

Council Fires

This is a publication of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scout of America,
6134 St Hwy 23, Oneonta NY 13820 (607) 432-6491

Otschodela Council

October 2009

Dates to Remember

October:

- 6 Council Key 3
- 6 Council Executive Committee Meeting
- 7 Council Staff Meeting Office Closed
9-10:30 a.m.**
- 10 Trails End Popcorn Blitz Day
- 12 Columbus Day, Office Closed**
- 17 Area 3 Key Leadership Conference
- 24 Otschodela Leader Training**
- 26 Trails End Popcorn Sale Orders Due**

The Scout Executive Message

I returned this summer from a conference put on by the National Council Boy Scouts of America. I am very excited with the "New BSA" and all the positive changes that will help the council better serve our units and Scouts.

As I attended one of the workshops, the participant assimilated boarding a plane bound for home. The plane attendant announced "Welcome aboard our airlines. Your pilot could be one of the airlines 37% trained pilots". I thought he could be one of the 63% untrained pilots flying the plane. You can only imagine the results. Boy Scouts of America on a national bases has only 37% top leaders trained delivering the scouting program to our most precious possessions; our youth. I am very excited that the Otschodela Council has been selected to pilot this two year program of all direct contact leaders trained by December 31, 2011. Our families we serve deserve a trained leader delivering the program to our most precious cargo. Please work hard with our training teams as we meet this objective. Remember we can only influence the character and develop leadership if we have youth in the program that remain active. We know a **Trained Leader** has all the tools to deliver this 100 year old program.

Celebrating the Adventure Together,
Tom Wright

Council Auction

The 2009 Council Auction will be held at Morris Hall SUNY Oneonta on the evening of November 14th. You will be able to review the items while enjoying a buffet of food and then let the bidding

begin! Please plan on joining us at this exciting evening of fellowship and enjoyment while supporting Scouting and our leaders of tomorrow. For a complete list of items call the office at 607-432-6491 to get your auction catalog.

Light food and beverages

Partial list of items:

Tandem Loads of Stone

Dicks Sporting Goods Certificates

Whitewater Rafting Certificates

Premium Leather Boots

Sport Tech Gift Certificates

Guided 1 Day Kayak & Ski Trips

Fuel

Custom Embroidered Clothing

Tony Mongillo D & H Railroad Print

Binghamton Senators Hockey Tickets

Week at Elmore Lodge, Crumhorn

4' carved Santa Claus

2 weeks summer camp at Henderson-(1 Scout, 1

Webelos 1, and 1 Webelos 2)

Golf Package Gift Certificates

Attorney Simple Will Services

Automotive Services

Tree Service Certificates

Restaurant Certificates

Hartwick College Coaches Club

Catskill Symphony Subscriptions

Ski Plattekill Tickets

Health Links & YMCA Memberships

Business Printing

Wine

Pet Lovers Gift Basket

12 Month Daily Star Subscriptions

2 Nights Holiday Inn Express, Cooperstown

2 Cases BK Coffee

Pest Control Services

Rental Gift Certificates

Chimney Cleaning

Subaru Service

Electrician Services

Herkimer Diamond Necklace & Bracelet Set

Brewery Omegang Ales

10 Yard Dumpster (5 days)

Maple Ski Ridge Package

Media Advertising Packages TV & Radio

House Painting
Snow Removal
Soap Rocks
Television Advertising Time
Fox Care Healthlinks Membership
Blocks of NYS Cheddar Cheese
Fresh Christmas Wreaths
Fresh Flower's
Surveying Services
Tree Removal, Trimming, Cabling
Carpeting for One Room
Fishing Guide Service
Veterinary Products
1 Ton Wood Pellets
DJ Service
Redskins Tickets
Kaiser Porcelain Plates
New Flag with 13' Pole

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

Scouting for Food

Packs and Troops throughout our council will join Scouts across the country on November 7th and 14th for our Scouting "Good Turn". Community chairs are being recruited to direct this hands-on good turn for others.

Why is this "Good Turn" of Scouting so important? Because hunger never goes away.

