

# Council Fires

## Otschodela Council

May 2007

### Dates to Remember

May:

- 2 Council Staff Meeting 9-10:30 am  
Office Closed
- 3 Council Membership Committee
- 5 Boy Scout Leader Training- SUNY  
Oneonta
- 5 Council Recognition Dinner
- 7 Cub Scout Leader Training- Sidney
- 8 Council Executive Board Meeting
- 28 Service Center Closed- Memorial Day

### Every Youth deserves to be in a Centennial Quality Unit!

Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is only 3 years away. The excitement of celebrating a century of fun, adventure, citizenship, patriotism, and good character is truly an opportunity for America to salute the Boy Scouts of America.

Through the new Centennial Quality Awards program, Otschodela Council has the opportunity to salute the packs, troops, crews and leaders who deliver exceptional programs to the young men and women in our communities. Every youth deserves to be in a Centennial Quality Unit!

In the month of May, your Unit Commissioner, District Commissioner, District Chairman, or District Executive will be contacting you about this exciting new awards program and will work with you to set your goals. It is important to set your goals on Training, Membership, New Adults Outdoor Programs, Budget, and Advancement. Turn in your Commitment Form by May 31 and work towards achieving this award. Your youth members are counting on you to deliver a quality program to them!

For more information on the Centennial Quality Unit Award come to Roundtable, visit [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org) or contact your Unit Commissioner.

### 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. All new Cub Scouts will receive a special derby car for joining and all boys who recruit a friend can earn a special recruiter patch. Join us this spring in this important race with the NEW Race to Cub Scouting Family Nights! To learn more in Foothills District call your Unit Commissioner or District Commissioner Joe Bradford at 278-5855, or drop an e-mail at [lciscouts@aol.com](mailto:lciscouts@aol.com). In Deerslayer District, contact your Unit Commissioner.

### Day Camp 2007

"Prepare for Take-off!" as we fly away on an Amazing Adventure at this year's Cub Scout Day Camps. Camp Program Director's Jennifer Gilmartin and Nancy Rigley are ready to go on this Amazing Adventure with your Cub Scouts in just 60 more days. Each Day Camp is still accepting volunteers to help with the programs, if you are interested in helping with this fun week, please call Council Day Camp Chairperson Nancy Rigley at (518) 234-7276 or e-mail her at [nancyhorton75@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyhorton75@yahoo.com). We look forward to having you on board with us this summer!

**Remember:** It is never too late to register your son for camp. If you register **before** June 10, 2007, your son will receive a F R E E day camp "Amazing Adventures" tee shirt and the Den Leaders who attend will receive a FREE tee shirt. **After** June 10th, you can still order a shirt for a nominal charge of **\$10.00**. Registration for Day Camp is as simple as A.B.C.

- A – Roster from the Pack
- Boy's health history
- Check from the Pack

Camp orientation, tee shirt distribution and program distribution will take place in June. Unit leaders will be contacted by Camp Director Nancy Rigley with

information on Cobleskill Day Camp orientation dates and Jennifer Gilmartin on Walton and Oneonta Orientation dates.

### **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.

### **Boy Scout Camp Deadlines**

Fee: \$210.00

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

### **Camp Staff Openings**

Adult position

2 youth openings in program areas.

Call Scott at 1-800-778-6813 ext. 205 for

Information on adult positions for 5-7 week openings.

### **Interested in Philmont Scout Ranch Trip in 2008?**

We have room for a limited number of participants to one of Scouting's Greatest Challenges- Philmont Scout Ranch. The dates at Philmont will be July 16, 2008 through July 28, 2008.

A special slide presentation on past trips will be a part of the program at the Program Kickoffs. Come and learn about this exciting high adventure trip.

### **Big Dream? Join the Dream Team!**

Is Philmont, Darien Lake, Florida Sea Base, or Battleship Cove something that your Scouts would like to do? Then now is the time to jump start your Scouting year with the greatest stuff on earth, Trail's End Popcorn. Foothills District Popcorn Kernel Penny Harageones and Deerslayer District Popcorn Kernel Lorraine Moyer and their teams will be contacting you this spring to help you prepare for an incredible sale. Think about your Big Dream and join the Otschodela Council Dream Team! Visit the Trails End Popcorn Booth at this year's Program Kick offs on June 15 in Foothills District and June 20 in Deerslayer District or come to the special Dream Team Training on June 6 to find out more.

### **Otschodela Council Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Otschodela Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held **Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 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.

