

# Council Fires

This is a publication of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scouts of America  
PO Box 1356, Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-6491  
[www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org)

## Dates to Remember

January:

- 1 Service Center Closed, New Year's Day
- 2 Council Staff Meeting 9-10:30 am  
Office Closed
- 14 Philmont 7 pm
- 21 Service Center Closed, Martin Luther King Day

## Training

- 16 University of Scouting Committee Mtg

## Scout Executives Message

### 98 Years and Counting...

For 98 years, Otschodela Council has proudly served the youth and families of Otsego, Schoharie and Delaware counties with a program of fun and values. In 2007, Scouting celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a worldwide movement for youth, sending 2 of our own leaders, Don Tuttle and Brian Danforth to England to join the World Jamboree Staff. Otschodela Council is also a Top Ten Council in the nation in the areas of- Training, Cub Scout Camping, Boy Scout Camping, Eagle Scout Advancement, and the percentage of youth we serve through Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing, Learning for Life and Exploring. The innovative programs offered by our Districts draw youth from our Council and elsewhere as they share in the adventure of Scouting. We are a Council that continues to move forward, thanks to the committed Volunteers who serve our area's youth. In 2008, as we celebrate 98 years of Scouting and 60 years at Henderson, our goals

are simple: to continue providing a quality program to the youth and families in our Council and continue to build on the successful program and quality facilities at Henderson. We look forward to a great year of Scouting with you!

Tom Wright  
Scout Executive

## Find your way to 2008 Camps with a New GPS!

The 2008 Camping Season is just around the corner with the **Otschodela Council Camping Kickoff on February 2, 2008 from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Elm Park United Methodist Church on Chestnut Street in Oneonta** to find out what is new in Cub Scouting, Webelos, Family Camping, Day Camp and Boy Scout Camping. Join us at the event for a **light buffet** and prizes. The Grand Prize is a new **Magellan Explorist GPS Unit**. All interested Leaders, Parents and Scouts are welcome. Scott Brady, Nancy Rigley, John Kilmer and Trey Miller will be available to answer your questions and provide your Pack or Troop with the tools to prepare you for your exciting adventure of Scout Camping in 2008! Please call Bonnie at 607-432-6491 or e-mail [bparslow@bsamail.org](mailto:bparslow@bsamail.org) by January 29 with your attendance. We look forward to seeing you at the Camping Kickoff!

## Venturing Voice

Venturing is the newest program in the BSA, designed to help young men and women ages 14-20 develop leadership skills, participate in outdoor adventures, coordinate community service projects, and learn teaching skills that will assist the Packs, Troops and other members of their communities. Otschodela Council is looking for leaders in Sidney, Walton, Delhi, Edmeston, and Cobleskill to help the youth who are interested in Venturing get started. If you would like to help with the Venturing Program in these communities or are interested in starting a Venture Crew, please contact Paul Brody at 518-299-3141. Look at this section each month for updates on what the Venture Crews in Otschodela Council are doing. **Congratulations to Crew 1 of Unadilla for completing Venturing Training and to the leaders in Unadilla who are on their way to a new Crew.**

**All Venturers and Venturing Advisers are welcome to attend the 2008 Beach Party on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Oneonta YMCA. More information is available on [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) or by calling Scott Brady at 607-432-6491.**

## Camping News

### Day Camp

The Cub Scout Olympics are coming fast and your HELP is needed in all three Day Camps (Walton, Oneonta, Cobleskill) Positions needed are: Archery Director, Nature Director, Wood Working Director, Outdoor Skills Director, and Assistants. The Cub Scout Camping Committee is working hard on the program and needs your help to deliver it. If you can serve as a member of our Day Camp Staff contact Nancy Rigley at [nancyhorton75@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyhorton75@yahoo.com) or (518) 231-6440



### Boy Scout Camp Deadlines

Fee: \$215.00

October - Unit site reservation forms for best choice of weeks.

March 10<sup>th</sup> - \$50 reservation fee per Scout.

March 10<sup>th</sup> - merit badge sign up online begins.

April 10<sup>th</sup> Custom design pre-order forms (t-shirts, etc).

June 10<sup>th</sup> - last day for reduced fee incentive.

### Webelos Camp Deadlines:

Fee: \$100.00

April 10<sup>th</sup> - custom design pre-order forms (t-shirts, etc.).

June 10<sup>th</sup> - Webelos Camp incentive.

### Camp Staff Openings

1 or 2 Adult positions in program areas.

1 or 2 youth openings in most program areas.

Call Scott at 1-800-778-6813 ext. 205 for information on adult 5-7 week openings.

## University of Scouting

Do not miss the great opportunity to "Branch Out in Scouting" on Saturday March 15 2008 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Oneonta Middle School, Oneonta NY. For the first



time, Venturing will have courses offered for your enjoyment. You will receive the catalog and registration form in the mail or you can go to [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) to view the course catalog and print out the registration form. Mark your calendar NOW so you do not miss the great experience of learning something new and meet with great leaders. See you all on March 15 2008!

