, Philip
10	Holbrook, Carleen	63	Furgerson, Gerald
05	Roscoe, Karen	99	Ayres, Alvin
49	Clifford, Mike	56	Kendall, Ed
58	Lacy, Matt	44	Beach, Ray
15	Horning, George	23	Rock, John
56	Bamberger, Jane	23	Kolberg, Scott
56	Bamberger, Rick		

Centennial Quality Unit Commitments

The Centennial Quality Unit Award Commitment forms have been turned in by approximately 80% of Deerslayers units.

Pack 1, Unadilla	Troop 1, Unadilla
Pack 5, Cobleskill	Troop 4, Schoharie
Pack 9, Edmeston	Troop 5, Cobleskill
Pack 10, Laurens	Troop 9, Edmeston
Pack 13, Milford	Troop 10, Laurens
Pack 15, Richmondville	Troop 12, Cooperstown
Pack 17, Sharon Springs	Troop 15, Richmondville
Pack 18, Schenevus	Troop 18, Schenevus
Pack 19, Worcester	Troop 19, Worcester
Pack 24, Oneonta	Troop 23, Oneonta
Pack 27, Oneonta	Troop 27, Oneonta
Pack 37, Cherry Valley	Troop 31, Milford
Pack 44, Gilbertsville	Troop 37, Cherry Valley

Pack 91, Oneonta Troop 44, Gilbertsville
Pack 105, Esperance Troop 46, Central Bridge
Troop 47, Springfield Troop 56, Lawyersville
Troop 105, Esperance Troop 168, Worcester
Troop 170, Sharon Springs Troop 1254, Cooperstown

Thank you all for your efforts to make scouting grow within our district and helping us reach for Quality District status this year.

Otschodela Council Raingutter Regatta

Are you ready for a Council - wide Raingutter Regatta?

The Deerslayer District Cubscout Committee is planning a Council-wide raingutter Regatta to be held in the center of Oneonta on Sun, Oct., 21, 2007.

This is a time for Cubscouts to see and participate in a regatta with many other scouts in the area.

A Council First.

Make plans now.

The regatta is open to all Cubscouts in the Council. Sun., October 21, 2007

1-3:30 Muller Plaza, Center of Oneonta

Entry for \$2.50 for event and patch.

1:00 registration for Tigers and Wolves;

1:30 races for Tigers and Wolves, registration begins for Bears;

2:00 races for Bears, registration begins for Webelos;

2:30 races for Webelos.

Concessions available.

Boats must be made for this year.

Packs are advised to hold a Pack Raingutter Regatta within 3 months of the Council's to prevent damage to boats.

Contact Chris Sadlocha, Deerslayer Cubscout Committee Chair, 607-783-2210 or the preferred method csadlocha@hotmail.com with 'Scouting' in the subject line

Race To Cub Scouting

September and October are the months that Cub Packs go out and recruit new members to join their ranks. Unit Commissioners will be contacting Cubmasters to set up dates in your local schools for a "Boy Talk". We saw the success of this last year. This year, each new registered boy brought in on a Family Night will receive a Race To Cub Scouting die cast car. Up to six direct contact leaders in each unit will receive a Race To Cub Scouting cap if unit recruitment goals are given for the upcoming year and the Boy Talks and Family Nights are scheduled by the Popcorn Kick-off on August 28. Flyers, posters and yard signs will be available again at the Council Office.

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6134 St Hwy 23
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Oneonta, NY 13820
Phone: (607) 432-6491**

or

**1-(800) 778-6813
Fax: (607) 432-0388**

WEB SITES:

www.otschodela.org

www.scoutcamphenderson.org



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