

Council Fires

Otschodela Council

www.otschodela.org

Summer 2011

This is a publication of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scouts of America

Dates to Remember

June:

- 1 Council Staff Meeting - office closed 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- 3-4 Outdoor Leader Skills Weekend
- 4 Beaver Day - Henderson
- 11-12 OA Fellowship Weekend
- 16 Program Kick off - St. Mary's School
- 19 Father's Day
- 26 Henderson Staff Report

July:

- 3-9 1st Week of Scout Camp
- 4 Independence Day
- 10-16 2nd Week of Scout Camp
- 16-17 Family Camp
- 17-23 3rd Week of Scout Camp
- 24-30 4th Week of Scout Camp

August:

- 1-3 Cub Resident Session #1
- 3-5 Cub Resident Session #2
- 5-7 Cub Resident Session #3
- 7-10 4th Grade Webelos Camp
- 10-13 5th Grade Webelos Camp
- 13-14 OA Fellowship Weekend
- 16 Trails End Popcorn Kick Off – Oneonta Theater

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday

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

Otschodela Council Salutes Volunteers

On Saturday, May 7th, the Otschodela Council Boy Scouts of America recognized over 60 volunteers and community organizations that support scouting at their annual volunteer recognition dinner at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Silver Beaver Award. This is the highest recognition a council can bestow upon an individual for service to scouting, youth and their community. Those recognized include: Dennis Porter, of Sidney, and Ken Ainslie of Springfield.

Dennis Porter has been an active member of the Boy Scouts of America since his youth with the Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs at Sacred Heart Church in Sidney where his father served as Scoutmaster. During his 25 years as an active adult volunteer he has served as Committee Chairman of Pack 34 Sidney, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 34 Sidney where his son Mark achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Dennis expanded his commitment to Scouting in 1999 serving as a Unit Commissioner and from 2000-2004 as Chairman to the Foothills District covering Delaware and Southern Schoharie Counties. As Chairman, Dennis implemented many programs that scouts continue to enjoy today including the Swim for Advancement program and COPE Course at Henderson Scout Reservation. In 2005 Dennis became a member of the Otschodela Council Executive Board and currently serves as Council Treasurer. He is also an active community volunteer serving as



President of the Sidney Rotary Club, former member of the Sidney School Board, Sidney Alumni Association, Southern Tier Red Cross Board and Executive Director of the Sidney United Way. Dennis Lives by the Scout Oath and always looks for ways to "Help Other People at All Times". Longtime friend and Scoutmaster of Troop 34 Roy Nabinger presented the Silver Beaver Award.



Ken Ainslie has been active in the Scouting program since 1986 when he became Den Leader for his son Kenny in Topsham, Maine. As a member of the military, Ken and his family moved often, but he continued his volunteer involvement in Scouting as a Webelos Leader and then Assistant Scoutmaster in Chesapeake, Virginia. Upon moving back to Otschodela Council, Ken became Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 7 in Fly Creek and in 1996 he became Scoutmaster for Troop 47 Springfield which he has held for 15 years. During his tenure, 17 young men have attained the rank of Eagle Scout and have enjoyed many scouting adventures. Ken has been recognized for his service to youth as a Brotherhood Member of the Onteroraus Lodge, Wood Badge Beads, 30 Year Veterans Award and the District Award of Merit. Living by the Scout Oath and Law are what describe Ken's community involvement where he serves as an Elder of the Presbyterian Church, member of the Springfield Fire Department, 4-H Leader and Soccer Coach. Friend and fellow scouter Patti Tabor had the honor of presenting the Silver Beaver Award.

Otschodela Council additionally recognized the volunteers and community organizations that have helped scouting in their communities. Those receiving the District Award of Merit included: Lisa Huyck of Franklin and Heather Mann of Oneonta. The William H. Spurgeon III Award for outstanding service to youth in the Exploring Program was presented to Carol Bowker of Masonville. A special recognition for 70 years of service to youth and delivering the promise of scouting to the young men and women of his community and Otschodela Council was presented to Ed Roelle of Sidney.