### **Nominating Committee Welcomes Recommendations**

The annual process of selecting members of the Otschodela Council is under way. Recommendations may be made in writing to the Nominating Committee **by June 2, 2007** for their consideration. Nominations can be sent to the Service Center.

### **Adopt a Stream Bank**

The Catskill Watershed Corporation would like to encourage groups and individuals to "Adopt a Stream bank" this year!

They will provide trash bags and gloves, as well as tokens of appreciation, for those who wish to conduct a stream clean-up at any time that is convenient for them. Just call Kim Ackerley at (845) 586-1400 to make arrangements to get these materials.

They would also like to call your attention to the fact that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is sponsoring clean-ups at the following reservoirs and welcomes individuals and group volunteers: Ashokan, May 5<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>; Rondout September 15; Pepacton August 25<sup>th</sup>; Schoharie May 19 and September 8<sup>th</sup>; and Neversink September 29<sup>th</sup>. Call Amy Flavin at (845) 340-7530 for information on these clean-ups.

In addition, the DEP and CWC will co-sponsor "Take A Kid Fishing Days" at three Catskill-Delaware reservoirs this year: Ashokan on May 19<sup>th</sup>, Rondout on June 9<sup>th</sup> and Cannonsville on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. To register, call Paul Thiessing at the DEP, (914) 773-4553, and leave a message (name and number in

party). Bait and rods will be provided, and prizes awarded.

### **Eagle Scout Projects**

A source of future Eagle Scout projects may be found at the new 1000 acre Robert V. Riddell State Park located at exit 17 near Colliersville. The current vacant woodland will become home to a variety of recreational resources. Contact Ed Winslow at (607) 432-2114.

### **Work Days at Henderson**

**May 12, 2007 - OA Service Day (Adults And Youth)**

**NON MEMBERS INVITED**

**JUNE 2, 2007 - BEAVER DAY (adults)**

**OA BROTHERHOOD WEEKEND - June 9, 2007**

Lunch provided

Bring some tools if you wish

Chainsaw and operators are welcome

Vehicle with trailer or dump box is useful

All skill levels welcomed

These workdays are to help us get camp ready for 1000 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 you would like to help at camp (not just May 12<sup>th</sup> or June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) call Scott at 1-800-778-6813.

# **LFL/Exploring**

### **Dates to Remember**

May:

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

### **Explorer of the Year**

Otsego County Explorers can nominate an outstanding Explorer for Explorer of the Year Honors by sending a letter to Deb Gross, PO Box 235 Gilbertsville, NY 13776 or call (607) 783-2220. All letters must be received by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Exploring Awards**

The Exploring Committee is pleased to select Dale Eager, BOCES Explorer Post 911 Advisor and Oneonta Middle School Teacher Skip Paulson for the

Learning for Life Leadership Award. Both have demonstrated exceptional dedication and give outstanding leadership to the youth participants in the Exploring and Learning for Life programs.

The committee will also recognize at the May 5<sup>th</sup> recognition dinner 2 Explorer Posts and their Advisors with the highest recognition for individuals and organizations contributing significant leadership to the Exploring program.

The William H. Spurgeon III Award will be presented to Sidney Police Department Post 121 Advisor Jan Gorschack and Delaware County Sheriff's Post 103 Advisor Tom Avery.

### **EMS Competition**

At 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning, May 6<sup>th</sup>, teams from throughout Otsego, Delaware, and Schoharie County will begin our fourth, E.M.S. competition. Regardless of your unit's focus, we encourage you to be a part of this activity at the Walton Firehouse. **Pre-registration by April 30, 2007 is required.**

Events are: 1) basic first aid, 2) vehicle extrication (manual) and patient packaging, 3) rescue knots, 4) rescue and medical equipment ID, 5) HAZ-MAT ID, 6) CPR/AED.

Trophies will be awarded to the three teams finishing with the highest overall scores. Ribbon awards will be given to the first, second, and third place finishers in each event.

Each team that enters should bring an adult that is qualified to be a judge. That qualification shall be either a trained EMT or a fire fighter.

### **Exploring Triathlon**

Post 2500 Sidney Center Advisor and triathlon team member Dave Gill would like to organize an Exploring event at Henderson. Teams would be 2-4 members and involve running, canoeing, and swimming. Call Scott at 1-800-778-6813 extension 205 to express your Post's interest in a triathlon.

### **Career Achievement Awards**

The purpose of the Learning for Life career achievement award program is to provide direction to Explorers and student participants in individual post proficiency.

To earn a Career Achievement Award, the Explorer must provide *50 hours of community service and complete any nine achievements.*

Qualifying achievements are provided for the

following career clusters: Fire & Emergency Services, Health and Law Enforcement.

