Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony — Sunday, March 13, 3:30 PM
John Fryer, Eric Fryer, and Anthony Fryer
Co-starring Mrs. Julia Pinto Fryer in the role of Mom

Almost here! The Eagle Court of Honor for Anthony Fryer, Eric Fryer, and John Fryer will be held at St. John’s Episcopal Church at 3:30 PM on Sunday, March 13. At this time, these three scouts will be formally invested with the rank of Eagle Scout. All are welcome. There will be light refreshments after the ceremony.

This event is unusual in that the three scouts are not only brothers, but they share the same birth date. And all three completed their Eagle projects (and Eagle requirements) on the last weekend before their 18th birthdays. Many of you helped in that marathon effort, with the best outcome resulting.

You know these guys, come celebrate with them!
The Signaler – Troop 264’s Newsletter!

Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony
Sunday, May 22, 6:00 PM

Adam Russell and Matthew McDonald

The Eagle Parade continues! Troop 264’s next Eagle Scout ceremony takes place on May 22. At that time, Adam Russell and Matt McDonald will be officially awarded their well-deserved Eagle rank in a public ceremony. The location will be the church hall at St. John’s, you know the location well. Come out and show your support for Adam and Matt, and Troop 264. Another calendar must-do!

Welcome, New Scouts, to Troop 264!

We welcome the new scouts and parents bridging from Cub Scouts into Boy Scouts (or starting Scouting for the first time) starting this month of March. Scouts from Pack 434 lead the way but they are not the only ones! We anticipate a large and active group of new scouts for the coming year.

Our Senior Patrol Leader (Sam Jones) and his staff, and the adult leadership at T264, stand ready to answer the many questions that will inevitably arise. Just ask! And expect it to take a little while before comprehending how Troop 264 and Boy Scouts runs, as it operates differently than Cub Scouts and with rules and procedures that may be more difficult to discern.

Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign
Scout Parents/Guardians, Scouters, and Supporters of Troop 264

Thank you to all who have contributed to the 2016 Friends of Scouting Campaign. For those of you who have not yet contributed, please consider doing so at your first opportunity, and return your check (payable to NCAC-BSA) to the following address:

Norman Strickman
2008 Rose Theatre Circle
Olney, MD 20832

All contributions are greatly appreciated, and will provide our National Capital Area Council the financial means to continue providing an outstanding Scouting experience.

Norman Strickman, Campaign Coordinator, Troop 264
nstrickman@comcast.net/301-570-4712

Troop 264 Facebook Page

It’s available at https://www.facebook.com/groups/T264Olney/. Mrs. Josey Simpson moderates this site and does an excellent job at transferring events and notices sent out to the troop by Mr. Bickel. Presently there are about 70 members in this closed group. To sign up, contact Mrs. Simpson at joseysimpson@verizon.net.
Troop 264 Shotgun Fun Shoot

Did you know Skeet Shooting has been an Olympic sport since 1968?

**What:** The Troop will provide a safe environment to introduce shotgun shooting at moving targets. Safety will be our number one priority.

**Where:** Prince Georges Trap and Skeet in Glendale, MD

**When:** **Saturday,** March 19th, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Sign up closes on Saturday, March 12th

**How will it work:** Participants will receive one-on-one instruction from an NRA Certified Shotgun Instructors and dedicated supervision from an NRA Certified Range Safety Officer. All participants must attend (and pay attention during) the mandatory safety briefing starting promptly at 10:00 am in order to participate in the event. Participants will be organized into experienced and inexperienced groups to provide differing levels of instruction. Experienced participants are defined as possessing a shotgun merit badge, a hunter’s safety card or other tangible proof of shotgun proficiency. We will have youth and adult sized firearms in both 20 gauge and 12 gauge. Our goal is to cycle experienced participants through at least one round of skeet (25 shots) and inexperienced through at least 3 rounds of 5 shots at station 7. Priority will be given to scouts and then adults as time permits. Limited to 20 participants.

**What do participants need:** Participants will need only a troop permission slip (see page 19), a Troop-264 Firearms Release, $20-25 dollars and the ability to follow instructions. All clay targets, ammunition, firearms, hearing and eye protection will be provided.

**Safety:** Safety is our utmost concern. We utilize trained and certified personnel in a strictly controlled environment to maintain safety. As such, all participants are required to attend the mandatory safety briefing which will detail our procedures and rules. We strictly follow and enforce these protocols. All firearms will be sequestered as they arrive to the event and remain in the custody of the instructors until disbursement at the conclusion of the event. Ammunition will only be managed by certified instructors and RSOs. Participants are not permitted to bring any ammunition with them to the event. Participants will receive ammunition from instructors only when prepared to fire. Ammunition will be dispensed one-shell-at-a-time with the exception of doubles on the experienced range. Anyone desiring to utilize their personal shotgun must gain permission from Mr. Kinzer prior to this event and will be subject to the same rules above.

*For more information, questions or to sign up please email Mr. John Kinzer at John.Kinzer@verizon.net*
Nuclear Science Merit Badge at Penn State – March 19 – CANCELLED

First we were invited, and then we weren’t. Troop 264 will not be attending the Nuclear Science merit badge at Penn State this year, I'm sorry to say. In mid-February, the organizers suddenly cancelled the alternative April date and forced all the troops to reapply for the March 19 date. Although I did so within an hour of the notice to reapply, the word I received yesterday (after I made a specific inquiry) was that T264 did not get in during the second round. We will try again next year, and hopefully by then the event will be under better management.

