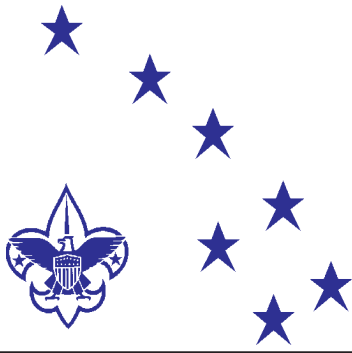


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The P★lar STAR



www.allohak.org
scout@allohak.org

WINTER ISSUE (NOVEMBER/DECEMBER)

www.allohak.org
scout@allohak.org



The path of least resistance is a phrase that many of us hear from time to time. It is commonly used to describe the pathway that offers least resistance to an object among a set of two or more alternating paths. Merriam-Webster defines resistance as “an opposing or retarding force”.

In physical terms the path of least resistance is always taken by objects moving through a system. As water flows down hill through creeks and streams, it will go around objects in its path such as rocks and bridge abutments. Rocks and bridge abutments present obstacle or “an opposing or retarding force” that seeks to impede or stop the flow of water thus the water flows around the obstacle.

In terms of human behavior, the path of least resistance is not as strict as the physical law. The path of least resistance is a metaphor for effort, but we have a choice regarding the path that we take. Consider the proverbial couch potato and the Navy SEAL. Clearly, the couch potato has taken the path of least resistance when compared to the Navy SEAL, but the Navy SEAL chose the path of suffering, self-deprivation, and extreme physical and mental training.



S T A R G A Z I N G

I was travelling to a conference recently with two fine volunteers from our council, Jack Kaull our council’s executive vice president and Dave Brewer the Scoutmaster of troop 40 and of one of our National Jamboree troops. As I listened to their conversation from the back seat and eventually joined in, the topic turned to one of personal responsibility and comparing the Scouting of yesterday with the Scouting of today.

Jack commented that he felt that the purpose of the law is to preserve the moral fabric of our country, much like the Scout Oath and Law are to provide our young people with a moral compass. Those with a strong moral compass will accept responsibility for themselves and their actions, an uncommon characteristic in today’s society where it is often the fault of someone else. Dave talked of Scouting being outing and suggested that children today might not choose Scouting because of the creature comforts that they must “give up” to be engaged in Scouting. Dave and Jack both commented that parents must take a greater leadership role regarding the activities of their children and help them see the “the easy way” is not necessarily the best way.

During the ‘50’s and 60’s, communities did not offer the variety of activities offered today, and the technology is far different today. There were no air-conditioned houses, no video games, and only one TV for the entire family. Now many children have a phone in their room, their own computer, cell phone, face book, and video games...pretty hard to give up for a weekend of camping, physical activity and cooking outdoors. But which will benefit us more? The weekend in a home with central heating, electricity and video games or the weekend camping in a tent, cooking over a fire and developing skills and overcoming obstacles?

As a leader, you, dear reader, made a choice. You could have chosen to stay home and read a book instead of answer the call to enroll your child in Scouting. You could have had one more precious evening at home instead of volunteering to lead a group of boys, young men and women, a district or a council, depending on your current Scouting path. It would have been far easier to have said no than to have said yes. Like Jack and Dave who gave up a recent Saturday to attend a Scouting conference in Zanesville Ohio so that they could provide a better Scouting program in their particular areas of volunteerism, you did not choose the path of least resistance. YOU, dear reader, chose the path of greater resistance. You chose the path of leadership, to mentor and inspire a generation of young people in need of positive adult role models. Our challenge is to reach out to young people and families and show them the fun and adventure that they will have in Scouting.

I will leave you, valued volunteer and dear reader, with the words of Robert Frost who spoke of the path of least resistance through prose entitled The Road Not Taken. Clearly Mr. Frost celebrates the benefit of choosing the path of greater resistance. Will you?

(Continued on page 12 “Stargazing”)

With warmest personal regards,

Dale D. Musgrave
Scout Executive





PROGRAM



2010 Ski Season Sundays, January 10, February 21 & March 7

The Allohak Council Winterplace ski days will be January 10, February 21 and March 7, 2010. Special discounted rates are available for anyone purchasing their ski tickets from the Allohak Council. The special rate applies to all Scouts and family members and even includes non-Scout groups who purchase tickets from the Allohak Council. Some leaders may also be involved with other youth groups such as churches and youth clubs and are encouraged to share this information with their church youth group or any other interested parties.