The Otschodela Council salutes all of its 2,000 volunteers who continue to serve the young men and women in their communities each day by delivering a program that emphasizes character development, fitness, and citizenship while developing the leaders of the future.

Otschodela Council Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held **Tuesday, July 12, 2011, 7:45 p.m. at Henderson Scout Reservation** on Crumhorn Mountain.

Annual business conducted will include election of Executive Board members, Members at Large, Associate and Honorary members and officers of the corporation receiving annual reports and transacting other business.

Elected members of the Executive Board and Chartered Organization Representatives are voting members of the Otschodela Council. **All voting members are encouraged to attend.** An optional gathering for dinner will take place at 7 p.m. The business of the meeting will be conducted at approximately 7:45 p.m. following the dinner.

Council Fires Goes Online

This will be the final print and mass mailed edition of Council Fires. Beginning with the September/October Issue, Council Fires will be available on www.otschodela.org to either print or read online. Council Fires will continue to have a Winter, Spring and Summer edition along with a Fall and Holiday edition. You can also get event information, BSA updates, training information and more at www.otschodela.org and on the Otschodela Facebook page. If you do not have access to the internet, please call Bonnie Parslow at 607-432-6491 to request a copy to be mailed to you.

Council Spring Camporee

The Otschodela Council Spring Camporee was held at Hanford Mills in East Meredith on May 13th, 14th and 15th. We had 23 Scout Troops show with a total of 157 scouts and 11 Cub Packs with a total of 67 cubs. The scouts worked on the requirements for a geocache merit

badge, while the cubs earned the outdoors activity pin and the map & compass pin/belt loop. We thank the Deerslayer Camping Committee for planning and organizing this wonderful event, especially Deerslayer Camping Chair Ed Uhlig and Deerslayer Event Coordinator Mary Kersman for all their extra efforts. Thanks to all of you who came and helped make this a wonderful event!

National Pilot Council for Training

The Otschodela Council is a National Pilot Training Council and has adopted the following for ALL adults serving in leadership positions at the pack, troop, crew, or district levels. |

ALL top leaders (Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Crew Advisors) will have 1 year to complete their required trainings in their current registered position by December 31st. ALL Den Leaders, Assistant Scoutmasters and Committee Members will have 1 year to complete training in their current registered position by December 31st. Beginning January 1, 2012 for Units not having ALL leadership trained the unit charter will be put on hold until trainings are complete.

To help facilitate this process the following trainings will be offered online at www.myscouting.org - This is Scouting, Youth Protection, Fast Start, Cub Scout Leader Specific Training, Unit Committee Challenge, Staffing the District Committee, and Unit Commissioner Orientation. There will continue to be weeknight sessions in the fall 2011 and spring 2012 (or by unit request), an October and February, Saturday sessions and Outdoor Trainings- BALOO, Webelos and Outdoor Leadership Skills in June 2011 and 2012.

Leaders who have served for 5 years and completed previous trainings can complete the following: update their trainings with the courses below or serve on a training staff.

Below is a list of the required trainings for each position. If you have additional questions

please contact Trey Miller at ralph.miller@scouting.org.

Cubmasters:

This is Scouting, Youth Protection
Fast Start- Cubmaster, Leader Specific Training-
Cubmaster

Tiger Leader, Den Leaders and Webelos Leaders:

This is Scouting, Youth Protection
Fast Start-Tiger Leader, Den Leader or Webelos,
Leader Specific Training-Tiger Leader, Den
Leader or Webelos Leader

Scoutmaster/ Assistant Scoutmasters:

This is Scouting, Youth Protection
Fast Start-Scoutmaster, Leader Specific
Training-Scoutmaster,
Outdoor Leadership Skills

Crew Advisors/Associate Advisors:

