Training EXPO 2020

On Saturday, February 1st, Hoosier Trails Council will be holding its annual Training Expo at Brown County Intermediate School. Over 40 breakout sessions will be held from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm with lunch provided with paid registration. Sessions will cover topics pertinent to leaders of all levels of Scouting ranging from outdoor cooking to planning council-wide events. This year there will be suggested tracks of sessions based on your leadership role in the BSA. We hope that you will save this date in your calendars and plan on joining us for a great day of learning. For more information go to www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org. If you have any questions, session ideas, or have a willingness to lead a session, reach out to Kevin.Trojan@scouting.org.

Eleventh Annual Wine-A-Ree

It is hard to believe it has been a decade since volunteers started the council’s largest single fundraising event. The eleventh annual Wine-A-Ree wine, beer and spirits tasting festival will be held Saturday, November 22nd, from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm at The Commons in Columbus, IN. Tickets are $25 in advance or $30 at the door. Unlimited tastings and a commemorative wine or beer glass are included in the price of the ticket. The VIP tasting hour will be from noon to 1 pm. VIP tickets are $45 and are limited. VIP guests will receive a special gift.

Tickets are available at the Viewpoint Bookstore in Columbus, Jackson County Visitors Center and This Old Guitar Store in Seymour, Village Lights Bookstore in Madison, and Levenstein’s in Greensburg, as well as through the council website at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org.

The event will include a silent auction with many interesting local items as well as collectable limited-edition pieces of sports and music memorabilia up for bid.

Vendors this year include Bear Wallow Distillery, Best Vineyards and Spirits, Butler Winery, Cardinal Spirits, Cedar Creek Brew Company, Cedar Creek Winery, Chateau de Pique Winery and Brewery, Chateau Thomas Winery, Ertel Cellars Winery, Hard Truth Distilling, Holtkamp Winery, Mallow Run Winery, Quaff On Brewing, and Winzerwald Winery. Returning again this year is de Tours of Indiana Wines. Food from First Class Catering will be available for purchase.

All proceeds benefit Hoosier Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America, which serves over 6,000 young people in 18 counties of south-central Indiana. For more information, call Jon Ocheltree at 800-844-6809. Visit the Wine-A-Ree Facebook event page or our Community site on Facebook.
From the Scout Executive’s Desk—
Scout Executive, Glen R. Steenberger

There have been many exciting occurrences in HTC since I last wrote:
- I am thrilled to report that the council achieved yearend membership growth by the end of October, which we have been unable to accomplish for a couple of years. A heart-filled thanks goes out to the volunteers and staff that made this happen, because of your efforts over 1,500 new Scouting families are receiving the magic of Scouting.
- Fellowship Hall support continues to grow, having received another half million dollars in support. Full construction drawings have been developed, along with a revised project cost estimate. To see the latest plans on this flagship facility, visit www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org and click on the Major Gifts Initiative page link.
- Speaking of websites, I would like to thank Vice President of Marketing, Shawn Heuchan, for his work to launch www.maumee50th.org. This site went live in October and will release new content frequently as we approach Maumee Scout Reservation’s 50th Anniversary in 2022. Images of campers and staff from the past, a collection of camp patches, the history of the property are all targeted at helping those who love MSR to better connect with the memories we have fostered over the years. It is going to be a big year-long party, so sign up to follow the site’s updates and stay in touch.

On a not-so-fun note, this year’s rechartering campaign will face a couple of new challenges:
- First, at time of printing this Trail Signs, we know that the Boy Scouts of America will be raising membership fees; however, the National Board has yet to vote on the amount of the increase. This increase will occur as a part of the recharter cycle that is upon us. I appreciate that this is not very user-friendly, but I am informed that it cannot be avoided and your unit should squirrel away some extra cash to cover the soon to be announced new fee structure.
- Secondly, every registered adult leader must complete the new Background Check Authorization Form, which includes all that are re-registered through the rechartering process. This is not a big deal, but it will take some extra effort to accomplish.

For more support and resources regarding the 2020 recharter campaign, visit: https://hoosiertrailsbsa.org/740

Lastly, I would like to address the root of the BSA membership fee increase. It is a direct result of insurance costs that have risen because of some in our ranks that have not adhered to BSA rules and trainings, which have resulted in members being hurt in one manner or another. In my role, I hear a fair amount of grumbling about having to abide by the Safe Guide to Scouting, or the need for completing Youth Protection Training so often. Our primary concern as an organization is the safety of our members and these tools help us to deliver great adventures for youth in a safe environment. I ask for your help in the enforcement of BSA regulations that are aimed at keeping our members safe.

Honored to be your Scout Executive,

Friends of Scouting 2020 Campaign

Time flies when you’re having fun, or should we say “fund”! It is hard to believe that its time to kick off another year’s Friends of Scouting (FOS) campaign, which is the primary source of program funding afforded to the Hoosier Trails Council. FOS is an opportunity for Scouting supporters to help continue the mission achievement of our movement and to further the impact that we have on the community around us. Scout units will be scheduling their FOS presentations between December and March, either at a Court of Honor, Blue & Gold Banquet, or other largely attended gathering, to give our Scouting families the chance to help pay the cost of administering the life changing programs delivered through Scouting in our 18 county territory. Please consider supporting FOS at least at the one Scout cost of $166 per year.