BSA policy now requires the use of helmets for downhill skiing, snowboarding and the operation of snowmobiles. Snowmobile operation requires the use of a full face helmet. Winterplace Ski Resort will provide helmets free of charge.

Packages include:

- * Skiing & Meal \$49 (lift ticket, lessons, rentals, & meal ticket),
- * Tubing 2 hour Pass \$12.50 (9:00 am to 5:00 pm at 2 hour intervals)
- * Snowboarding \$49 (lift ticket and meal, without board rental)
- * Tubing all day pass and meal \$42
- * Snowboarding \$88 (lift ticket, with board rental and meal)
- * Additional Meal tickets available @ \$6.00

Allohak Council	Boy Scouts of America
Winter Place Ski Days 2010	
Circle one: January 10 February 21 March 7	
Unit # _____	Method of Payment _____
Skiing and meal _____ @ \$49.00 = _____	Credit Card (please circle) <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Tubing and meal _____ @ \$42.00 = _____	Card Cardholder _____
Tubing 2 Hour _____ @ \$12.50 = _____	Card Number _____
Boarding w/rental and meal _____ @ \$88.00 = _____	Expiration Date _____
Boarding and meal _____ @ \$49.00 = _____	Authorization Code (from back of card) _____
Extra Meal tickets _____ @ \$ 6.00 = _____	Phone Number _____
Total \$ _____	Signature _____
<p>Tickets can be purchased the day of the event or they may be purchased in advance. Advance ticket holders will be able to pick up tickets immediately upon arrival at the Allohak Council ticket table in the Winter Place lodge, no waiting in line! Advance ticket purchases are non-refundable.</p> <p>Advance ticket purchases may be completed by fax or mail using the attached form, call the order to the Allohak Council Service Center and charge by credit card or submit the order in person.</p> <p>Avoid Long Lines, purchase your tickets in advance by the Thursday Prior to Your Ski Date</p>	

ANNUAL NOMINATING PROCEDURE ANNOUNCED

The annual business meeting of the Allohak Council will be held on January 21, 2010. Any Scouter wishing to recommend prospective volunteers for board membership should make their nominations in writing and mail them to:

Allohak Council Nominating Committee
1340 Juliana St.
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Nominations are due by December 1, 2010.



PROGRAM



2010 COUNCIL EAGLE SCOUT AND SILVER BEAVER CELEBRATION

Please join us for the Allohak Council Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver celebration dinner Saturday February 20, 2010 at the Cottage Corner Restaurant in Salem, WV. The doors will open at 5:45 pm, dinner at 6:30. The cost of the celebration will be \$30 per person if paid by February 5. \$35 if paid between Feb. 8 and February 15. Reservations may not be accepted after Monday, February 15.

The evening will highlight the work of volunteers throughout the council and will culminate with the recognition of Eagle Scout Class of 2009 and the Silver Beaver class of 2009.

Nominations for the Silver Beaver Award are due in the Scout Service by December 31, 2009. For an application contact the Scout Service Center or go to www.allohak.org, click on "Forms (national & local)" and then click on "BSA Forms" scroll down (about middle of the page) to the "Silver Beaver Application".

2010 ALLOHAK COUNCIL RECOGNITION DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for the Council Recognition Dinner to be held on February 20.

Enclosed is payment for _____ people x \$30.00 per person for a total of \$_____

I would also like to sponsor _____ Eagle Scout(s) x \$25.00 per Eagle for a total of \$_____

Name of Attendees: _____

Payment information: Cash _____ Check _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Discover _____

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Please respond no later than February 2, 2010
Allohak Council Recognition Dinner
1340 Juliana Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101-3902

TROOPS RECEIVE ORDER OF THE ARROW CAMPING AWARD

Thirty-one Allohak Council Boy Scout Troops achieved the Order of the Arrow Camp Participation Award for having a minimum of 60% of their boys as determined by June 30 membership records attend a BSA summer camp or National BSA high adventure base..