This is Scouting, Youth Protection
Fast Start-Venture Crew Advisor
Leader Specific Training-Venture Crew Advisor,
Outdoor Leadership Skills

***Leadership Training for Scoutmasters/Assistant Scoutmasters can be completed at Henderson Scout Reservation during the evenings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of your troop's camp session.**

Shoot for Scouts

Come join in the fun as we celebrate the Boy Scouts of America new century with our annual clay target tournament to benefit the shooting sports programs at Henderson Scout Reservation. The shoot will be held Saturday July 23, 2011 at the Crumhorn Rod and Gun Club on Crumhorn Mountain in Maryland, New York. This event will feature trap targets and hunter (sporting) clay targets with awards banquet following tournament featuring Brook's Barbeque. Plaques and door prizes will be awarded. This will be an exciting event where local sportsmen can help deliver the scouting program to tomorrow's leaders. For more information visit www.otschodela.org or to sign up contact Tom Wright at 607-432-6491 or thomas.wright@scouting.org.

Journey to Excellence Program Kick-Off



Have you ever wondered why it is that some Units have enough money to do whatever they want? Have you ever wondered how it is that some Units take their scouts on extraordinary trips and outings? The main reason these units can do these things is that they PLAN for them.

The Journey to Excellence Program Kickoff will answer these



questions and more on June 16, 2011 at St. Mary's School on Rte. 7 Oneonta from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. New programs to help your unit succeed this year include: Cub Scouts Delivery System, Be A Scout recruitment materials, New School Night/Family Night Plan, New Trails End Popcorn programs, new calendars and budget planning materials, door prizes and more! We encourage each unit to send three adults and 1 youth member to the 2011 program kick off. Food will be provided! Please call the Council Service Center (607) 432-6491 with your unit's attendance or e-mail Bonnie at bonnie.parslow@scouting.org.

Scouting's Journey to Excellence – Service

“Scouting's Journey to Excellence” is the BSA's



new council performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success

and measure the performance of our units, districts, and councils. It is replacing the Centennial Quality Awards Program as a means of encouraging excellence in providing a quality program at all levels of the BSA.

Service is a value that is developed in our scouting program. As your unit works on your progress to earn the JTE award, service hours need to be entered on the Journey to Excellence website.

You can now enter your service hours at www.scouting.org/awards/journeytoexcellence. Look for the “Service Project” area of the screen. There you can find the link to log your hours, information for first time users, ideas and tips for a successful service project. To enter your

service hours click on “service hours website”. Choose “New User Click Here” or enter in your existing username and password.

Boy Scout Camp Deadlines

Fee: \$250.00

June 10th - last day for reduced fee incentive.

Webelos Camp Deadlines

Fee: \$140.00

June 10th - Webelos Camp incentive.



Cub Scout/Webelos Pre-Camp Meeting

There will be a leader's meeting for Cub and Webelos Camps held in the dining hall at Henderson Scout Reservation on July 26th @ 7:00 p.m. It is important for all leaders to attend this meeting that are involved with either camp. Pre-orders may be picked up before the meeting between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the trading post. See you all there!

Philmont 2012

The Philmont Crew for 2012 has been filled! If you are at all interested in going to Philmont in 2012, be sure to get your papers into the Scout Service Center ASAP. Scouts on the reserve list will be put on the Philmont Crew in the case of any cancellations. Scouts applications for the reserve list will be dated as they arrive. Scouts filling cancellations will be on a first come, first served basis



Work Days at Henderson

JUNE 4, 2011 - BEAVER DAY

OA BROTHERHOOD WEEKEND - June 11, 2011

Lunch provided! Bring some tools if you wish chainsaw and operators are welcomed; vehicles with trailers or dump boxes are useful. Workdays are to help us get camp ready for 900

boys this summer. Jobs include light carpentry, painting, brush removal and setting up tents and bunks. All skill levels are needed. We start at 8:45 a.m. at the dining hall.