2019 Platinum Journey to Excellence Unit Recognition Program

The Hoosier Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America is striving to provide quality, meaningful programs to the young people in our area, to aid them in achieving their full potential in life. It is understood that the true benefit of the Scouting movement comes directly from our Scouting units and if we are to improve the standard of our programs, units will make the difference. In 2019, we will honor those units that go above and beyond the call of duty for the young people they serve. These special units will be designated as Platinum Level Journey to Excellence Units and will lead the way for the rest of the Council. This special recognition will not come easy, but will bring worthy praise and tools to continue to build and strengthen the unit.

Platinum Level Journey to Excellence Units will receive the following tokens for their heroic effort:
- Collector’s edition Council Shoulder Patch for each registered member of the unit.
- A framed Certificate of Achievement for the unit’s trophy case.
- HTC Summer Camp/Activity Discounts, $5 per Cub Scout Registrant, $10 per Scouts BSA Camp Registrant.
- Free cloth rank advancement for your recharter year.
- Special recognition in the Trail Signs on www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org and at the Annual Council Gala.
- A collector’s belt buckle for the unit leader.

In order for a unit to achieve this high recognition, there are seven elements that must be fulfilled:
- Attend Retention Convention and Join Scouts Recruitment Training.
- Provide a Scouts BSA summer camp/council activity (Cub Scouts) for Scouts and have an increase in youth participation over 2018.
- Achieve membership growth over December 2018, and recharter on-time.
- Achieve unit’s Friends of Scouting Goal. (Goal is established by Unit-Serving Executive and the unit leadership.) Must have presentation before June of current year.
- Partner with the Council by participating in the Council popcorn Sale and average $250/Scout in sales.

In order for Scouting to have the greatest impact on a young person’s life, we must retain Scouts in our programs as long as possible. Platinum Level Journey to Excellence Units will stand on the foundation of quality programming and strive to fulfill the promises of fun and adventure. Just as a Scout’s honor is sacred, as is your commitment to provide the best programming possible, and we hope to recognize your unit as Platinum Level Journey to Excellence Unit.

For more information about this program visit us at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org

HOW SCOUTBOOK NOW MAKES IT EASIER FOR DEN LEADERS TO ‘BE PREPARED’

Recently, a cross-functional team of some 20+ BSA employees has been developing an innovative set of Den Leader Experience features for Scoutbook, the free web app used by Scout leaders and parents alike. “We want to help new den leaders feel equipped and empowered to run awesome den meetings that the kids enjoy and that parents consider to be a valuable use of their family’s time,” says Ryan Hill, the BSA’s national director for digital marketing and strategy.

The new features simplify planning, preparing, and recordkeeping for den leaders beginning this fall. Rather than having to juggle leader books and other resources, den leaders can do everything they need from within the app—everything from organizing meetings for the year to preparing for their next meeting to tracking attendance and advancement. They will even be able to communicate with parents of absent Scouts about what their kids need to do at home to get caught up.

A big part of improving the den leader experience involves packaging the required adventures for each Cub Scout rank into about 12 meetings per year. “If you attend these required meetings, and your den leader simply keeps attendance in the app, then you have earned your advancement and you’ve benefited by the lessons of character and leadership that we’ve always designed for you to get out of Scouting,” Hill says.
Sustainability and Scouting

Sustainability is a consideration in both design and day-to-day actions. It means thinking about people, the environment, and systems, and how they’re all interdependent. It means not shortchanging tomorrow by just thinking about today.

For more than a century, the Boy Scouts of America has been a leader in conservation. In the next 100 years, Scouting is taking the initiative to a new level—from stewardship to sustainability, and from “leave no trace” to leaving the world a better place.

So, what guides sustainable thinking at the BSA?

- Demonstrating practices consistent with BSA organizational values of thrift and resourcefulness by reducing the energy and water our activities require
- Practicing good stewardship of human communities by providing healthy and attractive workplaces for our employees and volunteers
- Practicing good stewardship of the natural communities in which the BSA operates by enhancing natural system function and biodiversity
- Expanding the principles of Leave No Trace camping by carefully considering how the BSA uses materials and reduces waste within its operations
- Respecting the generosity of donors through the design of facilities that reduce or eliminate long-term operating costs to the organization
- Demonstrating leadership in sustainability through measurements and verification of their efforts, communication of their practices, and continual improvement

Learn more about the BSA’s approach to sustainability by visiting [http://www.greentodeepgreen.org/](http://www.greentodeepgreen.org/).
The study, titled "Merit Beyond the Badge," found that Eagle Scouts are more likely than men who were never in Scouting to:

- Regularly participate in outdoor and non-outdoor recreational activities in their leisure or free time.
- Be goal oriented and have higher levels of planning and preparation skills.
- Network with others and have closer relationships with family and friends.
- Volunteer for religious and non-religious organizations.
- Donate money to charitable groups and work with others to improve something in the neighborhood.
- Be in a leadership position at their place of employment and in their community.