All is not lost, however, this eliminates the conflict with the Hawk Patrol's Shotgun / Goddard Space Center weekend on March 19-20, as announced immediately above.

~ Dale Bickel

Merit Badge Madness – April 1-3

Less than a month to go, and we have 25 scouts signed up and confirmed for their merit badge selections. All scouts should be focused on completing the requirements for their particular merit badges, in order to complete the merit badge at the campout.

This event also presents a great opportunity to complete requirements for rank advancements or the Cooking merit badge. Toward that end, we need 5-6 scouts willing to take on that task. Meals include Sunday breakfast/lunch/upper and Sunday breakfast. Contact Mr. Dale Bickel at connect264@verizon.net if interested.

Getting There: Scouts can arrive anytime Friday after 6 PM. The location is at the Annapolis Christian School, 109 Burns Crossing Road, Severn, MD. MD 108 East to MD 32 East to MD 170, turn left to go under the bridge, then right onto Old Mill Road, left on Burns Crossing Road, and right into the Annapolis Christian School. About 45 minutes distant from Olney. We will try to arrange car pools.

Tents: Please contact Mr. Dale Bickel at connect264@verizon.net if you need a tent. We will have a number of troop tents available, also scouts/adults can bring personal one or two man tents. We are limited on space so scouts should expect to share troop tents. Pick your buddy now. No “castle” tents, if yours is too big you may need to use a troop tent instead.

Chairs: Bring your own folding chair.

Food: We will determine that once we know who is planning on doing cooking. Cost might not be available until the end of the event.

Blue Cards: Merit badge blue cards will be obtained from Mr. Bogan for the group. Scouts will not need to request blue cards individually.

Skating Merit Badge: Scouts doing the Sunday morning Skating merit badge must bring their own roller skates in order to complete the merit badge that day.

Fire: Elevated fire pit only. We ask everyone to bring a few pieces of wood for the fire.

Weather: Watch for it and prepare for it. Some merit badges are inside, but many are outside the entire day.
Payment} has already been submitted for each of the scouts and adults in the list below. If you have not done so, please return to Dale Bickel $15 per scout, $7 per adult. Checks can be made out to “Dale Bickel” (not the troop. Thanks to Those who have already paid!

Here is the current roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Scout</th>
<th>SA1</th>
<th>SA2</th>
<th>SU</th>
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<td>Cit Comm 2</td>
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<tr>
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Adults:

T264 Dale Bickel
T264 John Delaney
T264 Joan Geller
T264 Kevin Hopson
T264 Rekha Patel
T264 Wesley Wisner
T264 Buddy Meador
T264 Deirdre Christianson
T264 Russell Cotton

Medical Forms: All scouts and adults must complete and bring Parts A and B of the BSA Medical form that can be downloaded at [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf)

A doctor’s visit is not necessary for Part A and B.

(However, a doctor’s visit and completion of Part C will be required before a scout or adult can use this form for summer camp or a High Adventure trip. Plan ahead with your doctor’s appointment soon.)

Permission Slip: All scouts must bring a completed permission slip (see Page 18).
White Oak District Camporee – April 22-24
2016 Theme: Patrol Games

The White Oak District Camporee will be a competition based on basic Scout Skills. The event is patrol based and will test how well the Patrol works together. There are a total of 50 campsites currently reserved [at Greenbelt National Park], forty sites for patrols (each patrol should be comprised of five to ten scouts) and ten sites for unit leaders and other volunteers who will run the ten event stations. After 40 patrols have been registered, we will evaluate the addition of additional campsites with the National Park Service.

Scouts will function as a patrol, cook and eat together, and will be responsible for “development” of their campsite. The campsite will be inspected for the qualities of a Scout Campsite (lashed camp gadgets and other improvements add points). The patrol will be evaluated for its organization and leadership. Uniform, a patrol flag, yell, and other patrol “qualities” identified in the Scout handbook will be judged. [Ribbons and patches and glory and bragging rights are on the line!]

Scout skills will include knowledge and actions in: Citizenship; Fire building and safety; Flag etiquette and procedures; First Aid “Hurry” cases; Map reading and use; Physical fitness; Rope techniques, knots, and lashings; Knife, ax, and saw; Swimming skills; Nature.

Carefully read the sign up info and DOWNLOAD the Camporee Guidebook! Sign up is by PATROL!!

This information from the White Oak District, and https://scoutingevent.com/?WhiteOak2016SpringCamporee

Small Boat Sailing Merit Badge – May 21-22
Baltimore County Sailing Center, Essex, MD

From the BCSC website at: http://www.bcsailing.org/boyscout.html. Sign up individually and arrange your own transportation. Essex, MD is on the northeast side of Baltimore. T264 scouts have done this and really enjoyed it.

$85. Ages 10-18. Prerequisite: Swimming merit badge or evidence of passing BSA Swimmer test.

This is a weekend-long course, please be available for the entire weekend. Typically the course is run Saturday 9AM - 5PM and Sunday 12PM - 4PM, however these times may change at the discretion of the instructor (via email).

This fun, two-day program is filled with sailing and seamanship, allowing scouts to earn the merit badge blue card. Under the close supervision of Boy Scout troop leaders and U.S. Sailing Certified Instructors, scouts will endeavor in land-based activities, and learn to sail Xcite [one person] sailboats, in order to fulfill the requirements for their merit badge. The BSA requirements for the badge can be found HERE.