Many of us skip a meal during the day. How many of you skip a day without a meal? Make it a point to ask your local food pantry how many individuals they are trying to feed daily. Through your efforts last year the food banks in Otsego, Schoharie and Delaware received over 40,000 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 hanger distribution will take place on November 7th. Food items will be picked up on November 14th. Door tag hangers are now available in the Scout Service Center for your unit. Please make arrangements to pick these up. Door tag hangers will be bundled in proper amounts for each unit. Be sure to use the sign out sheets so that we know what went out and with whom. If you are having difficulty making pick-up arrangements, let your District Executive know and we will do our best to get them delivered to you.

Let's all work together and make this the best community good turn effort the best yet!

Internet Advancement

Here's how it works:

Online advancement entry is here! The Otschodela Council is excited to announce that units can now use internet advancement to record their youth member advancements from any online location-at home or at the office. You will find this new method to be easy, convenient, and accurate because you enter the information.

Go to www.myscouting.org and open an account if you haven't done so already. You will need your BSA I.D. number. If you don't have your membership card, call the Scout Service Center and talk to our registrar Mary Kersman or your District Executive. After you log on, there will be a menu on the left. Look for "Internet Advancement" and click on it. On the Internet Advancement opening page there is a "help" link that will guide you through the steps. There are also various tutorials available including a power point presentation your District Executive can email to you.

Internet advancement makes it easy for unit leadership to record awards, ranks, and merit badges to youth via an online process. This system is separate from internet Rechartering, but uses a similar concept.

At any time during the year, the unit advancement processor from each active unit will be able to record advancements to youth member records. And, they'll also be able to print a unit roster at any time. The roster is the most current information from ScoutNET, and it will include the person ID for each adult and youth member.

These are other reports available from internet advancement. **Unit Advancement Summary** shows ranks, merit badges, and awards saved in each person record for current members of the unit. **Advancement Report** lists each youth member that has new ranks, merit badges, and awards, if any. This is the official unit advancement report to be signed and submitted to the office. **Unit Awards Summary** lists the number of new ranks, merit badges, and awards by name as a shopping list. **Advancement Update Summary** lists any ranks, merit badges, and awards that were already in the member record and were updated inline.

Ranks must be recorded based on program identification and in the correct rank and date sequence. Only the Eagle Scout rank cannot be awarded by this process. Awards to be entered will not include nominated awards, such as those for meritorious action, and awards that are controlled by other organizations, even if approved for uniform wear. As BSA policies for rank entry are enforced, what units enter will meet these requirements.

If you have any questions or comments, contact the Otschodela Council office and we'll be glad to help you out.

Registration Fee Increase

The National Executive Board unanimously passed a resolution to increase the traditional membership annual registration fee for youth and adults from \$10 to \$15 effective January 1, 2010. The annual Exploring fee will remain \$10.

A great deal of thought went into this decision and consideration was given to the impact to program and council support, the necessary funding required to implement planned initiatives over the next several years, and the overall fees paid by councils. Input was sought and received from staff and volunteers at the council level. It was then determined that the best approach was to increase the fee to the level chosen and to make every effort to hold that level for the next several years, rather than raising the fee every year. The last registration fee increase was implemented in 2002.

The National Council is committed to providing added benefits to Otschodela Council and our Scouts and volunteers to support the delivery of high-quality Scouting programs in every community we serve. A key investment continues to be providing more user-friendly Web-based resources. For example, via My Scouting, volunteers will be able to complete even more training requirements on their own schedule, 24 hours a day, utilizing online resources. This will complement their current ability to recharter and manage advancement records online, complete and submit tour permits, and participate in the Scouting Community social network, which continues to grow. The National Council strives to minimize operating costs, and it is worth noting that, even with this increase, youth can receive the full benefits of Scouting membership for only \$1.25 per month.

Change in Social Security Number Entry during Internet Rechartering Due to Privacy Concerns

This fall (in time for the next charter renewal cycle) all Social Security Number (SSN) entry fields and references will be removed from Internet Rechartering and will be replaced with the display of an informational text message as follows: **“***Social Security Number is required and will be entered by your council from the adult application.”**

The Otschodela Council will assume the responsibility for entering SSNs for new adult leader applicants once the renewal has been submitted through Internet Rechartering, and the required paperwork has been received at the council office. The current Charter Renewal posting process does not allow an adult leader registration to be posted without a valid SSN, so this implementation will not compromise or change the current SSN requirement or validation.