For achievement worksheets visit [www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org).

## Foothills District

### Dates to Remember

May:

- 10 District Camping Committee Meeting  
Delhi Town Hall 7:00 pm
- 18-20 Spring Webelos and Scout Camporee  
Hancock

June:

- 7 District Annual Meeting- Delhi 7:00 pm**
- 15 Program Kick-off- Delhi American Legion 6:00 pm

### Foothills District Nominations Sought

A district is a voluntary association of citizens. It includes District Members at Large and representatives of organizations that are chartered by the Boy Scouts of America to use the Scouting program. The nominating committee is charged with developing a slate that includes District Chairman, Vice Chairs and District Members at Large that will chair and serve on committees and a nominee for District Commissioner (to be submitted for Executive Board approval). Nominees will be elected at the District Annual Meeting on June 7.

Effective volunteers in units and districts are a top priority for the BSA. The successful use of volunteer resources depends on the ability of key leaders – both professional and volunteer to locate, select, train, utilize and conserve the number of people necessary to adequately perform the membership, finance, program and unit service functions.

Suggestions may be made in writing to the Foothills District Nominating Committee c/o Scout Service Center, Oneonta or e-mailed to Paul Beames District Vice Chairman at [beamever@aol.com](mailto:beamever@aol.com).

**FOOTHILLS DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS are June 7, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.**

### 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 that these units can do these things is that they PLAN for them. We can help you out in this process when you attend the **Foothills District**

**Program Kick-off on Friday June 15th at the Delhi American Legion Hall, in Delhi starting at 6:00 p.m.** We encourage each Unit to send at least three people to this session and at least 1 youth member. Food will be provided! Please call the Council Service Center (607) 432-6491 with your Unit attendance or email Trey at [rhmillar@bsamail.org](mailto:rhmillar@bsamail.org).

### Boy Scout Spring Camporee and Webelos Overnight 2007

The Boy Scout Spring Camporee and Webelos Overnight is being held on May 18-20 and being hosted by Troop 75 Hancock. This camporee will be held at Hancock Fields. The theme of this year's camporee is "Fly Fishing" and will feature Fishing and Fly Fishing Merit Badge for the Boy Scouts and Fishing Belt Loop for the Webelos. Additionally, a scavenger hunt, and other scouting skills events will be offered during the day. More information will be sent to Scoutmasters and Cubmasters and will be available on the council website [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org). Webelos Scouts and Bear Scouts who have earned their Bear Badge will be having their own overnight experience at the same site. The Webelos may register beginning at 10:00 am on Saturday 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. **New This Year: Webelos and Webelos Adults will be allowed to Camp near their respective Boy Scout Troops. Contact your local Scoutmaster about your plans.** If you have any questions, please call Ken Grant at (607) 538-9012 or e-mail Trey Miller at [rhmillar@bsamail.org](mailto:rhmillar@bsamail.org).

### 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 Joe Bradford at 607-278-5855 or e-mail [joe@audiosears.com](mailto:joe@audiosears.com).

### FOS Update

Thank you to Troops 33, 34, 58, 59, 88 and 99 and Packs 11, 30, 33, 45, 74, 80, 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 42 Scouts who would not be in Scouting without their help. Thank you for your generous support!

contact Trey Miller at [rhmill@bsaemail.org](mailto:rhmill@bsaemail.org) or (607) 432-6491.

### **Foothills 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. This Spring a Special Venturing Rendezvous is planned for June 16-17 at Henderson Scout Reservation. More information will be available on [www.otschodela.org](http://www.otschodela.org) and mailed to Venturing and Exploring Advisors. 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 for updates on what the Venture Crews in Foothills District are doing.

**Congratulations to Crew 2 Middleburgh for completing Venture Leader Specific Training.**

### **Webelos to Scout Transition!**

One of Scouting's greatest challenges is to make the next level of Scouting readily available for a young man once he meets the joining requirements. You can help these young men as they cross over this spring by filling out a new Boy Scout Application, turning it in to the Scoutmaster for his signature, and sending the new scout application to the Council Service Center by June 1. It is important that every boy be given the opportunity to join your Troop and participate in the fun and adventure that your Scouts are having.