Session 1: May 21-22, 2016 - REGISTER at https://bcsailing.formstack.com/forms/2016_bcsc_merit_badge
Laurel Caverns – June 3-4-5

Scouts — If you have not done this outing before, you will find this trip well worth the cost and effort!

First weekend in June, Troop 264 is headed to Laurel Caverns at Uniontown, PA (www.laurelcaverns.com), three hours distant from Olney. This weekend provides choices of activities for scouts and scouters, depending on age and interests. The cost is higher and the travel time longer than the usual campout, but you will find the weekend well worth the extra expense.

A quick summary of the activities and costs follows. Two costs are shown for some activities: the first is for the scout while the second is for an adult observer (an adult not participating in the merit badge, but who is watching the merit badge activities). Add up the activities to determine the cost.

_____ $18 – Upper Caving (Cave Exploration) – Saturday Morning (10 AM). All scouts and scouters are eligible to do Upper Caving. While Upper Caving is less strenuous than the Lower, this isn’t a kiddy walk. There are boulders and slopes and narrow places to be traversed, and flashlights are needed.

_____ $35 / $10 – Rappelling – Saturday Morning (10 AM). Scouts 12 and up can rappel two or three times off of a 40 foot high ledge inside the cave, under the guidance of instructors. Scary at first but you will be really pleased you did it. A small number of adults can come along as observers to watch the rappelling inside the cave, at $10 apiece.

_____ $25 – Lower Caving (Cave Exploration) – Saturday Afternoon (2 PM). Scouts must be at least 12 years old by June 4. Scouts and scouters will descend with a guide into the UNLIGHTED portion of the cave, armed with flashlights only, to see what lies below. At the bottommost point of the tour, Lower Cave participants will be more than 400 feet below the elevation of the entrance. Most passageways in the cave are 40 feet high and similar in width, but there is a short section near the beginning of the unlighted section that is narrow with some crawling required. No observers here, scouts and scouters tread the same path and hard hats for all. Expect to see bats and climb over rocks big and little, and have fun too. Lace-up hiking boots with good tread and ankle support 1-inch above ankle are required. Two good sources of light are required for everyone. No one was left behind in the cave last time, but we’ll try harder this year.

_____ $10 – Forestry Merit Badge – Saturday Afternoon (2 PM). After lunch on Saturday, scouts have the opportunity to complete the Forestry merit badge. Part of the work is done in a classroom, the remainder is completed in a field walk. No prerequisite work is required, other than reading the merit badge pamphlet. At least 2 troop adults must attend, no charge for adults.

_____ $18 / $10 – Geology Merit Badge – Sunday Morning at 9 AM. This gives you the opportunity to walk through a few areas of the cave that you did not see Saturday. Also a walk around the grounds above the cave to see various geological features on the mountaintop. Again, no prerequisite work is required, except reading the merit badge pamphlet. At least 2 adult observers are required, at a cost of $10 each. Those who do not sign up for the Sunday morning Geology merit badge can return to Olney right after we pack up at the campsite.

_____ $12 – Camping for two nights, at Ohiopyle State Park. We have reserved two group campsites which can hold a total of 40 people. The campsite is located about 18 miles from Laurel Caverns.
$12 – Saturday Lunch and Patch. There is not enough time to return to the campsite between the morning Cave Exploration and afternoon Rappelling/Forestry activities. So, we will bring lunch to you at the Caverns. Expect a variety of sandwich materials and lunch type foods. There are picnic tables at the site that we can use. Part of this cost includes a Laurel Caverns patch for all participants, which will be presented at the June Court of Honor.

If you have a food allergy and need to bring your own food, please advise when you sign up. We can make an appropriate adjustment to this amount.

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$15 (estimated) – Patrol Cooking. Because we expect to have a large group on this outing, cooking for Saturday morning, Saturday supper, and Sunday morning will be done within each patrol. That is, the scouts in the patrol will provide food for the scouts and adults assigned to it. Cost may vary depending on what the patrols decide to serve. This amount will be paid to the patrols at or just before the trip.

Scouts are encouraged to use this as an opportunity toward Cooking scout rank and merit badge requirements. Confer with your patrol to decide how this might best be done.

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Waiver Release Forms must be completed by each Rappelling participant, and by each Cave Exploration participant as follows:

• Each scout participating in the Rappelling must complete the waiver form at http://www.laurelcaverns.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2015-Rappelling-Release.doc, along with a parent or guardian. Completed waiver forms must be given to Mrs. Geller by early May.


-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Sign up with Mrs. Joan Geller (joangeller@hotmail.com) of the Eagle patrol. Please include a check for $50 per person which will go toward up-front costs that we must make toward Laurel Caverns reservations and the Ohiopyle State Park campsite. Also include a list of what activities the scout/adult plans to do. Adjustments can be made where necessary up into the beginning of May.

Lastly, to anyone that says “Oh, I’ve been there,” and drives to Luray Caverns in Virginia, expect to spend the weekend by yourselves. We’ll be at Laurel Caverns near Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Cub Scout Day Camp – June 20-24

At the February adult leader’s Roundtable, Mrs. Garcia-Parks announced that the Cub Scout Day Camp would be held June 20-24 at Our House on Zion Road. That makes Troop 264 the closest Boy Scout troop to this event and provides a fantastic opportunity for T264 scouts to rack up service hours toward rank advancement with a minimum of travel. Please consider volunteering for this event. A lot of help will be needed.