Studies show that boys who attend camp in their first year as a Boy Scout and continue to camp regularly remain in Scouting twice as long as Scouts who do not attend camp their first year.

Congratulations to the following troops for earning this award:

Blennerhassett District Troops 4, 7, 19, 20, 47, 80, 86, 91, and 116.
Highland District Troops 58, 66, 88, 96, and 104.
Hock Hocking District Troops 53, and 72.
Little Kanawha District Troops 39, 440, and 479.
Stonewall Jackson District Troops 40, 79, and 549.
Washington District Troops 203, 207, 215, 216, 219, 222, and 224.

WINTER SPORTS SAFETY – HELMETS

Section 3 of the *Guide to Safe Scouting* currently states that "Suitable clothing for the activity and environment should be worn at all times, and equipment should include gloves and helmets when appropriate."

Based upon review of General Liability claims history, along with the recommendation by the Risk Management Advisory Panel and input from the Health and Safety Support Committee of the National Council, BSA, the following change will be made to the Guide to Safe Scouting and published as an alert on Scouting Safely, <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/HealthandSafety.aspx>.

"Appropriate personal protective equipment is required for all activities. This includes the recommended use of helmets for all participants engaged in winter sports such as sledding and other sliding devices. The use of helmets is required for the following activities: downhill skiing, snowboarding and operation of snowmobiles (full-face helmets).

Units are reminded that when engaged in winter sports they should only use designated areas where rocks, tree stumps, and other potential obstacles have been identified and marked, cleared away, shielded, or buffered in some way.

ONE OF THE ONE-HUNDRED

The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America established the James E. West Fellowship in 1993 to recognize of contributions of \$1,000 or more to a local council's endowment. The Allohak Council is continuing its campaign to add 100 new James E. West Fellows by the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. This is an exciting new initiative because it will add significant dollars to the Allohak Council endowment fund, helping to secure our council's future while honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

A James E. West Fellowship is a lasting way to honor and individual or commemorate any occasion. To date, **thirty-five new James E. West Fellowships** have been committed by the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, they are:

- By Dale D. Musgrave in honor of Jerelyn Musgrave
- By Dale D. Musgrave in honor of Nicholas Musgrave
- By Dale D. Musgrave in honor of Erik Musgrave
- By William C. Kuryla, Ph.D. in honor of Paul T. Kuryla, MD
- By William C. Kuryla, Ph.D. in honor of Matthew L. Kuryla
- By William C. Kuryla, Ph.D. in honor of Jeff Wiblen
- By Howard Dewald and Elaine Saulinskas commemorating the 40th anniversary of Troop 71.
- By Robert Ashley
- By Rod Godwin in honor of Graham Godwin
- By Alan Treadway in memory of Zachary Zimmerman
- By Larry Rector in honor of Raymond Isaac Rector
- By Ted Cox in honor of Jimmie Cox
- By Ted Cox in honor of Richard Cox
- By Ted Cox in honor of Anthony Chambers
- By Ted Cox
- By J. Scott Freshwater
- By J. Scott Freshwater in honor of Derek A. Freshwater
- By David A. Freshwater
- By Larry Rector in honor of Fisher A. Rector
- By Jann and James Foley in honor of Kevan J.L. O'Rear on the occasion of the presentation of the Eagle Scout Rank
- By Jann and James Foley in honor of Robert A. Chapelle
- By Jann and James Foley in memory of Robert A.A.J.L. Chapelle
- By John Triplett in honor of Adam Triplett
- By John S. and Missie Kaul in honor of Elmer S. Kaul
- By John S. and Missie Kaul in memory of Robert Williams.
- By Jerry Stout
- By William C. Kuryla, Ph.D. and Arlene Kuryla in honor of Timothy A. Bailey
- By several donors in memory of James Montoya
- By Nicolas Mehl in honor of the 85th Anniv. of Troop 13
- By Ron Taylor
- By Ron Smith
- By Ben Propst in honor of Joan Propst, Ed.D
- Dr. Ernie Miller in honor of Lisa Hutzler



For more information, contact Dale Musgrave at the Scout Service Center or to make a pledge, use the attached pledge form.