Support documentation for Internet Rechartering will be revised so that the help document and tutorial will be changed to explain this change. For more information please contact Mary Kersman at the Scout Service Center by e-mail at mary.kersman@scouting.org.

Tour Permits Now On-Line

A new tool is now available through MyScouting to all Adult Leaders planning a trip or outing for your unit. The online Tour Permits system allows you to create and obtain approval for your tour permit quickly and easily and make any changes necessary by a return e-mail. Otschodela Council will continue to process tour permits submitted via paper as units convert to the online process. Below is a brief description and instructions for electronically creating and submitting tour permit applications.

There are four steps in this process.

- Creating a tour permit application
- Entering vehicle and training information
- Entering tour details
- Submitting a tour application

Only the person who creates an application can edit and submit the application. Other persons have read-only access to applications they did not create.

Before you begin

Collect the information you will enter when creating and submitting a tour permit applications. You will need:

- Detailed information about tour destination
- Departure and return dates
- Tour itinerary
- Participation and leadership
- Transportation plans (including vehicle information, drivers' license numbers and insurance coverage).
- Training certifications for Youth Protection and any other course required for your trip.

For more information on the Tour Permit system, please view the training video on MyScouting or contact Trey Miller at ralph.miller@scouting.org.

Deerslayer District

Dates to Remember

October:

- 3 Cub Scout Fall Field Day
- 8 District Meeting – Schenevus School
- 16-18 Fall Camporee

Words to Live By

While we officially began the Words to Live By on August 25th at our popcorn kick off, several of our Cub Packs have been recruiting new boys into the program since April 1st. We applaud the units for not only the recruitment but for giving youngsters an opportunity to enjoy a summer of Cub Scouting.

Centennial Quality Unit Commitment

Last month in the newsletter, we listed the units that had submitted their quality unit forms. Many of these units only need one or two direct contact leaders trained to fulfill the requirements by year's end. The district is well within reach of making Centennial Quality District this year and we hope these units take advantage of the Boy Scout and Cub Scout Basic Leader Training that is taking place this month in Oneonta.

Cub/Webelos Scout Field Day

The Cub Scout Field Day will be held on Saturday, October 3rd at Henderson Scout Reservation. Registration begins at 12:30 and events begin at 1:00. Closing and awards will begin 2:45. The events are designed for all Tigers, Wolves, and Webelos. Additional activities for Webelos will include Color Guard, Knot Tying and some Forester Activity pin requirements. Please have a minimum of two adults on hand due to some Webelos activities being held on the front lawn of the dining hall. Pre-registration fee per scout is \$5 as long as payment is received in the Scout Service Center no later than Friday October 2nd. Registration on the day of event will be \$7 per scout.

2009 Deerslayer District Fall Camporee

Location –Landis Arboretum, in Esperance, NY

Date – October 16-18 2009

Theme –Forestry Merit Badge or First Aid Merit Badge. Additionally, if the weather cooperates, parts of the Astronomy Merit Badge may be offered on Saturday Night.

Schedule of Events

Friday October 16 Check in after 5 pm
Saturday October 17 8:30am – 9:00am Registration
9:00am - Opening Ceremony
9:15am - Session 1
10:00am - Session 2
10:45am - Session 3
11:30am-11:00pm - Lunch
1:15pm - Session 4
2:00pm - Session 5
3:00pm-4:30pm - Camporee events



Grow-A-Tree
Spider web Maze
Log Pull
Ladder Lash
Tree ID

4:30pm – 6:30pm – Supper in site
6:45pm – 8:00 pm - Vespers and Campfire
8:00pm - ? – Star Party? Sunday October 18? -
Clean up, pack up, leave

This year's Fall Camporee will be held at the Landis Arboretum in Esperance, overlooking the beautiful Schoharie valley.

Scouts will be able to choose from two tracks, one leading to the Forestry Merit Badge or one leading to the First Aid Merit Badge. It will not be possible to do both.