The fact that a youth is an Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance. The award is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. Not every Scout who joins a Scouts BSA troop earns the Eagle Scout rank. This represents more than 2.25 million Scouts who have earned the rank since 1912. Nevertheless, the goals of Scouting—the mission of the BSA, citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness—remain important for all Scouts, whether or not they attain the Eagle Scout rank.

**Progression**

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, the highest advancement rank in Scouting, a Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific skills are required to advance through the ranks—Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life, and Eagle. To advance, a Scout must meet specific requirements ranging from tenure in a unit and leadership positions to the earning of merit badges.

**Merit Badges**

Merit badges signify the mastery of certain Scoutcraft skills, as well as helping youth increase their skill in an area of personal interest. Of the 136 merit badges available, 21 must be earned to qualify for Eagle Scout. Of this group, 13 badges are required, including First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communication, Cooking, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Camping, and Family Life. In addition, a Scout has a choice between Emergency Preparedness and Lifesaving, Cycling, Hiking, and Swimming, and Environmental Science and Sustainability.

**Service**

While a Life Scout, a Scout plans, develops, and gives leadership to others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, school, or the community. In addition to providing service and fulfilling the part of the Scout Oath, “to help other people at all times,” one of the primary purposes of the Eagle Scout service project is to demonstrate or hone, or to learn and develop, leadership skills. Related to this are important lessons in project management and taking responsibility for a significant accomplishment.

Recent Eagle Scouts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Troop</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Troop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Walter Peters</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>Logan William Addison</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Alan Vogel</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>Oto Rene Brauneller</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parker Carrington Scott</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>John Stewart Oliver</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Greyson McCartney</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>Denton Samuel Coffelt</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawson Alan Schroeder</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>Tyler Donald Rodgers</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Troop</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Troop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logan Thomas Hankins</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>John Edwin Lake</td>
<td>646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan Murray Ennis</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Ethan Thomas Teske</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase Christopher Jones</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>Zachary Allan Wettrick</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John David Thompson</td>
<td>170</td>
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</tbody>
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Webelos Transition

The passage from Cub Scout pack to Scouts, BSA troop should be smooth, with no time lost in between. By the time Webelos Scouts are ready to cross over, they and their families should be familiar and comfortable with the youth and adult leaders of the troop, their role in the troop and troop activities, and feel excited about beginning this new adventure. The Webelos Scout’s graduation ceremony should clearly signify the transition to a new level of Scouting, and could include the presentation of the Arrow of Light badge, a Scouts, BSA Handbook, and a troop neckerchief. A Webelos Scout who has earned the Arrow of Light rank has now completed all the requirements for the Scout badge and may join a Scouts, BSA troop. The key factor to improved Webelos transition is the ongoing working relationship of the leaders of a Cub Scout pack and a Scouts BSA troop. Ideally a community organization would have both a pack and a troop with leaders who work together to help move Webelos Scouts into a Scouts, BSA troop the same way schools move students from elementary school to middle school.

Council Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Order of the Arrow Lodge Leadership Development, Maumee Scout Reservation, 12975 West County Road 925 North, Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wine-A-Req – The Commons Mall, 301 Brown St., Columbus, 12:00 – 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Commissioner Cabinet Meeting, via WebEx, 7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hoosier Trails 5k Run/Walk – Ceraland, 3989 South 525 East, Columbus, 9:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Commissioner Cabinet Meeting, via WebEx, 7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-1</td>
<td>Maumee Scout Reservation Closed for Hunting Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Leader Position-Specific Training, Location To Be Determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Council Executive Committee Meeting, The Seasons Lodge, 560 State Road 46, Nashville, 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>White River Trails District Commissioner Staff Meeting, via WebEx, 7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-29</td>
<td>Thanksgiving, Council Service Center Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Unit Recharters Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**November**

**December**

**January**

2022-23 Calendar

- Regularly check our online calendar at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org for additional information and updates!
The Boy Scouts of America Highlights Anti-bullying Efforts Incorporated in Current Scout Programming

IRVING, TX (September 17, 2019) – Generation Z believes bullying is the biggest issue facing their generation, according to new data. A survey of American youth ages 6 to 17, commissioned by the Boy Scouts of America, found that bullying ranked as the top concern for young people on a community, national and global level.

The survey asked young Americans to prioritize their top five from a list of roughly 20 issues in the local community, the U.S. and the world. Thirty percent said bullying was one of the problems they most wanted to solve across the globe, and 32% said it was the biggest issue in the country. On a local level, Gen Z ranked bullying (28%), hunger (28%) and care for the elderly (27%) as the top three issues they see themselves helping to improve in their community.