I would like to be counted as "One of the One Hundred" as a James E. West Fellow during the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America

Name _____
 Address 1 _____ Address 2 _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____



My commitment is \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 \$10,000 \$15,000
 (Please check one box)

My check is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____
 Invoice the balance of my pledge in equal installments beginning _____mm/yy & ending _____mm/yy
 Please charge my credit card in equal installments beginning _____mm/yy & ending _____mm/yy
 Card type _____ Number _____ Expiration Date _____
Mastercard/Visa/Discover



Name as it appears on the card _____
 This James E. West is in honor of _____
 Name as it should appear on the certificate _____

HIGHLAND DISTRICT



Field Director
Ben Propst
 800-654-5272
 bpropst@meer.net

District Chairman
Carl Goodwin
 304-472-5791
 clgoodwinjr@cebridge.net



District Commissioner
Dave Baker
 304-636-9424
 happygrump2003@yahoo.com

Serving the counties of: Barbour, Randolph, Tucker and Upshur in West Virginia



NOVEMBER

- 2 Roundtable @ Camp Mahonegon starting at 7 PM.
- 3 POPCORN ORDERS DUE.
- 11 Veteran's Day.
- 14 Popcorn Distribution Day.
- 19 Camp Mahonegon Maintenance Committee Meeting starting at 7 PM.
- 26-27 Thanksgiving Day Scout Service Center Closed.

DECEMBER

- 7 Roundtable 7:00 P.M. Camp Mahonegon Items of discussion: membership, frosty bowl, district dinner, Klondike and Pinewood derby just to name at few. Hope to see you at Camp.
- 7 Popcorn Money Due to Scout Service Center.
- 12 O.A. Winter Banquet 1:00 P.M. Cottage Corner Too Restaurant Salem, WV. The cost of the dinner is \$15.00. Dues are not included in the cost of the banquet.
- 24-26 Scout Service Center Closed.
- 31 District Award of Merit Deadline. Please submit the forms to me, this is the highest award the district can give to a volunteer.
- 31 Silver Beaver Nominations Due to Scout Service Center.

Cub Adventure Weekend - My hat is off to the many volunteers for making the weekend a memorable experience for the Cub Scouts and their families. Over 300 Cub scouts, parents and staff converged on Camp Mahonegon to experience camping, games, archery, B-B guns, fire building and orienteering. My thanks to Denise Christafore for chairing this event. Special thanks to the many volunteers and to the group of Boy Scouts who serve as Junior Staff for helping at this event. It is wonderful to see Stonewall Jackson and Highland districts work and play together for the benefit of Scouting.

How to earn \$25.00 Certificate for Camp - Interested in using the fine facilities at Camp Mahonegon and don't want to pay full price? Schedule a Friends of Scouting presentation for your unit today. Your unit can be eligible to use the facilities at Camp Mahonegon or Camp Kootaga by simply holding a Friends of Scouting campaign presentation...it's that simple. So get your name on the list and schedule your presentation with Ben TODAY.

Popcorn - My thanks to all who took part in the popcorn sale, this not only helps your unit but also helps the council in finance. Also thanks to Dave Delong for once again being our popcorn chairman.

Cub Leader Training - This training was held at Camp Mahonegon with both districts participating. Special thanks to Joan Propst for chairing the Cub training, and all the other leaders for your help.

Golf Outing - Special Thanks goes to Justin Tanner for Chairing Night Golf for Scouting. This event was held at the Elkins Golf Club in Elkins with 27 teams participating. The Council raised over \$5,000.00 from this one event. Justin with a small group of volunteers made this a fun, exciting evening and did an outstanding job with this special event. If you see Justin give him a BIG HAND.

