

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
February 2010

Dates to Remember

February:

- 4 Council Staff Meeting**
9-10:30 am Office Closed
- 8 99th Anniversary of BSA**
- 14 Scout Sabbath
- 16 Anniversary ends
- 16 Presidents Day - Office Closed**

100th Anniversary Celebration

Boy Scouts of America—Celebrating 100 Years of Serving Youth and Families.

On February 8, the Otschodela Council will observe the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. For 100 years, the council has been serving the youth and families of Otsego, Schoharie, and Delaware Counties with the help of local volunteers. This year's observance is dedicated to the efforts of those volunteers.

"For a century, the Boy Scouts of America have focused solely on building stronger families and stronger communities—one young person at a time," said Thomas Wright, Otschodela Council Scout Executive.

"None of this would be possible without the adult volunteers who give their time so unselfishly. No other youth development organization has the support of more than 1.2 million volunteers who understand the value of connecting youth with communities and families. Locally we have more than 2,000 active adult volunteers making a difference in the lives of our young people."

Scouting Anniversary Week, activities get under way February 7, where Scouts will celebrate their "Duty to God" in a Scout Sunday Service. Other council activities for the week include: Uniform Day on February 8, Scout Camporees February 6 in Downsville and Scout

Sabbath services concludes the week activities on February 13.

Camping News

Boy Scout Camp Deadlines:

Fee: \$240.00

March 10th - \$50 reservation fee per Scout.

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

May 10th - merit badge sign up online begins.

June 10th - last day for reduced fee incentive.

Webelos Camp

Deadlines:

Fee: \$120.00

April 10th - custom

design pre-order forms (t-shirts, etc.).

June 10th - 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.

Camp Needs:

Serviceable backpacking tents for outpost.
Someone to sharpen tin shears for Craft Lodge.

Camping Kickoff

The 2010 camping season is just around the corner. Come to the Otschodela Council Camping kick off on February 13, 2010 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's new in Cub Scouting, Webelos, Family camping, Day Camp and Boy Scout camping. Scott Brady, Michelle Tyrell, 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 2010! A light buffet will be provided, please call Bonnie at 607-432-6491 or e-mail bonnie.parslow@scouting.org with your attendance. We look forward to seeing you at the camping kick off!

Cub Scout Day Camp 2010

Summer camp is often the most memorable experience of a Cub Scout's summer. Attending camp provides you with numerous opportunities to have fun, explore the great outdoors, meet new people, and learn new skills.

Each summer, Otschodela Council offers an exciting, fun-filled and educational Day Camp experience in the great outdoors for Cub Scouts that will be entering the 2nd or 3rd grades in the fall. Back by popular demand, all new Tiger Cub Scouts that will be entering the 1st grade in the fall and their Adult Partners are invited to join us for one, two, three or all four days at a reduced rate.

Our theme for this summer's camp is "BSA 100th Anniversary – Investigating the Past/Discovering the Future", a brief look at the history of Scouting past present and future. Activities include Nature Hikes, Swimming (Walton only), Fishing (Cobleskill and Walton only), Crafts, Sports and Games, Archery, Woodworking, Outdoor Skills and much more. Parents: *Many of our Den Leaders take time off to ensure that your Scout receives the full benefit of the Cub Scouting program. Please consider volunteering to assist your Scout's Den Leader for a day. They need your help!*

Walton Day Camp @ Austin Lincoln Park – July 12th through the 15th.

Oneonta Day Camp @ SUNY Oneonta College Camp – July 19th through the 22nd.

Cobleskill Day Camp @ SUNY Cobleskill Ski Lodge – July 26th through the 30th.

Cub Scout Day Camp Fees: \$95.00 per scout (2nd and 3rd graders) and \$10.00 per day for any NEWLY registered Tiger Cub (1st grade) and their adult partner.

All camp fees must be paid in full and submitted WITH medical form by Friday, May 28th. PLEASE NOTE: You may still attend Cub Scout Day Camp if registering after the deadline. However, the fee will increase to \$110.00.

Swim for Advancement

The SUNY Oneonta Men's and Women's Swim Teams will be hosting the first 39 Boy Scouts at the 6th Annual Swim for Advancement on March 27th, 2010.



There will be a morning session for 24 Participants and an afternoon session for another 15 participants. Skills needed for Second Class and First Class Rank are part of the morning program and Swimming Merit Badge requirements will be covered in the afternoon session. More information will be available on the Council Website

HYPERLINK "<http://www.otschodela.org>" www.otschodela.org And mailed to Scoutmasters and Committee Chairs.