To volunteer, or for additional information, please send an e-mail to Mrs. Garcia-Parks at garcia_parks@yahoo.com.
Northern Tier 2016 – July 1 - 10

Two crews of scouts and Venturing crew members will be headed to the Northern Tier High Adventure base in Ely, Minnesota in 2016. From there, they will cross by canoe into the adjacent Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada.

We are on final approach to Northern Tier 2016. Flight plans have been made and the final ground transportation arrangements are being made. All registered participants must make these arrangements NOW:

Check your passport and make sure it will be good through July 2016 at least.

Apply for a Canadian RABC (Remote Area Border Crossing Permit) NOW, before the busy season hits. It will take 4 to 6 weeks to get this permit returned to you. You will need it in addition to your passport for the border crossing at Prairie Portage. It is most convenient to apply for this permit by mail: see the information at http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/canpass/rabc-pfre/menu-eng.html. Note: if sending by mail, don’t use any Forever stamps. International mail regulations require the denomination of the stamps or postage to be shown. Best to take it to the Post Office to mail it.

Schedule your doctor’s appointment now and get your BSA medical forms completed.

Please let Mr. Rich Tomlinson know as you complete the RABC and Medical forms ret103022@verizon.net

Lastly, Jim Bickel is expected at the meeting on Monday March 7 to answer any questions about Northern Tier.

Summer Camp at Camp Bowman, Goshen Scout Reservation, July 16-23

Time to start thinking about Summer Camp plans. Troop 264 will attend Camp Bowman at Goshen Scout Reservation on July 16-23, 2016. No merit badge list yet but we expect that soon. A signup sheet is available on pages 20 and 21 of this Signaler, complete it and turn it in with a check to Mr. Doug Long. Do this by April 20 to save money!

All summer camp participants will need to complete the BSA Medical Form, Parts A and B, and take Part C to a doctor for completion. Schedule your appointments early! The medical form is available as a PDF at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf.

The merit badge list is at:
You can give Mr. Long your list of preferred merit badges starting now. Please double check the times so that the courses don’t overlap.

Prerequisite work for some of these merit badges, in order to be able to finish them at summer camp:

The schedule for First Year Campers (new scouts is at:
Troop 264 has received an invitation from Seabase to the Bahamas! Specifically, a Tall Ship outing out of Marsh Harbor, Bahamas for one week starting July 22, 2017. For 20 persons.

Crew numbers code = Adventure/Arrival day of week/first date of adventure/identifying letter
Crew Number: BTSA072217A

To lock in our adventure, we need to send in a deposit before April 1. To cover this, the Troop will collect $100 per person from everyone who signed up previously. Please turn in checks for $100 made out to BSA Troop 264 to Mr. Al Barth. Scout credits may be used.

½ of the remaining balance owed to Seabase is due October 1, 2016, and the remainder will be due February 2017. Transportation arrangements will be made next year. Total cost will be around $1700.

Now at last count T264 had 26 scouts and adults with interest in a 20 person Tall Ship Seabase trip, either in the Bahamas or in the Florida Keys or both. This does not pose an immediate issue, it seems that there is always someone has to (reluctantly) cancel because of a change in plans. However, it is worth asking the question as to who is still interested in a smaller 6-8 person or 10-12 person boat in the Florida Keys? This invitation includes scouts not presently on the list. For we can put a request in for an open adventure when the list of open (unfilled) adventures comes out (probably in April). (If you want to see what this looks like, see Seabase Crew 2 at http://www.troop264olney.net/Signalers/2010-08.pdf.)

Toward that end, please e-mail connect264@verizon.net if you still have interest in a Florida Keys adventure. It is to be emphasized that doing so will not affect your standing with respect to the Bahamas Tall Ship outing. This is a survey only to gauge whether we need to consider this option. In addition, any scouts or Venturing Crew members who have not previously expressed interest can do so now, with the understanding that their request is secondary to the 26 persons who are on the list. Scouts must be age 14 by the start date of the trip, or 13 and finished the 8th grade.

The three principal levels of Boy Scout youth leadership training are summarized below. While there is no requirement to participate in any of these BSA leadership training opportunities for rank advancement, our troop strongly encourages all Scouts to take ILST at least once, and all boys aspiring to troop-level leadership elective office (e.g., SPL, ASPL) to take NYLT. For additional official BSA Youth leadership training information, please visit http://www.scouting.org/Training/Youth.aspx.

**LEVEL 1: Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)**
For Scouts ages 10-15

*Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST)* is the first level of formal BSA ‘servant leadership’ training. While ILST is designed to introduce Boy Scouts 10 to 15 years old to key leadership principles in a fun and engaging way, this training is also appropriate for Scouts of any age who have not had the opportunity to take any official BSA youth leadership training previously. It is recommended that all boys
take ILST one or more times during their Scout career to help them explore the challenges and rewards of stepping up, in a prepared way, into Patrol- or Troop-level leadership positions. ILST is offered by Troop 264 once or twice a year, typically on a single Saturday morning (~8am to 12:30pm) in late spring and/or in mid-Fall (2016 date(s) to be determined). The venue may change but has been St John’s Church in recent year. NOTE: Successful completion of ILST is a prerequisite for the more advanced BSA youth leadership training described below.