From daily good deeds to service projects, the Boy Scouts of America has been actively working to equip kids with the tools they need to counteract bullying throughout their communities and daily lives. All Scouts participate in anti-bullying training and learn to live by the Scout Law, a foundational element of Scouting that includes 12 guiding characteristics that include being helpful, trustworthy and kind. In fact, a 2015 Tufts University study showed children involved in Cub Scouts were significantly more kind and helpful than non-Scouts.

“My son is in a local Scouting troop here in Lakeville, Minnesota and it has changed his life,” said Katie Dettmann. Her son Alden has autism. She says Scouts BSA is the first place where her son has not been judged. “It’s a peer group that’s very accepting and welcoming. He can take risks, try new things and grow with the encouragement and support of his peers.”

“Scouting is one of my favorite things I’ve ever been a part of. I’ve met people from all over the world and I get along with them. We learn so much from each other,” said Alden Dettmann. The desire for inclusivity and kindness resonates well beyond Alden’s family. According to the survey, 86% of young Americans said that not being bullied is a daily priority. And 97% said being kind to others is an important aspect of daily life.

Multiple Eagle Scout projects, a substantial service project that’s required to attain the program’s highest rank, have tackled bullying and inclusivity in recent years. One Scout even rallied his community to construct a musical playground that was fully accessible for students with physical or mental challenges. And merit badges offered by Boy Scouts of America, such as Disability Awareness and American Cultures, help kids understand and respect each other’s differences while building character and leadership skills.

This desire to help make the world a better place is inherent in Gen Z, according to the study. Seventy-six percent said they believe their generation has the ability to make positive change in the world. Other top issues they want to tackle globally are poverty (28%), human rights (26%) and access to education (24%).

Survey highlights:
- 97% of those surveyed said being kind to others is important
- 84% said they want to be a part of solving issues in the future in their community
- 79% said improving their community is very important
- 50% said the reason they focus on some of these issues is because their parents are passionate about them
- Bullying was the top concern among respondents with 28% of respondents seeing themselves helping improve bullying at the community level, 32% at the national level and 30% at the global level
- Other top concerns respondents want to help solve are hunger (28%) and care for elders (27%) at the local level, animal rights (28%) and recycling (28%) at the national level and poverty (28%) and human rights (26%) at the global level

For this edition of Trails Signs, I would like to send an important message to each Unit Commissioner and Scout Leader of Cub Scout Packs, Scout Troops and Venture Crews in the Hoosier Trails Council. My message is to urge the timely submission of your unit’s recharter packets to the Council Service Center. The rechartering of Scout units is an annual requirement of the National Scout Headquarters. Having our recharters submitted on-time ensures we have established a strong Scouting program and are delivering the promise of Scouting to our youth.

The consequences of not submitting your Re-charter on time are:
- Your unit Charter, in essence is suspended - you are not functioning as a legitimate Scout unit
- Scout Youth do not receive credit for rank advancements (this is especially critical for Scouts who are completed requirements for Eagle Scout rank)
- Boys’ Life subscriptions are suspended for youth
- Units will not be covered by the insurance offered through the Scouting program

* Scout Unit Recharter Packets are Due to the Council Service Center: December 2, 2019

In my last article in Trail Signs, I stated timely recharter is a goal that we can all accomplish ... So, let’s get an early start, now! Each Scout unit leader should have received their recharter packet at the October District Roundtable Meeting. Included in it are forms and a checklist of everything you need to complete the recharter your Scout unit. Once you review the contents of your recharter packet, please begin preparing what is needed to send your information to the Council Service Center. If there is something you don’t understand, “don’t fret or press the panic button!” – especially if you are a new leader to the Scouting program or are going through recharter for the first time ... this is where your Unit Commissioner comes in, and they are there to help you!

One of the primary responsibilities of the Unit Commissioner is to help Scout unit leaders to be successful. Unit Commissioners serve as advisors to assist Scout leaders and are an excellent resource in the recharter process. Commissioners are available to meet Scout leaders in person, discuss issues over the phone or by email to answer any questions Scout leaders have while going through the recharter process. If you need assistance and are not sure who your Unit Commissioner is, below are the District Commissioners in your area whom you should contact. They are very passionate about Scouting and will help get you started:
- Muscatacuck District Commissioner: Marissa Souza, Marissa.a.souza@cummins.com
- Wapahani District Commissioner: Randy Cox, bluegill@iccan.net
- White River Trails District Commissioner: Frank Dixon, Scoutmaster481@gmail.com

“...and get your recharter packet started today!

*Special Note to Remember: Your unit’s on time recharter renewal assists in your qualifying for Journey to Excellence status, too!