District Committee Election: Purpose and Procedures
 A district committee consists of chartered organization representatives and council members at large within the district territory plus duly elected district members at large and is responsible for increasing the effectiveness of Scouting throughout a district through the achievement of district goals. For this reason, the task of selecting a slate of competent officers and members at large for the next year is a very important one. The appointment and report of this committee are provided for in article VIII, section 4 of the Local Council Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Each district committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman; the district chairman is then eligible for election to the executive board of the council. Ninety days prior to the district annual meeting, the district chairman submits suggestions for members of the nominating committee to the council president for approval. Once approved, the nominating committee meets with the district executive (serving in an advisory capacity) to form the slate of nominees for district chairman, one or more vice-chairman, and district members at large, plus a nominee to be submitted by the district chairman for council executive board approval to serve as district commissioner. The nominating committee will be identified to the district Scouters between 60 and 30 days prior to the annual district committee meeting so that suggestions may be given to them for consideration. Suggestions for nominations may be made in writing to the nominating committee two weeks prior to the annual meeting. At the district annual meeting the chairman of the nominating committee reports the slate of officers and conducts the elections. Vote of the majority of the members present at the district meeting is required for election.

Thanksgiving a Day of Thanks - The Law of Moses calls the people to share their bounty with family, servants, widows and orphans. Today in America many people have no way to share in Thanksgiving Day because they are hungry, homeless or isolated from family and friends. On Thanksgiving Day we remember them in prayer and service. Let us not forget we are all Scouts and will do a good turn daily, not only on Thanksgiving but every day. Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday.

Ben's Comments - In preparation for Christmas we invite others to celebrate with us. We write cards to keep in touch. We clean house. We shop. We attend rehearsals. And every so often we take a break so we can remember why we're doing this work. Whatever we do, we also do it for others. I am grateful to the multitude of volunteers who have contributed countless hours of service to local, district and council activities, without their help and dedication our success would not have been possible. During this time of year, I would like each and everyone to pause and give thanks to God for all our blessing.

Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.
 Ben and Family



District Executive
Nicolas Mehl
800-654-5272
nimehl@bsamail.org

District Chairman
Randy Mitchell
crossroadsumc@suddenlink.net

District Commissioner
Greg Kist
tkist15@suddenlink.net



Serving the counties of: Ritchie and Wood in West Virginia and Washington County in Ohio



NOVEMBER

- 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends.
- 3 Boy Scout Roundtable hosted by Troop 13 (American Legion Post 495)
- 3 POPCORN ORDERS DUE
- 8 Cub Scout Roundtable (Wayside UMC)
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 12 District Committee Meeting
- 18 Blennerhassett District Mtg.
- 14 Popcorn Distribution (People's Cartage)
- 26-27 Happy Turkey Day!

DECEMBER

- 1 Boy Scout Roundtable (Scout Office)
- 2 POPCORN SALES BEGIN
- 7 POPCORN MONEY DUE
- 7 No Cub Scout Roundtable
- 10 District Committee Meeting
- 15 RE-CHARTERS & QUALITY FORMS DUE!
- 16 District Meeting
- 24-28 Merry Christmas! Scout Office Closed
- 29 District Award of Merit Nominations Due.
- 31 Happy New Year!

Fall Recruiting is here! Fall Recruiting is here! - Please let me know if you have not had a school night and still wish to have a school night.

Commissioner's Note: We are still looking for some Unit Commissioners to help on the Commissioner Staff for the District. If anyone is interested please contact Nick at nimehl@bsamail.org.

Plan Early - The 2010 Family Friends of Scouting Season is approaching! Schedule a Presentation to receive a free Gift Certificate of \$25.00 to be used towards either Camp Mahonegon or Camp Kootaga! Larry Hostottle is the districts Friends of Scouting Chairman, each unit can schedule their Friends of Scouting Presentation by contacting me at nimehl@bsamail.org to schedule your Friends of Scouting Presentation. Every unit that has a Friends of Scouting Presentation will be presented with a \$25.00 gift certificate for one of the two council camps, and will be presented with a ribbon designed to be displayed with the unit's flag.

Past Events:

Cub Adventure Weekend: Was a huge success! Thanks to all leaders and staff that helped make this a Great Event. There was an estimated 550 kids and parents that were in camp that weekend. There were all sorts of activities for the Scouters to do from Crafts to BB shooting, sling shots, archery; the West Virginia Raptor Association was there to deliver a great presentation with several different raptors and Thunder the Bald Eagle. The Kootaga Indian Dancers put on a great campfire presentation, where all the kids got to enjoy dancing around the fire. Thank you again to all the volunteers who made this weekend a great weekend for the Scouting Youth! Thank you Todd for another great Cub Adventure, we're looking forward to next year's Cub Adventure Weekend, and another feather to the patch.