## Trail's End Popcorn

Thank you to all Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, leaders and parents for making this year's Trail's End Popcorn sale a success. In the coming months, Popcorn success stories will be shared in Council Fires to help with your 2008 Fun-Raising! To share your stories, e-mail Bonnie at [bparslow@bsamail.org](mailto:bparslow@bsamail.org). Mark your calendars NOW- special POPCORN training will take place on May 8<sup>th</sup> for an added bonus in your Unit's 2008 Popcorn Sale.

# Foothills District

## Dates to Remember

January:

- 10 Roundtable- United Methodist Church Liberty St. Sidney, 7 pm
- 12 District Recognition Dinner- United Presbyterian Church Delhi, 6 pm
- 18 Nominating Committee- Sidney 12 pm

February:

- 3 Scout Sunday
- 7 District Meeting, Delaware Public Safety Building Delhi 7 pm
- 9-10 Frigid Frolics Winter Camporee- Archibald Field Stamford

## Foothills District First Aid Meet

The Foothills Annual First Aid meet will be held at the Delaware Academy Gym in Delhi on March 7, 2008. Troops taking part in the contest must provide one (1) judge per team entered (two judges per team would be better). There will be a judges' meeting at 6:30 p.m. Your judges must be at the gym by 6:30 p.m. If all judges are on time, then we will be able to start the meet at 7:00 p.m. Judges do not need to be squad members or EMT's, but previous First Aid experience would be helpful. More information will be available at [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) and mailed to Scoutmasters in January.

## Frigid Frolics

Join in the fun and adventure as the Foothills District Winter Camporee and Cub Scout/Webelos Winter Event goes to Stamford on **February 9-10, 2008 for Frigid**

**Frolics!** A special Scout Exhibition will be part of the day along with many exciting events throughout the weekend. All troops and Webelos are encouraged to spend Saturday Night, but if you wish to just stay for the day, you are more than welcome. All Cub Scouts and family members are encouraged to enjoy the day on



Saturday. There will be more information on this event mailed to your Unit Leaders and available on [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org). If you have, further questions do not hesitate to call either Camping Chairman – Ken Grant at (607)538-9012, Event Chairman Ed Stammel at 746-4365 or Trey Miller at the Scout Service Center or by e-mail at [rhmill@bsamail.org](mailto:rhmill@bsamail.org).

All Boy Scout Troops will camp at Archibald Field in Stamford. Troops may begin to arrive Saturday morning at 8:00 AM for registration with events starting at 10:00 AM. Make sure that you bring plenty of warm clothing, and remind your Scouts that **SNEAKERS ARE NOT PERMITTED.**

For all Cub Scouts and Webelos: If you can't wait for the warm weather to get back outside, why wait? Come and join us at the Cub Scout Frigid Frolics on February 9 at Archibald Field in Stamford. This event is sure to put a smile on the face of all Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos Scouts who attend. More information is available on the council website [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) and mailed to Cubmasters and Den Leaders.

## Friends of Scouting Update

The 2008 Friends of Scouting Program is underway. Special thanks to the Foothills District Committee and Commissioners Staff who kicked off the Program and to the following units who have signed up for a Family Presentation - Troops 34, 88, 99 in Sidney, Troop 59 Masonville, Pack 33 Delhi, Pack 45 Walton, Pack 88 Sidney, and Pack 75 Hancock . If your Unit would like to participate, please contact Trey Miller at the Council Service Center (607) 432-6491 or by e-mail at [rhmill@bsamail.org](mailto:rhmill@bsamail.org). We look forward to adding your Unit to our Special Thanks section each month.

## Seeking Scouting Photos



Scouting photos are something to share with the world. They let others know of the fun and adventure you and your Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and fellow Scouters have by

sending your pictures (copies or digital please) to [rhmillar@bsaemail.org](mailto:rhmillar@bsaemail.org) or mail them to Otschodela Council, PO Box 1356, Oneonta, NY 13820 c/o Trey Miller. Thank you for your help in sharing the Scouting message. Photos that are received will be used in our Camping Brochures, Annual Report, Friends of Scouting Presentations, and will be available at [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) in the Photo Gallery.

### District Recognition Dinner

On Saturday, January 12, 2008, the Foothills District is hosting its Second Annual District Recognition Dinner at the United Presbyterian Church on Clinton Street in Delhi starting at 6:00 PM. This event is open to all District Volunteers, Unit Leaders, Committee Members, Chartered Organization Representatives, 2007 Eagle Scouts and family members. Special Awards will be presented and all 2007 Eagle Scouts will be recognized for their accomplishments. More information, Registration forms and Award Updates are available at [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org).



### Foothills District Meeting/Commissioners' Meeting

Our next District meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Delaware County Public Safety Building, 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.