Lindsey A. Smith
Council Commissioner
lindseysamith614@gmail.com

James E. West Fellowship Award
This award is recognition for support of the Hoosier Trails Council, BSA Endowment Fund of $1,000 or greater. There are various levels of the award, depending upon the size of the gift. The council’s endowment fund provides annual operational support to the council from the earnings of the gifts made to the fund, which are held in perpetuity. James E. West Fellowships are a tremendous way to honor a new Eagle Scout, outstanding Scout leader, or other significant life events. This win-win stabilizes the success of our annual youth programming, while recognizing greatness. For more information, contact Glen.Steenberger@scouting.org.
Training
Hoosier Trails Council offers many great training opportunities for adults to understand the roles and responsibilities of leadership along with many other focus areas of interest to the Scouting program. Many trainings are available online or you can choose to take them in person at a location near you. We host numerous trainings throughout the year for your convenience focusing on topics that matter to you.

Update Your Training for Re-Charters
Re-charter time is quickly approaching and the number one item that holds us a charter from being completed on time is training. Leader training is a vital part to ensuring that you are providing a quality program for your Scouts and ensures that new leaders are comfortable in their roles. Many leaders are recruited in the last half of the year and we need to be sure they are supported with the most up to date training opportunities. Most leader trainings are available online and we also provide several opportunities throughout the year for face-to-face trainings. The first training that is expected from every adult leader is Youth Protection Training. This is a great session to learn what the BSA requires from all adult leaders who will be working with our most valuable asset – our youth. Please log onto our website to complete this training every two years and take a look at some of the other opportunities that you can take advantage of.

Advanced Leadership Training:
Each year, Hoosier Trails Council offers two of the best advanced leadership trainings opportunities available in the Boy Scouts of America. Leadership in your units continuously change and grow from year to year and it is important to arm your new members with the great knowledge, techniques, discipline, and strong habits that exist in some of our most noted leaders. National Youth Leadership Training (Youth) and Wood Badge (Adult) focuses on team-building, making ethical decisions, leading others, communicating, servant leadership, and planning. It is all put on by experienced youth and adult leaders with the most up-to-date resources that are provided by the BSA. If you are looking for a great opportunity for your older Scouts, Ventures, and adult leaders to learn some advanced leadership skills, these are the trainings they will need. Registration will soon open for the courses and you will be able to sign up on line. They are held at Maumee Scout Reservation each year and promise to be a great adventure for all Scouts and Scouter.

Training EXPO
All registered adult leaders may attend this event and take part in over 40 great training sessions. Topics change each year so plan to attend annually. This one-day event is designed to supplement many of the great Scout leader trainings that are currently offered. You will have an opportunity to participate in sessions that cover all areas of the Scouting program. We will also be offering leader basic training for any of your new unit leaders. Please save this event on your calendar and plan to attend on Saturday, February 1st, 2020 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at Brown County Intermediate School. Look for registration to open soon at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org Ideas for new courses? Questions? Suggestions? Contact Kevin.Trojan@Scouting.org.

White River Trails Training
Annually, we have the opportunity to provide training for many of our new unit volunteers. Please save this event on your calendar and plan to attend Saturday, February 1st, 2020 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at Brown County Intermediate School. Look for registration to open soon at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org Ideas for new courses? Questions? Suggestions? Contact Kevin.Trojan@Scouting.org.

2019 Program News
Vice President of Program
York Lemley
812-375-9706
Klemley@vanausdall.com
Program Director
Kevin Trojan
812-272-2368
Kevin.Trojan@Scouting.org

White River Trails District
District Chair
Marc Young
812.279.5304
oldfolksboogie1978@gmail.com
District Commissioner
Frank Dixon
812.361.3293
scoutmaster481@gmail.com
District Executive
Rod Kates
812.219.5880
Rod.Kates@Scouting.org

White River Trails Calendar
November
5
District Management Team Meeting, Bedford LDS Church, 1010 22nd Street, Bedford, 6:30 pm
7
District Roundtable, Odon United Methodist Church, 602 Elnora Street, Odon, IN, 47562 7:00 pm
21
Commissioner Staff Meeting via WebEx (Online), 7:30 pm
December
10
District Management Team Meeting, Bedford LDS Church, 1010 22nd Street, Bedford, 6:30 pm
12
District Roundtable, Odon United Methodist Church, 602 Elnora Street, Odon, IN, 47562 7:00 pm
17
Commissioner Staff Meeting via WebEx (Online), 7:30 pm
January
7
District Management Team Meeting, Bedford LDS Church, 1010 22nd Street, Bedford, 6:30 pm
9
District Roundtable, Odon United Methodist Church, 602 Elnora Street, Odon, IN, 47562 7:00 pm
16
Commissioner Staff Meeting via WebEx (Online), 7:30 pm

White River Trails District
Serving Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, and Orange Counties

White River Trails District
District Chair
Marc Young
812.279.5304
oldfolksboogie1978@gmail.com
District Commissioner
Frank Dixon
812.361.3293
scoutmaster481@gmail.com
District Executive
Rod Kates
812.219.5880
Rod.Kates@Scouting.org

Re-Charter!
I love second chances, don’t you? I appreciate the opportunity when I get another attempt to accomplish something that I didn’t make it the first time. I am talking about the Recharter process. Recharter, which, resets the membership for January 1st, is due by November 30. Just thinking about the possibility of having all units rechartered by the due date of November 30, is an amazing thought! Start now in setting up the meeting with your Charter Organization Representative to thank them for their support and share all that has transpired over the course of the year such as the activities the unit planned and carried out, awards earned and celebrated. While you are there, get the Annual Charter Renewal form signed. Should you need help, unit commissioners will be ready to answer questions and direct you. Additionally, the Council is always ready to assist with the ins-and-outs of the process. Finally, another part of the process is completing a Journey to Excellence scoresheet, which, is something the unit commissioners are quite familiar with.