LEVEL 2: National Youth Leader Training (NYLT)
For Boy & Venture Scouts age 14-18

The next step in the BSA Youth Training continuum is National Youth Leader Training (NYLT; also called IMPEESA in the NCAC Council) which is offered by the Council as a week-long residential camp, or sometimes as two long weekends. Visit this link for additional information and registration instructions: http://www.ncacbsa.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=118944&id=249876

The following are NCAC 1-week-long summer course dates for 2016:

- June 19 – 24
- July 10 – 15
- July 31 - August 5

NYLT courses are ‘away’ training camps. Once again, the venue for all 2016 camps will be the American Legion Youth Camp at 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD (about a 1h drive south from Olney area). The objective of the NYLT program is to equip Scouts with ‘servant leadership’ skills to help them succeed in their scouting program, and in life. NYLT brings together Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts from all over the Council to learn and practice leadership techniques in a programmatically well-organized, engaging, risk-free, Scout-friendly environment. This training is aimed at older Scouts (14 to 18 year olds) aspiring to serve as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL), Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) or other Troop- or Crew-level leadership positions. A maximum of 2 boys from a single troop is allowed to enroll in a single NYLT training course. Pre-requisites include successful completion of ILST and recommendation of the Scoutmaster.

Read Gavin Mangolas’ summary of the 2015 NYLT camp that he attended in 2015 as he was nearing Eagle rank: http://www.troop264olney.net/Signalers/2015-09.pdf?page=7

LEVEL 2a: NYLT Leadership Academy
For Boy & Venture Scouts ages 14-18

Though not technically a youth leadership training level, there is another tremendous opportunity related to NYLT. It is called NYLT Leadership Academy (www.NYLT-LeadershipAcademy.org; flyer at: www.scouting.org/filestore/training/pdf/NYLT_Leadership_Academy_Flyer.pdf). The following are 2016 course offering dates:

- Two one-week-long course offerings in Summer:
The NYLT Academy trains older Scouts to be top-notch presenters, evaluators, and leaders of their councils’ National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) courses. This intensive one-week course will improve course (NYLT) knowledge and problem-solving skills necessary to run world-class NYLT programs. Youth eligibility requirements include 1) have served, or have been selected to serve, on the youth staff of your local council’s NYLT, 2) have completed NYLT, 3) First Class rank or above; or a Venturer, 4) 14 years of age by opening day of course, but not yet 18; or if a Venturer not yet 21 years of age, 5) willingness to take back to your council’s NYLT the knowledge and skills acquired at the NYLT Leadership Academy.

LEVEL 3: National Advanced Youth Leader Experience (NAYLE) For Boy & Venturing Scouts age 14-21

LEVEL-3: The third and most advanced level of official Scout leader training is National Advanced Youth Leader Experience or NAYLE. It is offered both to qualifying young men and women (ages 14-21) most weeks during the summer at Philmont and, newly, on a more limited basis at all 3 of the other BSA High Adventure Bases (Northern Tier, Sea Base, and Bechtel Summit). NAYLE is the ultimate in training experiences for youth leaders who have successfully completed ILST and IMPEESA/NYLT. It is conducted for older Scouts and Ventures who have the potential for being on the staff of the council junior leader training or youth leader training conference. Scouts and Ventures must be at least 14 by the program start date but not 21 by its conclusion.

We hope Scouts will strongly consider the many opportunities offered by Troop 264, our local Council and the BSA National Council to learn, hone and grow their leadership knowledge, skills and abilities. And it all begins with completion of ILST! Please contact me if you have any questions. YIS,

Gary Sherman
Gary B. Sherman, MS, DVM, PhD
Tr 264, Assistant Scoutmaster,
Youth Leadership Training Coordinator
garybsherman@outlook.com
Cell: 301-651-9639 Home: 301-476-8191

2016 Duty to God Award

The new 2016 Duty to God "Mountain" Patch has been released! All Scouts and Crew members interested in earning their Duty to God Patch, please contact Dr. Paul Fowler at prfowler9@gmail.com or the Chaplain's Aide, Joey U.
Still time to join up!
Nursing Home Visit – February 27

The Eagle Patrol had an excellent turnout for the February 27 nursing home visit. Thank you Eagles for helping to brighten the day for some of our senior citizens!

Scouts: Daniel G.  Ian W.  James F.  Isaac S.  Eric L.
Adults: Mr. Paul G.  Mr. Wesley W.  Mr. John F.  Mrs. Barbara L.  Mr. Martin P.

The Crusader Patrol is on the calendar for Saturday, March 26. Patrol members take note and plan to attend!

Hawk Patrol has April 30 (corrected date).

Pack 434 Bridging Ceremony – February 28

I wanted to extend a huge thank you to you, Don and the Troop for coming out to support us for the Arrow of Light crossover ceremony. You and your Scouts did a magnificent job and really made an impact on our boys. I will tell you that one of them, … who was undecided before the ceremony, was really excited by the ceremony, the ceremonial arrow and the whittling book we gave him and has decided he DOES want to join 264 w/ his friends after all. All of the boys were talking about their plans last night after the event. I am looking forward to getting started with 264 and will see you at the next Troop meeting.

Again, thank you. I'm very gracious.