On The Horizon:

"Its Pinewood Derby Time": The Pinewood Derby's are approaching, The Blennerhassett District's Pinewood Derby will be held on January 16th at Wayside United Methodist Church in Vienna, more information will follow and stay tuned to the Council website for additional information.

The Davis Anderson Memorial Pinewood Derby: will be held

on February 6th at the Grand Central Mall. We're looking for an awesome turnout this year on race day. It's the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America and what better way to show the public that Scouting is alive than to have every Cub Scout race at the 2010 Davis Anderson Memorial Pinewood Derby. Boy Scouts if you wish to set up a booth to display your Scouting unit please do let us know. Also we're asking that every unit that races to bring their Cub Scout Banner or Flag for Display. The information this year will be in majority located on the Council website, more information will follow, please check the Council website as well.

Nominating Committee - The Blennerhassett District Committee would like to ask if anyone is interested in serving on the District Committee to submit written nominations to the Blennerhassett District by Dec.30th. The Nominating Committee will present the Nomination Slate to the District at its Annual meeting in January. All Charter Representatives are encouraged to attend this meeting. If you would like to volunteer for a position on the District Committee or know of anyone who would be interested in the position, please submit your nominations in writing.

Looking ahead 30-60 Days:

Popcorn Distribution is Nov. 14th
Thanksgiving

Pinewood Derbies:

January 16th: Blennerhassett 3rd Annual Pinewood Derby @ (Wayside United Methodist Church)

February 6th: Davis Anderson Memorial Pinewood Derby @ the Grand Central Mall in Parkersburg.

What is a POW WOW?

A POW WOW is training designed for Cub Scout Leaders to go beyond the scope of traditional New Leader Specific and Outdoor Leader Training. It dives deep into different arrays of topics that help you create ideas and help teach different subjects to the Cub Scouts, as well as develop the experience of the leaders. Topics that range from Ceremonies, Cub Cooking, to the Fundamentals of Financing the Pack, Neckerchief Slides, Program Planning, and the Webelos to Scout Transition. On Feb 13th, 2010, at Washington State Community College the Allohak Council will have for the first time in ten Years a POW WOW. If you register by Feb 1st the cost of the training is \$20 if you register after Feb 2nd the cost is \$25. The training fee includes lunch and all the handouts from the sessions that you attend as well as all the sessions that you don't attend, as well as a 2010 POW WOW themed patch. Please see the Allohak Council website for more details.

Allohak Council #618 Theatre Explorer Post presents:

"Les Miserables School Edition" The Mid Ohio Valley high school students are invited to audition in April, 2010 for the Theatre de Jeunesse Theatre Explorer's Post's production of Les Miserables School Edition, from stage crew, to technical crew, to costuming and the many features that go along with a production. A description of Les Miserables is located on the website. Performances will be scheduled in July, 2010 at the Theater on campus of Marietta College. Licensed by Musical Theatre International, Broadway's legendary musical has been specially adapted to meet the vocal needs of high school performers, while carefully maintaining the integrity of one of the greatest musicals ever written. The entire cast must be 19 years of age or under. A signed Parental Consent form is required to audition. A completed Audition Information form or Technical Registration form should also be brought to auditions. These forms and more information about the program, staff, auditions, production, and the Allohak Council # 618 of Ohio and West Virginia can be found on the website at www.theatredejeunesse.org

VACANT

Field Director
Ben Propst
1-800-654-5272
1-304-422-4507

District Chairman
Mike Noel
740-592-6324

District Commissioner
Phil Perry
740-593-3806
philperry@frognet.net



Serving the county of Athens, Ohio

**November**

- 3 POPCORN Orders Due
- 4 District Roundtable at 6:30PM at Athens Recreation Center on E. State St.
- 14 Popcorn Distribution Day
- 26 Happy Turkey Day
- 26-27 Scout offices closed

December

- 2 District Committee meeting 6:30pm and Roundtable 7:00 PM at Athens Recreation Center on E. State St.
- 7 Popcorn Money due
- 12 Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet at Salem, WV
- 24-25 Merry Christmas and Happy New year
- 28 Scout Offices closed

Scouting For Food - Let's have 100% participation in a great cause. Each Troop and Pack will be asked to stand in front of various grocery stores to collect food items. You will be provided a list of essential items needed by Athens County Food Pantry. Those items will be picked up by a truck and hauled to the food pantry.