Journey to Excellence
Bronze, Silver, or Gold. Each level is a representation of a unit’s efficacy at the National level. Additionally, the three levels indicate how well a unit is functioning. Some might think the scoresheet is like a report card. Not at all. It is a valuable tool that, like a doctor’s assessment, reveals the overall health of the unit in areas such as planning and budget, membership, program, and, volunteer leadership. Moreover, the leadership can use the scoresheet to help guide their planning of their year of Scouting and can refer to it as a checkpoint system during the year. The results allow unit leaders to understand what areas are doing well and which areas need attention. If time allows, modifications could lead to additional points and a better evaluation. If you should need help with the scoresheet, unit commissioners are trained to assist units with their evaluation. With recharter coming soon, your unit commissioner will be contacting you to do an assessment. What level will your unit achieve for 2019?
Great Successes
This year we had our annual Cub Scout Shoot-Off Re with a great turn out. We would like to thank everyone who not only attended this wonderful event, but we also would like to thank those who volunteered to put on such an enjoyable event. Many scouts and families alike had a great time with water bottle rockets, catapults, cork gun, BB Guns, and more. This was the first year of our newly expanded two-day event and it went on without a hitch!

In addition to having a very successful event to highlight we also had another great success in having the formation of a new Cub Scout Pack at the Islamic Center of Bloomington. We are very excited to open our organization to even more members of the great community that we have in Wapehani District, Pack 110 wants to show their excitement too. Here is a message that they want to share: Assalamu alaikum “Greetings of Peace” to the wonderful community of the Hoosier Trails Council. Five Bloomington families formed Pack 110 in August of 2019. Pack 110’s (jokingly called Pack 110% by leadership) chartered organization is the Openhearted Campaign- its mission is to strengthen understanding between Muslim Americans and all Americans. Lions and Tigers now meet weekly, and we hope to be able to include more dens as interest from our faith community grows God willing. Our Lions and Tigers are moving through the adventures with a unique curriculum in which the Scout Law and Scout Oath are emphasized by virtuous stories of the prophets in the Abrahamic tradition. Tiger Yusuf says his favorite part of the meeting is reciting the Scout Oath. Tiger Abid and Lion Fatimah mention “learning to help others” as the most inspiring. Tiger Wall and Lion Den give a resounding “We love Cub Scouts!” Thank you to Jonathan Sherfick, Kevin at the Scout Shop, and Pack 123 for all your help in getting us started and helping us “do our best”!

Nominees Needed! Recognize Our Outstanding Volunteers
The Wapehani District is proud to open nominations for our District Award of Merit, District Sparkplug Award, Cub Scouter of the Year, Boy Scouter of the Year, and Venture Leader of the Year. Forms will be made available at our October, November, and December Roundtables and on the Wapehani District page of http://www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org. The District Award of Merit is the highest award a volunteer can earn at the district level. It serves to recognize men and women who give service to Scouting on a broader level and provide service to their community. The District Spark Plug Award, Unit UnSing Hero Award, and other awards are district-specific awards. Requirements vary by award, so be sure to review the description on each nomination form.

Nominations for all awards are due no later than 5:00 pm on December 31, 2019. Nomination forms may be submitted via e-mail to jonathan.sherfick@scouting.org, via fax to (812) 333-2412, or via mail or in-person to Hoosier Trails Council, BSA, 5625 E. State Road 46, Bloomington, IN 47401. Scouting can’t happen without the outstanding volunteers devoting hours of time to our youth. Let’s make sure to give them a big hand!

Winter Rendezvous XXVI
Our council-renowned Winter Rendezvous is celebrating 26 years of winter fun and fellowship! Join us the weekend of January 17-19, 2020, at Maumee Scout Reservation for yet another action-packed installment of patrol-based, head-to-head competition and thematic fun. Your traditional favorites will be back and there are always a few surprises to keep Scouts on their toes! Registration will be opening online at http://www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org soon! Make sure to reserve your spot for this monumental event. We look forward to seeing you at camp this January!