Ben Sullivan
[former] Web2 Den Leader, 434

Thanks to our ceremonial Indians: Sam J., Matt D., Morgan M., Daniel G,

New 2016 Rank Requirements in Effect as of January 1, 2016

Scouting’s new rank requirements went into effect January 1, 2016. The new requirements add items at every rank level, from Scout Rank to Eagle. Scouts may complete the current rank they are working on under the old requirements, up to December 31, 2016. Scouts starting a new rank must use the new requirements, including all new scouts coming into T264. On January 1, 2017, the new requirements apply to all scouts.

A side by side comparison of the new requirements (left) versus the old requirements (right) has been posted. We suggest that you print it and include it with your scout book (edition prior to 2016) to provide a reference to the new items, and to provide a place to document completion of these items.

Because of its length, we do not include the side-by-side comparison here, but you can get it at:

Adult Opportunities for the National Jamboree in July 2017

Regular BSA troops and crews do not apply to attend the National Jamboree as a unit. The way this works, is that Council has 12 "troop" allotments for the 2017 National Jamboree. Each "troop" is made up of scouts from all over the Council. These are led by a designated Scoutmaster (who might be from anywhere in the Council), and 2 Assistant SMs and a young adult leader (who would be 18-21 in July 2017). Cost for leaders and scouts alike is $1250.00 (reduced cost expected for the youth leaders).

The e-mail below is to anyone who might be willing to apply for the position of Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or Youth Leader for one of these provisional troops.

Alternatively, adults can apply to work at the Jamboree for a half session ($425) or the whole session ($850). See the info at http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/volunteers/. Mr. Tony Laing can provide details as to how this works, having worked part of the last Jamboree.

----- Original Message ----- 

NCAC Adult Leader Applications
2017 National Scout Jamboree

The National Capital Area Council is now accepting applications for 2017 National Scout Jamboree Troop and Crew Leaders. The 2017 Jamboree will held July 19 – 28, 2017 at the Summit Bechtel Family Reserve in West Virginia. NCAC plans to send 12 Scout Troops and 2 Venturing Crews to the Jamboree.

To have a successful Jamboree, the Council requires qualified and committed adult leadership. Troops require three adult leaders over the age of 21, a Scoutmaster and two Assistants and one adult between the ages of 18-21 to serve as Third Assistant. Crews require male/female adult leaders over the age of 21. Based on interest, a Council Leader Selection Committee will review all applications for leader qualifications and experience and conduct interviews of qualified applicants in early 2016.

Adult leader applicants should register online at the 2017 National Jamboree and complete NCAC Jamboree Unit Leader Experience Survey (links below). NCAC Unit Leader Experience Survey must be submitted to the Council Office (BSA – NCAC, Attn: Jamboree Leader Selection, 9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814) not later than November 30, 2015.

Council Survey: http://www.ncacbsa.org/jamboree
Jamboree Registration: http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/jamboree-registration

Don Durbin | Director of Camping Services
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
National Capital Area Council
Marriott Scout Service Center
9190 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20814
O (301)214-9188 | C (240)298-8328
F (301)564-9513
E don.durbin@Scouting.org
Tell It to Mr. Matyas!

Mr. Gary Matyas is the troop’s Advancement Chair, which is a fancy (and understated) way of saying that he keeps track of all the rank advancements, merit badges, and other awards that all the scouts earn. Plus completed training for the adults, that isn’t done online by registered scouters at http://myscouting.scouting.org. This is a big job, as you can imagine, particularly in the weeks before a Court of Honor.

You can help. Just drop an e-mail to Mr. Matyas at grymat@comcast.net for any of the following. Include the scout’s name, what the e-mail is relating to, and the date(s):

Rank advancements that may not go through the 3 person Board of Review (BOR). Generally, this applies to Scout rank, most other BORs are administered by Mr. Greenspon.

Service project hours outside the troop, that a scout wants to use to meet a rank advancement or merit badge requirement. This might include, for example, an event outside of scouting where the hours are not being applied to some other purpose, whether inside or outside of scouts. Even if you mark the hours in your Scout Handbook, they aren’t entered into the troop database if you don’t say something. So report them early, before your Scoutmaster conference. Include a short description of the project(s) along with the date(s) and hours.

Eagle project accounting. At the end of each Eagle project, the scout assembles a table of who worked how many hours. Please provide a copy to Mr. Matyas so that he can credit project hours to each scout in the list.

Events not in the Signaler. Mr. Matyas uses the Signaler record to establish scouts’ participation record, so he won’t know of anything not published there. The best solution for that is to put an article in the Signaler, and give public credit to those who participated.

Your attention to these small matters will improve the function of the troop, and thank you in advance for your assistance!

Video Training for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class

Scouting.org has videos available to help scouts with the rank requirements of Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. These short videos include the current requirements listed for Tenderfoot through First Class. It is not clear whether the videos no incorporate the new 2016 requirements, but they can still help.

http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Applications/RankVideo.aspx

Troop Activity Policy

Please be reminded that it is troop policy (and common courtesy) for a scout or scouter to pay the costs associated with an event he or she has signed up for but did not attend, without being asked. No-shows increase the costs to the troop and the participants, require the troop to reserve unneeded space and transport excess equipment, and results in wasted food and materials. We realize that situations inevitably will occur that prevent a scout from attending events, and ask that the scout or scouter contact the person organizing the event right away. If the conflict is raised early enough, adjustments can often be made where food has not yet been purchased or reservations have not been finalized.
Getting Credit for Troop Activities

It’s important that everyone who participates in Troop 264 campouts, trips, and community service activities gets credit for their hard work. The Signaler provides the permanent record of everyone who attends these events. Patrol leaders need to take responsibility for collecting the names of participants in their patrols and send those lists, preferably by e-mail, to the Signaler staff by the monthly deadline. E-mail lists to connect264@verizon.net.