**Without a new Boy Scout Application turned in to the Council Service Center, Webelos who cross over into your Troop- Cannot Advance in Rank Cannot participate in District or Council Activities Cannot attend Summer Camp Are not covered by Insurance.**

Please make the Scouts' dreams become a reality by turning in their applications to the Council Service Center in May! If you have any questions please

### **Camping!**

"Well, I'm the type of guy who would never settle down. Where Scout Camps are, well you know that I'm around! ..." Camping is great fun, and as you are winding up your Spring Activities don't forget about the fun and adventure you can have at one of our many Summer Camping Opportunities in 2007. I look forward to seeing you and your family at one of our Day Camps, Family Camp, or at Henderson Scout Reservation during our Boy Scout and Webelos Camps. May you and your family have an excellent summer of Scouting.

Trey...

## **Deerslayer District**

### **Dates to Remember**

May:

- 10 District Meeting and Annual Election, Schenevus Central School 7 pm
- 13 Mother's Day - Don't Forget
- 18-20 Webelos/Boy Scout Spring Camporee, Henderson Scout Reservation
- 23 Camping Committee Meeting, Schenevus Central School 7 pm
- 29 Memorial Day - Always Remember

### **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.

“on-line” format and the new Centennial Award Commitment. Our thanks go to District Commissioner, Paul Berard and his commissioner staff in their efforts to turn this new process into a reality.

### **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 May 3. If you are interested or if you know of someone who might be interested in serving in a district capacity please contact any of the following nominating committee members:

Dr. Joseph Sellers (518) 234-7416 – Cobleskill

Prudence Danforth (607) 369-2007

Doug Decker (607) 278-6440

Al Clune (607) 563-2260

Or you may write, fax, or e-mail to the Deerslayer District c/o Otschodela Council, PO Box 1356, Oneonta, NY 13820 ATTN: Nominating Committee.

**District Annual Meeting is May 10, 2007 at the Schenevus Central School. All Committee Members, Commissioners, Members at Large, and Chartered Organization Representatives must attend!**

### **Eagle Scout Projects**

The “Eagle Project” committee have met and reviewed the projects of Eagle Scout Candidates. Some reviews take a little longer than others, but the committee will meet monthly and review as many projects as possible. The Committee Chair, Dennis Earl



has suggested that we bring in one new committee member each month so that the committee has a core of individuals who are familiar with the process. Unit leaders and or Committee Chairman will be contacted each month to secure a volunteer to sit on the committee. In this way the term of each member will be a maximum of five months. In this manner we expect to have someone in each unit who is familiar with the process and can assist the troop committee with ideas and suggestions for eagle projects.

### **New District Executive to Serve Deerslayer**

Otschodela Scout Executive Tom Wright is pleased to announce the appointment of John Kilmer to District Executive of the Deerslayer District serving Otsego and Schoharie Counties. Kilmer brings three years of professional Scouting experience in the Buffalo and Rochester areas to his new job. He is a “motivated, organized and driven person who will be an asset to Otschodela Council,” said Scout Executive Tom Wright. Kilmer replaces Jim Carter who retired after 17 years of service to Otschodela Council. Mr. Kilmer and his family are looking forward to meeting all the Scouts and volunteers in the council.

### **Congratulations**

To Nadine Harrison and Steve Gayle for receiving the District Award of Merit. The award will be presented at the Council Recognition Dinner which will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Oneonta on May 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The price of the dinner will be \$14.00 per person and reservations are due by April 27, 2007. Come represent our district and help honor Steve and Nadine for their contributions to our scouting program.



### **Spring Camporee**

Theme “Outdoor Sports and Skills” May 18th – 20th, 2007 will be located at the Middleburgh Rod and Gun Club. Troop 4 will be hosting the event. Some of the events will be archery, fly tying, tomahawk throw, shotgun shoot, and others. Fees will be \$4.00/person.

### **Youth Protection**

The National Office, Boy Scouts of America recently produced an updated 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.

### **Unit Rechartering**

As we approach May 1<sup>st</sup> we see our success as a district in rechartering all of our units using the new

# **BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION**

**WHEN:** June 16, 2007  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Henderson Scout  
Reservation  
Registration at Dining Hall

**WHO:** Cubmasters, Den Leaders, Interested Parents

**COST:** \$10 per person Includes LUNCH

The goal of BALOO is to provide the leaders with the skills and confidence necessary to venture into the great outdoors with their Cub Scouts with the result being a great first-time experience. The course focuses on program planning, health and safety issues, and some basic outdoor skills. **Be prepared for a day of fun and learning!!!**

**Remember – BSA regulations require that a minimum of ONE (1) member of your pack must have this training in order for your pack to go Family Camping.**



## **2007 B.A.L.O.O. REGISTRATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PACK # \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Otschodela Council salutes all of the Men and Women who have  
valiantly served our country's Armed Forces and continue to serve our  
nation around the world!  
God Bless America!**