Additionally, if the weather cooperates, the Albany Area Amateur Astronomers will be present and parts of the Astronomy Merit Badge may be offered.

Camping will be in the grassy field at the Meeting House and the surrounding woods. Since we are **expecting a large turnout, we need you to set up in the minimum area necessary.** Unload at the site and then remove your vehicles to the lower parking area across from the farmhouse.

District Meetings Location

All Deerslayer District meetings will be held at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church at 181 Main Street in Worcester. Previously these meetings were held at Schenevus Central School. We thank Father Ron and the church committee for their generosity.

Exploring

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 was 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: scott.brady@scouting.org.

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

11th Annual O'Connor Hospital Holiday Parade

The annual Christmas Parade is on **Saturday, December 5, 2009.**

All are welcome! You can participate by marching, entering a float or by driving your equipment to show your support. Line up begins at 10:00 a.m. behind the Delaware County Office Building at 111 Main Street, Delhi. Bring your whole family and enjoy the sharing of the holiday season.

There will be an "Open House", refreshments, Santa and Mrs. Santa, and trophies.

If you have any questions call Michael Howard at (607) 746-0591 and RSVP by Friday, November 30th.

2010 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference

The National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference is conducted every other year and is attended by thousands of Law Enforcement Explorers and their adult leaders from throughout the country. They come together for a week of team and individual competitions, seminars, demonstrations, exhibits, recreation and fun.

Arrest and Search, Bomb Threat Response, Crime Scene Search, Crime Prevention, Domestic Crisis Intervention, Shoot/Don't Shoot, Hostage Negotiation, Burglary in Progress, Traffic Accident Investigation, Traffic Stop, White Collar Crime, Emergency Field First Aid and Drill Team.

The 2010 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference Guidebook will be available in the summer of 2009 or on the Learning for Life website at: www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement.

Exploring Firematics

Continued great weather was with 6 teams from 6 Explorer Posts and 1 Venture Crew at the Sept. 13 Sidney Firematics. Many thanks to Sidney Fire Dept and Explorers with Charlie Washburn, Advisor and Sidney Center Post 2500 with advisor Dave Gill.

Head Judge Carl French awarded Post 2500 Sidney Center with the First place trophy, Post 44 Gilbertsville with second place and Post 30 Walton with third place. Venture Crew 11 of Breakabeen garnered the uncontested non fire unit with their usual spiritedness (and a stunning water ball win).

Foothills District

Dates to Remember

October:

8 Coordinated District Committee-
Commissioners- Delhi County Public
Safety Building 7 pm

16-18 Fall Camporee – Boy Scouts Sgt. Johnson
Leadership Academy Hobart

17-18 Cub Scout/Webelos Fall Event Sgt.
Johnson Leadership Academy Hobart

Cub Scout Field Days

The Cub Scout Field Days and Webelos Camporee are being held on October 17th at the Sgt. Johnson Leadership Academy in Hobart. Cub Scouts and Webelos will enjoy a climbing wall, caving ladder, 12 outdoor challenges, knot game and more! Registration is at 12:30 for the Field Day with events starting at 1:00. The Webelos may register beginning at 11:30 a.m. 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 a Camp Stove.

Information will be available at www.otschodela.org and will be mailed to all Cub Masters and Webelos

Leaders. **Pre-registration is required for this event!**

Mountain Challenge Boy Scout Fall Camporee 2009

The Boy Scout Fall Camporee is being held on October 16-18 at the Sgt. Johnson Leadership Academy in Hobart. The theme of this year's event is the Mountain Challenge that includes climbing, rappelling, low and high elements challenge course, GPS and a Service Project. Along with this years theme, Patrol Method, Troop Leadership, and Youth Leadership will all be part of the program. Registration will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 a.m. on Saturday with the opening ceremony and events beginning at 8:45 a.m. More information will be sent to Scoutmasters in the near future, including a Jamboree on the air flier. It will also be available on www.otschodela.org. **Pre-registration is required for this event!**

Foothills District Meeting

Our next District meetings are scheduled for Thursday, October 8th 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. All Charter Organization Representatives and Institutional Heads are invited to participate in these meetings and Committee Members are encouraged to invite other community members who could serve on the Committee and Commissioners Staff. 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 your communities Packs, Troops, and Crews be the best they can be. If you are a good listener, have a cheerful disposition, and would enjoy visiting units in your community, please call Paul Beames at 563-1111 or e-mail him at beamever@aol.com.