Odd Work Days

If you are odd, or have odd days and would like to help at camp (not just June 4th or June 11-12th) call Scott at 1-800-778-6813.

Trails End Popcorn Sale to Begin

The 2011 Trails End gourmet popcorn sale will begin Saturday August 20, 2011 with orders to the council service center by Monday, November 7, 2011. Please plan on attending the fun filled popcorn kick off on August 16, 2011 at the Oneonta Theater 47 Chestnut Street. Special drawing will occur for all who attend. New \$600 club prize, incentives, prizes and pricing will be announced. Be on the alert for additional information concerning the new exciting kick off and sale.

Scout Parents - Scouting Parents Make Great Parents Too!

Otschodela Council is pleased to be a member of the National Parent Initiative "Scout Parents". This program was 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.scoutparents.org. We look forward to hearing about your unit's success with this great program.

New Youth Protection Updates

It's an exciting time to be part of the BSA for many reasons. One of those is that new communication vehicles now enable current and past scouts and scouters, as well those who are interested in participating or are just interested in scouting in general, to communicate directly with each other about scouting. Online social media tools such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube have made it possible for virtually anyone with an internet connection to create and be part of online communities where people can discuss scouting and share stories, photos, videos, and other types of media.

Although using social media is not a scouting activity, their use to connect with others interested in scouting can be a very positive experience. But the creation and maintenance of these channels requires forethought, care, and responsibility. For that reason, the Boy Scouts of America has developed the following guidelines to help you navigate the use of social media channels. These guidelines are a complement to the BSA's existing youth protection policies and training. As is true for participation in scouting activities, all scouts and adult leaders should abide by the guidelines outlined in the Scout Oath and Law when participating in social networking. As with a scouting activity, safety and youth protection should be a key focus. Staying true to the commitment of the BSA to be an advocate for youth and to keep children and their privacy safe, both online and off, should always be at the forefront of any considerations where social media usage is concerned.

For this reason, the Otschodela Council and the National Council Boy Scouts of America require all registered adults to complete Youth Protection Training every 2 years. To complete this training, go to www.myscouting.org, complete your registration, go to the training section and complete the Youth Protection Training. If you do not have access to a computer, training can be taken at one of the fall training courses, at Henderson Scout Reservation this summer or at the Otschodela Council Service Center.

Protecting our youth is extremely important and ALL adults are required to complete this

Registration due September 14th at the Service Center

New Tour Plan

The new tour plan will replace the tour permits. There will be no National Tour Permits. The Tour Plan is in a writable pdf file that is accessed through our website, www.otschodela.org under the tab labeled "Forms". There is an excellent description of the tour plan itself and the differences between the old tour permits and new tour plan.

This is a very straight forward process that will help streamline the process. The online tour permits will no longer be used. Since the "old" tour permits, online tour permits and "new" tour plan are all available right now, we are going to have this summer be our transition period. We will continue to check the online and accept tour permits. We have already started receiving the new tour plans and processing them.

Beginning September 1, 2011 we will no longer accept tour permits or online tour permits. Only the new Tour Plans will be recognized after this date. Faxes will no longer be accepted. The resolution is too poor.

Please use this summer to familiarize yourself with the new Tour Plan and begin using them as soon as possible. Tour Plans may be filled in by computer, or printed out and filled in by hand. They may be mailed into the Scout Service Center or scanned to a pdf file after completing and emailed to john.kilmer@scouting.org for Deerslayer or ralph.miller@scouting.org for Foothills

21st Annual Old -Time Fire Meet

Sunday, September 18, 2011

Host: Post 30 Walton

Captains Meeting 11:45 a.m.

Event Begins 12 noon

Teams: 5 Person Teams, Posts with up to two alternates. All participants must to be registered members of an Explorer Post, or Venture Crew.