BSA National Hall of Leadership

The BSA 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership is a one-time opportunity to recognize and thank Scouts, their leaders, and Scouting volunteers (past and present) for the extraordinary difference they make in the lives of others through their leadership. Our country will never outgrow the need for thoughtful leadership. And so, it will never outgrow the need for those dedicated individuals who choose to live their lives by the Scout Law and teach others to do the same. In both simple and dramatic ways, people in every community have experienced positive life impacts from the leadership of a Scout, Scouter or volunteer. When that leadership was extraordinary, and the personal impact great, an individual may want to honor that person with a nomination to the BSA 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership. Through February 2010, deserving Scouts and volunteers can be nominated for this once-in-a-century honor online, at Scouting.org/100years. Otschodela Council and the BSA National Council will forward 12 semi-finalists to a national judging panel. One inductee will be selected from each, to form a group representing all of the nominees and the great gift of leadership that Scouting gives to America every year. Please submit your nominations today and share how your Scouting leaders made a difference in your life!

Calling ALL Scouts! (PAST AND PRESENT)

The Boy Scouts of America has launched the BSA Alumni Connection program in an attempt to reconnect with millions of Scouting alumni across the United States, in time for them to participate in the organization's 2010 centennial celebration. The BSA is inviting not just former Scouts, but anyone who has been impacted by Scouting, to reconnect through BSA Alumni Connection (www.BSAalumni.org). That includes family members of Scouts, volunteers, professional Scouters, community leaders, and the tens of millions of Americans who benefit from Scouting every day. "With every element of this important milestone, we're committed to inspiring, engaging, and empowering our entire Scouting community," said Tom Wright, Scout Executive. "Scouting alumni are a big part of that. We would like them to come back, make a new connection, and take an active role in Scouting again. When Scouting alumni visit www.BSAalumni.org, they will gain access to a host of new alumni programs. They can search for old Scouting friends and mentors, upload photos and stories to an online scrapbook, and learn how they can get involved in 100th Anniversary activities and events. They will even be able to do something that, for the past 100 years, only active Scouts could do—earn a series of commemorative patches. The goal of the BSA Alumni Connection program is to have the people whose lives have been positively impacted by Scouting demonstrate their dedication and commitment to the next generation of Scouts, Mr. Wright said. This is their opportunity to impact the next century of Scouting.

If you are, or know a Scouting alumnus, visit www.BSAalumni.org. BSA alumni are invited to reconnect with others, rekindle Scouting memories, and reengage with the Boy Scouts of America. Those without access to the Internet can call 607-432-6491 to be part of the BSA Alumni Connection program.

Trail's End Popcorn

Thank you to all Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Ventures, 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 Fire's to help with your 2010 Fun-Raising! To share your stories, e-mail Bonnie at bonnie.parslow@scouting.org. Mark your calendars NOW- special personalized POPCORN training will take place this spring to aid in your unit's 2010 popcorn sale. Please contact Trey Miller at ralph.miller@scouting.org to schedule your personalized training at your unit committee meeting.

Deerslayer District

Dates to Remember

February:

6-8 Winter Camporee/Cub Scout Winter Day

11 District Meeting- Worcester Roman Catholic Church

15 Presidents' Day – Office Closed

Perry "Pop" Secor Award for First Aid

The District Camping Committee will determine the recipient of the Perry "Pop" Secor award prior to the annual First Aid Meet in March. The award is open to any Deerslayer District Scout. It is in honor of Perry Secor, long time member of the Council Health and Safety Committee. The award is presented by the District Camping Committee and nominations must be in writing and meet the following criteria.



1. The action of the Scout in response to an emergency where he uses first aid skills and qualities (readiness, decisiveness) developed in Scouting.
2. The action of the Scout must aid in the treatment of the injured or distressed.
3. The Scout must be acting as a private citizen and not as a member of an emergency squad or other emergency services. Application forms are available at the Service Center.

Attention All Leaders!!

We need your help!! In a continued effort to improve communication within our Council units we are in need of all Scoutmaster, Cubmaster and Committee Chair e-mail addresses. By providing this information, it will enable us to send event information, last minute updates, and any other pertinent information we may need

you to receive in a quicker manner. As always, you will receive a hardcopy via USPS mail for your records.

Please send an e-mail to Michelle Tyrrell, HYPERLINK "mailto: rorell2001@yahoo.com" "mailto: rorell2001@yahoo.com", with your contact information (name, Troop or Pack # and location) no later than Friday, February 20th. Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.