Troop and Crew Drivers’ Info Update Needed

Each Boy Scout troop and Venturing Crew is required to maintain some basic information about the adult drivers that may be transporting scouts to and from events. This information is kept confidential and is only used to apply for BSA Tour plans, which are required for all trips outside the NCAC Council area, and for specific kinds of activities within the Council. So that we can keep our records current, please complete the attached form with current information and return it to Mr. Dale Bickel. Thanks in advance for your assistance!

Name(s): _______________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

City, State: ________________

Phone number: ___________________ E-mail address: _________________________

Vehicles (Make, Model, Year) ________________________________________________

and No. of Seatbelts _______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

My insurance meets state standards:  Y  /  N

BSA Youth Protection online training is current (if known)?  Y  /  N
INFORMATION PAGE

Attention: Board of Review (BOR) Procedures

**Board of Review (BOR)**

Any scout needing a Board of Review should call Mr. Walt Greenspon @ (301) 774-5394 no later than two Sundays (8 days) before the scheduled Board of Review.

Failure to give proper notification will delay your BOR until the next month. Get your Scoutmaster Conference prior to calling Mr. Greenspon. If your scout is scheduled for the BOR, he MUST bring an adult with him. That adult is needed to sit on a BOR for another scout. This way we can accommodate all scouts striving for advancement.

Scout dress code for BOR will include Class “A” shirt, neckerchief, slide, and scout pants (khaki or black pants can be substituted). Merit badge sash is recommended. A scout hat is preferred.

**Scout Spirit for Advancement**

We all recognize that Scout Spirit is hard to evaluate. We know Scout Spirit includes being helpful and cheerful, but it is more than that...it’s giving back. In an effort to assist Patrol Dads in recognizing Scout Spirit, the following guidelines are offered.

Our troop believes that prior to each advancement, participation in the following activities exemplify the essences of Scout Spirit:

- A minimum of 1 nursing home visit
- Participation in at least 1 fundraiser
- At least 4 overnight outings per year
- Good deeds done outside of scouts

*The Patrol Dad, not a senior scout, is responsible for signing off on Scout Spirit prior to your Scoutmaster Conference.*

**Scoutmaster Conferences**

Any scout needing a Scoutmaster Conference for advancement up through First Class, needs to contact one of the following for a conference:

- Mr. Greenspon 301-774-5394
- Mr. Laing 301-570-4235
- Mr. Predoehl 301-774-0974
- Mr. Matyas 301-570-0610
- Mr. Freedman 301-774-7766
- Mr. Bickel 301-774-0416
- Mr. Irvin 301-570-5548
- Mr. Kennedy 301-774-5014
- Mr. Delaney 301-412-0509
- Mr. Long 301-924-4365

*Scoutmaster Conferences for Star, Life, and Eagle must be held with Mr. Bogan: (301)-774-2768. [dbsm264@verizon.net]*

Preparation for the scout’s BOR must include being prepared to answer skill, citizenship, first aid, and merit badge questions.
BOR for Star and Life Scout Advancements

While ropes and compasses are provided for younger ranks, by the time you are ready for Star and Life advancement, you should be responsible enough to bring your own knot rope and compass for your BOR. We are requiring all scouts who are advancing to Star or Life to bring a knot rope and compass to their BOR.

Life and Eagle Scouts as Advisory BOR Members

If you are a Life or Eagle Scout and would like to sit on a Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, or Star BOR, as a “Technical Expert”, call Mr. Greenspon on 301-774-5394.

Permission Slip for Merit Badge Madness
April 1-3, 2016

I give permission for my son _______________________________ to participate in the Troop 264 outing to Merit Badge Madness in Severn, MD on April 1-3, 2016. In an emergency, please notify
_____________________________ ___________________________ (indicate name and relationship to your son) at
_____________________________ (phone). If this person cannot be reached, I authorize qualified medical personnel to administer any necessary aid or treatment to my son for illness or injury. My son is allergic to the following medications or foods:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Parent or Guardian Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________
Permission Slip for Shotgun Fun Shoot
March 19-20, 2016

I give permission for my son _______________________________ to participate in the Troop 264 Shotgun Fun Shoot at P.G. Skeet and Trap / Goddard Space Center campout in Greenbelt, MD on March 19-20, 2016.

In an emergency, please notify _______________________________ (indicate name and relationship to your son) at _______________________________ (phone). If this person cannot be reached, I authorize qualified medical personnel to administer any necessary aid or treatment to my son for illness or injury. My son is allergic to the following medications or foods:

____________________________________________________________________

Additionally, I give permission for my son to shoot shotguns under the guidance and instruction of NRA certified instructors and range safety officers, and agree that my son will follow their directions. I understand that my son may be barred from shooting (without refund) if deemed prudent to protect others, and that such decision rests solely with the instructors, safety officers, and/or troop adult leadership.