Wapehani Calendar
November
7 District Management Team Meeting, Hoosier Trails Council Service Center, 5625 E. State Road 46, Bloomington, IN 47401, 7:00 pm
14 Roundtable, Liberty Christian Church, 2010 Liberty Church Road, Martinsville, IN 46151, 7:00 pm
16 Leader Position-Specific Training, Location TBD, 8:00 am
December
5 District Management Team Meeting, Hoosier Trails Council Service Center, 5625 E. State Road 46, Bloomington, IN 47401, 7:00 pm
12 Roundtable, Liberty Christian Church, 2010 Liberty Church Road, Martinsville, IN 46151, 7:00 pm
31 District Award Nominations Due to the Hoosier Trails Council Service Center
January
2 District Committee Meeting, Hoosier Trails Council Service Center, 5625 E. State Road 46, Bloomington, IN 47401, 7:00 pm
9 Roundtable, Liberty Christian Church, 2010 Liberty Church Road, Martinsville, IN 46151, 7:00 pm
17-19 Winter Rendezvous XXVI, Maumee Scout Reservation, 12975 W County Road 925 N, Norman, IN 47264

Scouting Indiana University Football Experience:
Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?! Hoosier Trails Council along with Indiana University is hosting its annual Scout Football Experience on November 1st and 2nd at the Mellencamp Pavilion and IU Stadium. We will start this event with of a slumber party type indoor campout with tons of games and activities throughout the evening. Scouts will be able to play and camp right on the indoor field as long as they want or until they fall asleep. The next morning, we will have a continental breakfast and a tour of the conditioning facilities that the players use. Then, it is game time! Come out and cheer on the Hoosiers as they take on the Northwestern Wildcats. This is a great opportunity for all Scouts and even if you are not a big sports fan, this is sure to be a lot of fun. More information and registration is on line. Please join us this year for a great game.

Cub Scout STEAM-O-Ree:
Calling all Cub Scouts! The Hoosier Trails Council is hosting its annual STEAM-O-Ree on February 15th at Brown County Intermediate School. Cubs of all ages and siblings can enjoy a full day of activities learning about computers, physics, engineering, mathematics, robotics, art, and much more. This event is great for the entire family and at a cost of only $15, you can’t go wrong. Come out and gain lots of new ideas for activities and experiments that you can take back to your Pack and spend the day in beautiful Nashville. This event fills up fast and is sure to bring knowledge and adventure to your Scouts. Please remember to pack a sack lunch or enjoy some of the great restaurants located close by for your convenience. Register on line at www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org and look for more information at your Roundtable meetings.

Cub Scout Camping & Activities
This year has a lot to offer to the Cub Scouts in your Pack. We defiantly don’t want you to miss out on anything! Check out some of these great opportunities.

Cub Scout STEAM-O-Ree:
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Scouts, BSA Summer Camp
Scouters, it’s never too early to start thinking about Summer Camp. We have campsite reservations live at this time and our full menu of merit badges and programs will be available on December 1st. Please reserve your spot today by visiting the council calendar and selecting your desired week and campsite. A lot has happened since summer and we have much more to expect for next season. We will open the fourth year of our Mountaineer Challenge – The Hiveranno. This is a great program that tests your skills as a Scout and gives you an idea of what life was like back in the day. It is open to adult leaders and Scouts that are First Class and above. More facility and campsite improvements have been made and we are waiting to host your adventure of a lifetime. This year, we are excited to welcome our new Camp Director, Tom Gregory, to the reins. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience and is excited to start his new role. Come to Roundtable or join us at the Training EXPO in February for more information or visit www.HoosierMaumee.org. As always, welcome to camp!
Hoosier Trails 5k Run/Walk

The fifth annual Hoosier Trails 5k will be held on Saturday, November 9th at Ceraland Park in Columbus, Indiana. It is our mission to encourage personal growth among area youth by promoting physical fitness and outdoor adventure. There is simply no better place to develop character and personal fitness than in the company of a small group of intrepid souls on a high adventure outing. High adventure works because it draws upon familiar Scouting values and puts them to the test. Preparation and physical fitness are not merely outcomes, they are part of the cost of admission. The Hoosier Trails 5K was conceived to help smooth your road to adventure by emphasizing the importance of physical fitness, sharing trip information between Scout units, and promoting teamwork.

As always, every entrant will receive a custom patch, and members of the same Scout unit will be formed into teams. There is also an option for a custom long sleeve performance shirt, ideal for keeping the sun and bugs off during warm months and keeping the heat in when it’s cooler outside. Awards will again be given to the top three individual Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing Scouts, and male and female Scouts. Better yet, the top three teams will each receive a customized flag totem and one lucky team will be randomly drawn to win a Lodge Outdoor Cooking Table.

Register online today at hoosiertrails5k.org, and we’ll see you there!

Boy’s Life

Since 1911, Boy’s Life has provided Scouts with a plethora of culturally relevant, educational, and entertaining material. The content comes in the form of articles, stories, and comic strips that have captured the interests of Scouts everywhere related to conservation, history, and healthy living, to name a few. For example, since 1947, “Pedro,” a fictional burro and mascot of the magazine, has been providing advice to Scouts and families on topics such as camping gear and skills, and solving problems associated with fishing, hiking, and other relevant topics related to Scouting. There is also the uplifting and exciting true story found in “Scouts In Action,” illustrating how a Scout helped others by using skills learned in Scouting to administer First Aid to an injured person or even saved someone’s life.