Rechartering 2010

The annual process of individuals and unit re-registration will continue to be done with "on-line" rechartering. All 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 of moderate computer skills. 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.

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.

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 8th. Presentation of the award will take place at the Council Recognition Dinner on May 1st.

Eagle Project Guidelines

Eagle project guidelines have been put in place for Deerslayer District. These guidelines are designed to make the submitting process



consistent and fair for scouts and volunteers. In most cases it makes it less time consuming and easier for the scout. A copy was sent to all Troop Committee Chairs and Scoutmasters in December. Please be aware that projects will no longer be accepted for reviews that do not follow these guidelines. Anyone needing a copy in MS Word can email District Executive John Kilmer at john.kilmer@scouting.org and just put Eagle Guideline Request in the subject.

LFL/Exploring

Dates to Remember

February:

6-7 "Beach Party" Oneonta's YMCA 7 pm

Beach Party 2010

February 6-7 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. \$13.00 for pre-registration or \$18.00 at the door. **Advisors will have registration forms in December.**



Explorer Post Leader Training

The new internet based training is just over 1 hour and replaces the 4 hour training syllabus. The training is designed for all leader and interested adults. Please send a completion certificates for basic and youth protection when done, so they may be entered at the Service Center in the permanent file. Visit LearningforLife.org, on the left see worksite based programs and click on training.

Additional materials for Exploring programs, including program, Safety First and Job descriptions are found at the Exploring link.

President's Volunteer Service Award

Exploring has a proud history of service learning. Our volunteers continue to work to meet the needs of their neighborhoods and the community.

In recognition of these outstanding achievements, Learning for Life is proud to

announce the availability of the President's Volunteer Services Award, a prestigious national honor offered in recognition of volunteer commitment.



To learn more about this award visit www.presidentialserviceawards.gov, contact Dave Myers, National Director of Marketing, Learning for Life, at dmyers@1flmail.org (972) 580-2423, or visit our website at www.learningforlife.org to download application.

Requirements for the award are in the following categories:

Young Adults-ages 15-25

Bronze Award - 100-174 hours

Silver Award - 175-249 hours

Gold Award - 250 or more hours

Adults - ages 26 and up

Bronze Award - 100-249 hours

Silver Award - 250-499 hours

Gold Award - 500 or more hours

Families and Groups (two or more people)*

Bronze Award - 200-499 hours

Silver Award - 500-999 hours

Gold Award - 1,000 or more hours

*Each member contributing at least 25 hours towards the total.

Exploring Welcomes New Post

Exploring welcomes Margaretville Hospital Post 1900 with Advisor Sharon Gavette and 6 youth members.

Foothills District

Dates to Remember

February:

6-7 Winter Camporee- Ski Plattekill

7 Scout Sunday Observance

11 District Committee/District Commissioners Delaware Public Safety-Delhi 7:00 pm

March:

6 First Aid Meet

13 Otschodela Scouting University

Snow Sports Weekend

Join in the fun and adventure as the Foothills District Winter Camporee and Cub Scout/Webelos Winter Event goes to Ski Plattekill on **February 6, 2010 for the Snow Sports**



Weekend! A special centennial exhibition will be part of the day along with many exciting events throughout the weekend. All troops and Webelos are encouraged to come for the day. The costs for the weekend are the following: \$20 for all participants and includes tubing; \$30 for all participants and includes lift tickets and tubing with your own equipment; \$50 for all participants and includes lift tickets, tubing and equipment rentals. All registrations include a patch, hot chocolate and Snow Sports Merit Badge and Snow Sports Belt Loop Programs. Pre-registration is required for this event at the above prices by January 29 for all participants. 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. If you have further questions contact Trey Miller at the Scout Service Center or by e-mail at ralph.miller@scouting.org.

FOS Update

Thank you to Troops 2, 33, 34, 59, 88 and 99 and Packs 11, 14, 30, 33, 34, 45, 75, and 88 for joining this years Friends of Scouting Program to date. Your Unit Commissioner will be contacting you to schedule a presentation of the Scouting story in the next 2 months. We look forward to adding your Unit to the list in March! **Remember-** SDE Trey Miller will take a pie in the face at your Unit's FOS Presentation from any boy who sold \$500 in the Trails End Popcorn Program. .

Foothills District /Commissioners' Meeting

Our next District meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Delaware County Public Safety Building, Delhi

OSU- Otschodela Scout University 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
March 13, 2010 in Oneonta
Come Celebrate 100 Years of Scouting!