FOS Update

Thank you to Troops 2, 8, 33, 34, 58, 59, 88 and 99 and Packs 8, 11, 30, 33, 34, 45, 50, 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 40 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, 147 young men and women are.



CUB SCOUT LEADER TRAINING

*Every Cub Scout
Deserves*

WHEN & WHERE:

Saturday, October 24, 2009 - 1:00-5:00 p.m.
St. Mary's School on 5588 St. Rte. 7, Oneonta NY

WHAT: Specific Training Sessions for:

Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, Webelos Den Leaders

All Assistant Den Leaders

Cubmasters & Assistant Cubmasters
Pack Committee Chairs & Committee Members

WHY ATTEND:

Gives you knowledge, ideas, and techniques to help you:

- Plan and run a better program for the boys
- Make life easier for yourself
- Have more fun doing it!

COST: \$ 10.00 Each participant will receive the appropriate
Leader handbook for their training.

**YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY 4:00 PM on Monday,
October 19, AT THE SERVICE CENTER.**

NOTE: Participants should try to complete the appropriate
Fast Start and Youth Protection available on-line at
www.myscouting.org.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SECTION FOR YOUR RECORDS.
Mail Only the Registration portion to the Service Center.

Please submit this section with your payment to the Service
Center at the address below.

2009 CUB SCOUT LEADER TRAINING REGISTRATION:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (W) _____

E-Mail: _____

PACK # _____
_____ POSITION _____

**I WILL BE ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING SESSION on
October 24:**

_____ **TIGER CUB DEN LEADER SPECIFIC**

_____ **PACK COMMITTEE SPECIFIC**

_____ **CUB DEN LEADER SPECIFIC**

_____ **PACK TRAINER SPECIFIC**

_____ **WEBELOS DEN LEADER SPECIFIC**

_____ **CUBMASTER / ASST. CUBMASTER**

SPECIFIC

**RETURN THIS FORM BY 4:00 PM on Monday, October 19,
TO:**



BOY SCOUT LEADER ESSENTIALS & SCOUTMASTER TRAINING

*Every boy deserves the
best-trained leader*

QUALITY TRAINING = QUALITY LEADERS = QUALITY PROGRAM = QUALITY UNIT

WHEN & WHERE:

Saturday, October 24, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *(Bring your own lunch)*

Site- St. Mary's School on 5588 St Rte 7
Oneonta, NY

You will:

- Learn how to deliver a quality Scouting Program
- Learn specifics on the patrol method
- Be able to share experiences & ideas with new and experienced Scouters
- Maximize your leadership skills

COST: \$10 Each participant will receive the appropriate Leader handbook for their training. Reservations are requested so training materials will be available.

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER BY 4:00 P.M. on Monday, October 19, at the Service Center.

NOTE: Participants should try to complete the *Fast Start* module and *Youth Protection* available on-line at www.otschodela.org.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SECTION FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Mail Only the Registration portion with your payment to the Service

Please submit this section with your payment to the Service Center at the address below

2009 BOY SCOUT LEADER TRAINING REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (W) _____

E-mail: _____

TROOP # _____ POSITION _____

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING SESSION:

_____ TROOP COMMITTEE SPECIFIC

_____ SCOUTMASTER / ASST. SCOUTMASTER SPECIFIC

RETURN THIS FORM BY 4:00 PM On Monday, October 19, to:

Otschodela Council, BSA
P.O. Box 1356
Oneonta, NY 13820
Council Phone: (607) 432-6491
www.otschodela.org

OTSCHODELA COUNCIL INC.
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

P.O. BOX 1356
ONEONTA, N.Y. 13820

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
ONEONTA, N.Y.
Permit No. 124

POPCORN & PRIZE ORDERS DUE BY OCTOBER 26, 2009