________________________________________________________________________

Parent or Guardian Signature                                                                              Date
TROOP 264 SUMMER CAMP 2016
CAMP BOWMAN at GOSHEN SCOUT RESERVATION

Troop 264 has a reservation for Camp Bowman at the Goshen Scout Reservation for 16 - 23 July 2016.

This is a patrol cooking camp. In my experience the boys and adults eat better when the boys do the cooking than in camp dining hall.

The fees for Camp Bowman Are:

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<tr>
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<th>BOYS</th>
<th>ADULTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paid by 20 Apr</td>
<td>$380</td>
<td>$245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paid by 25 May</td>
<td>$420</td>
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<td>Paid after 25 May</td>
<td>$460</td>
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The fee schedule is established by the council, thus Troop 264 has no control over the timing.

A charter bus will be available for a fee of approximately $80.00 in addition to the above fees. We encourage campers to travel by bus. The bus fee will be based on the number of riders. Please do not pay for the bus until the fee is known based on the number of riders. No other transportation will be provided by the troop. Camp Bowman is approximately 210 miles from Olney.

Note: The additional information requested on the registration form is required by the council to register a scout for camp. Parents are welcome!

If you have any questions regarding summer camp please call or e-mail:

INFO: Doug Long 301 924 4365 (H)
       4405 Skymist Terr. 301 738 5153(W)
       Olney, MD 20832 E-mail: longdavj@verizon.net

All summer camp participants will need to complete the BSA Medical Form, Parts A and B, and take Part C to a doctor for completion. Schedule your appointments early! The medical form is available as a PDF at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/HealthSafety/pdf/680-001_ABC.pdf.

You can give Mr. Long your list of preferred merit badges starting now. Please double check the times so that the courses don’t overlap.

Prerequisite work for some of these merit badges, in order to be able to finish them at summer camp: http://www.ncacbsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016-Bowman-Prerequisites.pdf

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

SCOUT NAME: _______________________________ BIRTH DATE: __________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

BUS: Y/N _____

____________________________________________________________________

E-MAIL: _______________________________ T-SHIRT SIZE BOY____

Available T-shirt sizes (circle): Adult S, M, L XL, XXL, XXL

PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

    NAMES: ________________________________
    HOME PHONE: __________________________
    CELL PHONE: ____________________________
    DAY PHONE: ____________________________
    EMERGENCY E-MAIL: ________________

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: ________________________________

PARENTS’ SIGNATURE: ________________________________

Parent Attending: ________________________________ T-SHIRT SIZE: _____
# March 2016

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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
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<td>Patrol meeting</td>
<td>District Roundtable (Hawks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eagle COH 3:30PM Anthony, Eric, and John Fryer</td>
<td>Troop meeting</td>
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<td>Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy</td>
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<td>P.G. Skeet &amp; Trap Shooting/ Goddard Space Center (Hawks)</td>
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<td>P.G. Skeet &amp; Trap</td>
<td>Patrol meeting</td>
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<td>Spring break – No school (MCPS)</td>
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<td>Spring break – No school (MCPS)</td>
<td>Nursing Home Visit, 11 AM – Noon (Crusaders)</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
<td>Troop meeting</td>
<td>Spring break – No school (MCPS)</td>
<td>Spring break – No school (MCPS)</td>
<td>Spring break – No school (MCPS)</td>
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## April 2016

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|        |        |         |           |          | 1      | Spring break – No school (MCPS)  
|        |        |         |           |          |        | Merit Badge Madness | 2
|        |        |         |           |          |        |           | Merit Badge Madness (Vikings) |
| 3      |        |         |           |          | 3      | Merit Badge Madness  
| Merit Badge Madness to noon (Vikings) | 4      | Patrol meeting | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 4      | Patrol meeting | 5 | School resumes | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 5      |        |         |           |          | 10     | Troop meeting | 11 |
|       |        |         |           |          | 12     | District Roundtable (Crusaders) | 13 |
| 10     |        | 11      | 12        | 13       | 14     | Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy | 15 |
|        |        |        | District Roundtable | 14 | 15 | 16 | 16 |
| 17     |        |         | 18        | 19       | 20     | Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy | 21 |
|        | TLC, BOR, and Patrol meeting | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | District Camporee Passover begins | 23 |
| 18     |        | 19      | 20        | 21       | 22     | District Camporee | 23 |
| 19     |        | 20      | 21        | 22       | 23     | District Camporee | 23 |
| 20     |        | 21      | 22        | 23       | 24     | District Camporee | 24 |
| 21     |        | 22      | 23        | 24       | 25     | Troop meeting | 25 |
|        |        | 23      | 24        | 25       | 26     | Primary elections | 26 |
|        |        | 24      | 25        | 26       | 27     | (no school) | 27 |
|        |        | 25      | 26        | 27       | 28     |          | 28 |
|        |        | 26      | 27        | 28       | 29     |          | 29 |
|        |        | 27      | 28        | 29       | 30     |          | 30 |
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April 2016
# May 2016

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<td>Troop Adult Meeting, 8 PM at Brookeville Academy</td>
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<td>Small Boat Sailing MB at BCSC</td>
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<td>Small Boat Sailing MB Eagle COH, 6 PM Adam Russell Matt McDonald</td>
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<td>Busch Gardens - Williamsburg (Ventures/Vikings)</td>
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<td>Legion Flags (tentative – may be May 29 or 30) B.G / W</td>
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Laurel Caverns (Eagles) is June 3-4-5 -- Cub Scout Day Camp is June 20-24