OCC- Otschodela Community College (Take All= Associates Degree)

1. Fast Start Position Specific Training **ALL COURSES IN THIS GROUP 8-12 PM**
2. Youth Protection
3. This is Scouting (replaces New Leader Essentials)
4. Guide to Safe Scouting

OSC- Otschodela Scouting College (Leader Specific + AD= Bachelors Degree)

1. Cub Scout Leader Specific Training 1-4 PM
2. Boy Scout Leader Specific Training 1-6 PM
3. Venture Leader Specific Training 1-6 PM
4. Commissioner Orientation 1-4 PM
5. District Committee Training 1-4 PM

MSU- Master of Scouting University

(BD + Outdoor Training + 2 Others = Masters Degree)

1. Outdoor Leadership Skills (1 of 2 days) ALL DAY 8-6 PM
2. Webelos Outdoor Training ALL DAY 8-6 PM
3. Baloo Outdoor Training ALL DAY 8-6 PM
4. Safety Afloat 8-12 PM AND 4-6 PM
5. Safe Swim Defense 8-12 PM AND 4-6 PM
6. Leave No Trace 8-12 PM AND 4-6 PM
7. Climb on Safely 8-12 PM AND 4-6 PM
8. Trek Safely 8-12 PM AND 4-6 PM

NAME: _____ PHONE: (_____) _____
ADDRESS: _____ LEADER POSITION: _____
CITY/TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

DISTRICT: _____ PACK / TROOP / VENTURER NUMBER: _____

COURSE SELECTION (YOU MAY SELECT 4 SESSIONS IF YOU ARE NOT TAKING OUTDOOR/BALOO)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

RETURN TO THE SCOUT SERVICE CENTER BY MARCH 5, 2010 WITH PAYMENT OF \$10.00 (w/out lunch, bring bag lunch) or \$15.00 (w/ lunch) - FEE INCLUDES: TRAINING MATERIALS, REFRESHMENTS, 1 BOOK, TRAINING CERTIFICATES AND PATCH.

OTSCHODELA SCOUTING UNIVERSITY 2010

100 Years and still growing!



Come join Fellow Otschodela Council Scouters at a special celebration of our
BSA - 100th Anniversary!

We will be celebrating together at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta.

With Dinner, Dancing, Awards & a big Birthday Party!

Saturday February 20th, 2010

6pm - 11pm

\$35/pp Bring a Guest!

Buffet Dinner with Dessert

Cash Bar

Dress - Business Casual (sports jacket or sweater OK)

Make a weekend of it.

Special Room Rate & Package Starting @ \$79.00

[Holiday Inn Special](#)

RSVP with payment by February 12th to Bonnie Parslow

607 - 432 -6491 or by email bonnie.parslow@scouting.org

Name: _____

Number in Attendance: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

Payment : _____ (cash, check, VISA or MC accepted)

OTSCHODELA COUNCIL INC.
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Prepare for Your Blue and Gold Banquet

(A) Cub Scout Balloons
No. 00900, pkg. of 25

(B) Chinese New Year Place Mats
No. 32058

(C) Scouting Cookie Cutters
No. 17360

(D) Blue and Gold Flashing Pin
No. 80133

(E) "Do Your Best" Napkins
No. 34321, pkg. of 50

(F) "Confetti" 13" Napkins
No. 30555, pkg. of 50
"Confetti" 10" Napkins
No. 30516, pkg. of 25

(G) "Confetti" Place Mats
No. 30552, pkg. of 25

(H) Cub Scout Flatware
Knives No. 30073, pkg. of 24
Forks No. 30074, pkg. of 24
Spoons No. 30072, pkg. of 24

(I) Cub Scout Plates 9" plate
No. 30553, pkg. of 25

(J) Hot/Cold 9-Oz. Cups
No. 30551, pkg. of 50

(K) BSA Candy/Craft Mold
No. 11710

(L) "Do Your Best" Place Mats
No. 34322, pkg. of 25

(M) Cub Scout Program Covers
No. 32006B, pkg. of 50

(N) Cub Scout Table Cover
No. 34323

(O) "A Scout Is Reverent"
Program Insert
No. 3005C, pkg. of 100
"A Scout Is Reverent" Program Cover,
No. 3004, pkg. of 100

(P) Cub Scout Table Centerpiece
No. 32008

FLIER LOCATED AT
info, notices, news, or for a complete index under Symbols/Emblems