# Deerslayer District

### Dates to Remember

January:

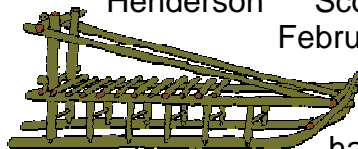
- 1 **Happy New Year - Scout Service Center Closed**
- 10 Roundtable - Schenevus School 7 pm
- 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Service Center Closed

### Rechartering 2008

The annual process of individuals and unit re-registration will continue to be done with "on-line" rechartering. Most of the units in our Deerslayer District process the recharter papers in the month of March. The online process is done at the convenience of the unit with a person knowledgeable of computer operation. Your unit controls the information that is imputed into the system by your people. After the unit has completed the process and printed out the charter, the signature process of the charter head, unit leader, and unit commissioner still need to be done in person at a charter review meeting. The completed charter, with the money, then needs to be turned into the Scout Office.

### Winter Camporee - Klondike Derby at Henderson Scout Reservation

This Winter Camporee will be held at Henderson Scout Reservation on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Troop 105 is the hosting unit and they have done a great job in planning a Klondike Derby for all the scouts. The events planned are Orienteering, Winter First Aid, Emergency Shelter Building, Fire Building, Sledge Race, Ice Rescue, Clothing Check and Trail Lunch Preparation.



The Camping Committee is implementing pre-registration for this event. Troop 105 needs to know how much materials they will need for various events, so the due date was set for January 11<sup>th</sup>. The registration fee will be \$7. Details will be sent out in the mail at the beginning of this month and are available now on our council website, [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org).

### Deerslayer District Cub Scout Winter Fest

Get your Den and Pack ready for some Snow Fun at the Deerslayer District Cub Scout Winter Fest on Saturday February 9, 2008. Come and have fun, play games, see a skit and be part of a special event with someone who has four feet. The Winter Fest will be at the Worcester Central School on February 9<sup>th</sup> with registration at 9:30

AM with events starting at 10:00 a.m. and concluding with ribbon presentation at 12 NOON. This is an **OUTSIDE** event so dress for the weather. The registration fee is \$4 per boy with the Pack to receive 2 free patches, additional patches are \$4. Watch for more information on the Council web page [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org).

### District Award of Merit

Many individuals contribute to the success of our Deerslayer District. Recognition of those individuals is an important part of our spirit in the District. Each year you are given the opportunity to recommend an individual to receive the District Award of Merit. The application process is simple. Request a form from the council office, your Unit Commissioner or go online at [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org).

All applications will be reviewed by members of the District Committee and the selection of three names will be made at the district meeting of April 10th. Presentation of the award will take place at the Council Recognition Dinner on May 3rd.

### January Roundtable News

We had fun at our November 2007 Roundtable. Jerry Murello talked about "Science" and did a great job. Donna Rowe talked about the "Indian Nation" and she did a great job, too. We had a very nice turnout for our roundtable.

For January's Roundtable, the theme for the Boy Scout level is "Communication" and for the Cub Scout level is "Cub Scout Car Show". We are expecting a guest speaker. So don't miss the FUN. Come and learn more about the programs we have for you and your units.

Don't forget to bring a friend or your other leaders to the next roundtable. We will be watching for you...

Donna Rowe  
Roundtable Commissioner

# LFL/Exploring

## Dates to Remember

January:

10 Service Team Meeting, Bolton Service Center Oneonta, 7 pm

February:

2-3 "Beach Party" Oneonta's YMCA 7 pm



## Beach Party 2008

February 2-3 will see a flurry of activity at Oneonta's YMCA. It's time for our annual "Beach Party" where the

party begins at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and goes round the clock until 6:00 a.m. on Sunday. Contests, games, relaxation, and meeting Explorers from throughout the council area. We kept the cost down to \$10.00 for pre-registration or \$15.00 at the door. **Advisors will have registration forms in December.**

## Adult Explorer Leader Basic Training

For:

Explorer Post Advisors  
Associate Advisors  
Committee Volunteers  
Interested Adults

## Course Description:

Post Adult Structure	Youth Protection
Position Descriptions	Needs of Explorers
Committee Responsibilities	Insurance
Program/Planning	Activities
Health and Safety Policies	Post Bylaws
Post Officers Seminar	Website Tools

8-12 p.m. February 2<sup>nd</sup> - YMCA Oneonta (at the Beach Party) pre-registration required by January 30, 2008 call 1-800-778-6813 X 205.

## Spring EMS or Firematics

We would like to register interest in an April Exploring EMS competition or Firematics. Probably a Sunday, hosted by Post 30 Walton.

Please call 1-800-778-6813 or email [sbrady@bsamail.org](mailto:sbrady@bsamail.org) to express your choice and commitment to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**COME CELEBRATE**  
**“Branching Out in Scouting”**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



AT THE  
**UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING**  
**MARCH 15, 2008**

ONEONTA MIDDLE SCHOOL  
EAST STREET, ONEONTA

LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION IN YOUR MAIL, FUTURE ISSUES OF  
*COUNCIL FIRES* & ON THE WEBSITE [WWW.OTSCHODELA.ORG](http://WWW.OTSCHODELA.ORG)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

**Otschodela Council  
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PO Box 1356  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
Phone: (607) 432-6491**

**Or**

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

**WEB SITES:**

**[www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org)**

**[www.scoutcamphenderson.org](http://www.scoutcamphenderson.org)**

**Office Hours**

**Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday**

**9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Thursday**

**9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

OTSCHODELA COUNCIL INC.  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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