Events: Midnight Alarm, Broken Hose, Hose & Wye, Water Ball, and Vehicle Extrication

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

Deerslayer District

Dates to Remember

June:

- 10 District Annual Meeting
- 17 Cub & Scout Leader Program Kickoff St. Mary's School

August:

- 12 District Meeting

Recognition

As we welcome spring, we also see that many of our unit leaders in cub scouting and boy scouting have enjoyed a successful year in their dens, packs, and troops. The Unit Commissioners are now reaching out to leaders to help recognize the great work they have accomplished as Den Leaders, Cubmasters, Scout Leaders, and Committee Members. The recognition is in the form of an award for their position once they have completed the training, tenure and participation. Requirements for each position are found in the back of the den leader handbook as well as from your Unit Commissioner. Please take the time to recognize each of your leaders as they go through scouting.

Congratulations

Congratulations go out to Heather Mann of Pack 91 for receiving the District Award of Merit. The award was presented at the Council Recognition Dinner, which was held at the Holiday Inn in Oneonta on May 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Heather has done a great job of keeping and developing the scouting program in her pack while being Cubmaster, along with taking on Cub Day Camp last year and Cub Resident and Webelos Camp this year. When you see Heather, congratulate her on her award and contributions to our scouting program.

Youth Protection

The National Office, Boy Scouts of America

produced a DVD film on youth protection. "It happened to Me" for 6-9 year olds "A Time to Tell" for 11-14 year olds and "Personal Safety Awareness" for 14-20 year olds. The Cub and Boy Scout video must be viewed with a parent. The video is in the hands of your Unit Commissioner for viewing in your unit. Remember that April is youth protection month and we would like to know the names of individuals that view each tape.

District Elections

The District Nominating Committee will review its recommendations for the position of District Chairman, Vice Chairman, District Commissioner as well as individuals interested in heading up or serving on each of the committees in the district on June 11th. If you are interested or you know someone who might be interested in serving in a district capacity, please contact Deerslayer District c/o Otschodela Council, PO Box 1356, Oneonta, NY 13820 ATTN: Nominating Committee.

District Annual Meeting is June 9, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Worcester Roman Catholic Church. All Committee Members, Commissioners, Members at Large, and Chartered Organization Representatives should attend.

Foothills

Dates to Remember

June:

9 Annual District Meeting- Public Safety Building Delhi 7:00 pm

Annual Business Meeting Notice!

The Foothills District Annual Business meeting will be held on Thursday June 9, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building in Delhi. This is your chance to cast your vote for

the District Committee who serve the Foothills District and help to support the programs offered throughout our District and Council. At least one representative from each unit is invited to attend this important meeting. For more information, contact Trey Miller at ralph.miller@scouting.org or 607-432-6491.

FOS Update

Thank you to Troops 2, 8, 33, 34, 45, 58, 59, 88, 99, 180 and Packs 8, 14, 30, 33, 34, 45, 50, 75, 80 and 88 for joining this year's Friends of Scouting program. The contributions of the leaders, parents, and family members of these units have supported approximately 60 Scouts who would not be in scouting without their help.

Thank you for your generous support!

A Summer Message

2011 has been an exciting year so far for our scouting family in the Foothills District and Otschodela Council. New units have joined in the fun and adventure of scouting this spring along with new members in all of our programs. We have had excellent programs starting with the winter event at the Howe Caverns, our First Aid Meet in Jefferson, and our council event at Hanford Mills enjoying one of our newest programs Geocaching. We look forward to the fun and adventure of our resident camps, family camps, and boy scout camps at Henderson this summer. Many things have been accomplished already in 2011 that we can be thankful for and the rest of 2011 can only get better. It truly has been an exciting spring for our district and I would like to thank you for all of the great things you are doing for the youth, their families, and the communities in the Foothills District. May you all have a blessed summer and I look forward to seeing you on the Camping Trail!

God Bless you all,
Trey Miller

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