Additionally, the magazine provides opportunities for entering contests, purchasing gear, and learning more about high adventure trips that Scouts can build great memories to share for a life-time. With access to so much awesome content, the truth is a Scout can find just about anything in the magazine that will encourage them to do their best to Be Prepared. For Life. Boy’s Life is published in three different demographic editions which includes Cub Scouts (6-8 yrs. and 9-10 yrs.), and the other edition for 11yrs. and up. The great news is the cost is only $1.00 per month ($12 per year) for members of the Boy Scouts BSA. The great news is the cost is only $1.00 per month ($12 per year) for members of the Boy Scouts BSA.

Order of the Arrow

Fall Fellowship

The Brotherhood was defiantly awake at camp! What a wonderful theme and weekend for the Fall Fellowship. This event provided a lot of opportunity for fun, training, and a lot of activity with friends. Scouts and Scouters enjoyed some time together and a lot of cool activities kept the attention of our members. We also held elections for lodge positions for the 2019-2020 year. Please join me in congratulating Jonathan Kipper as our returning Lodge Chief and his team of Vice Chiefs, Chase Sears, Jon Drake, Chandler Day, Jace Bontrager, Jackson Meuchan, and Sydney Anderson. For a complete list of officers, visit www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org. We will honor them and our newest Vigil members at the Winter Feast on January 4, 2020.

2020 River Pass and Lodge Dues

The River Pass is a one-time payment for all the events of the up-coming year. It is only $75. You will be preregistered to all the events the river pass covers. The 2020 River Pass is now available on line and can be purchased along with your annual dues which is $15 for the 2020 year.

Muscatatuck District

Serving Bartholomew, Dearborn, Decatur, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, and Switzerland Counties

Muscatatuck Merit Badge Day

The annual Muscatatuck Merit Badge Day will be held Saturday, February 22nd. The location for this year’s great event will be the same as last year, The Jennings County Middle School, 820 W. Walnut Street, North Vernon. Sessions will run from 9:00 – 3:55 as in the past and please plan to arrive with enough time to check in and start on time. This year we will offer more than 15 merit badges including, Photography, Disabilities Awareness, Environmental Science, Engineering, Personal Management and many more. This is a great event put on by the Muscatatuck Program committee and offers a great start for new Scouts to begin the trail to Eagle while also allowing the older Scouts to earn additional Merit Badges of interest. Adult trainings will also be offered including but not limited to a class on the dos and don’ts of the Board of Review process. Lunch will be offered by the Muscatatuck District Committee and District Commissioners at a nominal fee and all proceeds will go into our district account to add to the annual program “perks” we will be able to offer our Scouters throughout the year. Stay tuned for more information to come out soon regarding the Merit Badges and courses being offered this year.

Muscatatuck Calendar

November
2 13th Annual Hoosier Trails Wine A Ree, The Commons Mall, 301 Brown St., Columbus, Noon – 6:00 pm
5 Muscatatuck District Management Team Meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 7:15 pm
9 5th Annual Hoosier Trails 5k Run/Walk, Ceraland, 3989 South 525 East, Columbus, 11:00 am
12 Muscatatuck Commissioner meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 6:00 pm
12 Muscatatuck Roundtable, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 7:15 pm

December
3 Muscatatuck District Management Team Meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 7:15 pm
10 Muscatatuck Commissioner meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 6:00 pm
10 Muscatatuck Roundtable, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 7:15 pm

January
7 Muscatatuck District Management Team Meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 6:30 pm
14 Muscatatuck Commissioner meeting, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 6:00 pm
14 Muscatatuck Roundtable - Fireside Chat, 1st United Methodist Church, 240 W. Poplar St., North Vernon, 7:15 pm

District Chairman
Dale Harden
513.478.2583
daleharden@gmail.com

District Commissioner
Marissa Souza
317.599.7579
marissa.a.souza@cummins.com

Field Director
Jon Ochteltree
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District Executive
Scott Mytyk
812.336.6809
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To register for the Muscatatuck Merit Badge Day please visit www.hoosiertrails.org. The cost is $20 per registrant with a $5 per registrant discount available for Packs, and a $10 per registrant discount for adminstrators. The fee includes a Merit Badge packet, meals, and entry into the Winter Feast on January 4, 2020. We will honor them and our newest Vigil members. We will also be offering a $10 discount to all Merit Badge Days participants in the Muscatatuck Roundtable.

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Order of the Arrow

Fifth annual Hoosier Trails 5k will be held on Saturday, November 9th at Ceraland Park in Columbus, Indiana. It is our mission to encourage personal growth among area youth by promoting physical fitness and outdoor adventure. There is simply no better place to develop character and personal fitness than in the company of a small group of intrepid souls on a high adventure outing. High adventure works because it draws upon familiar Scouting values and puts them to the test. Preparation and physical fitness are not merely outcomes, they are part of the cost of admission. The Hoosier Trails 5K was conceived to help smooth your road to adventure by emphasizing the importance of physical fitness, sharing trip information between Scout units, and promoting teamwork.

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