IT'S CHARTER TIME!! The Charters are printed and have been dispersed to the District. This year we continue the On-Line Rechartering. We will have a tutorial on our website plus have Roundtable discussions regarding Chartering, the do's and don'ts, and questions & answers. I need all of your help to get them turned in on time and to make sure that everyone has them completed properly. We can do it!! Any concerns contact the Scout Service Center.

POPCORN: It is Popping time again! Popcorn sales are in full swing during October and November and I would like to thank all the units that participated in this year's event. Marketing Popcorn is an important part of Scouting. It helps each unit as well as the council, plus young members get out in the communities and meet new people. These sales immensely help the unit and council. Again, Thank YOU!!!!

CENTENNIAL QUALITY UNIT AWARD - Each unit can earn their Centennial quality award now! The Centennial Quality Unit award allows your unit to set their own standards. If you need a form, please go to www.scouting.org and click on the sitemap. Once you are at the sitemap, click on the letter "c" and you will find Centennial Quality Unit Commitment Forms available for download.

WHERE TO FIND RESOURCES?? - Roundtable is open to everyone interested in preparing for next month's Scouting theme. We also provide additional information on upcoming events in our District and Council. Do you feel like you are in the dark? Send someone to Roundtable, and let's have some fun!!!

Thanksgiving a Day of Thanks - The Law of Moses calls the people to share their bounty with family, servants, widows and orphans. Today in America many people have no way to share in Thanksgiving Day because they are hungry, homeless or isolated from family and friends. On Thanksgiving Day we remember them in prayer and service. Let us not forget we are all Scouts and will do a good turn daily, not only on Thanksgiving but every day. Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday.

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Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.
Ben and Family



District Executive
Nicolas Mehl
800-654-5272
nimehl@bsaemail.org

District Chairman
John Hoffman

District Commissioner
Stephen Cogar



Serving the counties of: Calhoun, Jackson, Roane and Wirt in West Virginia



NOVEMBER

- 1 Daylight Savings Time
- 3 Popcorn Orders Due
- 5 Little Kanawha District Mtg. (St. John's Episcopal Church Ripley)
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 14 Popcorn Distribution Day (SDR Plastics)
- 26-27 Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 3 Little Kanawha District Mtg. (St. John's Episcopal Church, Ripley)
- 7 POPCORN MONEY DUE
- 15 RE-CHARTER & QUALITY UNIT FORMS DUE
- 24-28 Merry Christmas!
- 29 District Award of Merit Deadline
- 31 Happy New Year!

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Commissioner's Note: We are still looking for some Unit Commissioners to help on the Commissioner Staff for the District. If anyone is interested please contact Nick at nimehl@bsaemail.org.

Plan Early: The 2010 Family Friends of Scouting Season is approaching! Schedule a Presentation to receive a free Gift Certificate of \$25.00 to be used towards either Camp Mahonegon or Camp Kootaga! Each unit can schedule their Friends of Scouting Presentation by contacting me at nimehl@bsaemail.org to schedule your Friends of Scouting Presentation. Every unit that has a Friends of Scouting Presentation will be presented with a \$25.00 gift certificate for one of the two council camps, and will be presented with a ribbon designed to be displayed with the unit's flag.

Past Events - Cub Adventure Weekend: Was a huge success! Thanks to all leaders and staff that helped make this a Great Event. There was an estimated 550 kids and parents that were in camp that weekend. There were all sorts of activities for the Scouters to do from Crafts to BB shooting, sling shots, archery; the West Virginia Raptor Association was there to deliver a great presentation with several different raptors and Thunder the Bald Eagle. The Kootaga Indian Dancers put on a great campfire presentation, where all the kids got to enjoy dancing around the fire. Thank you again to all the volunteers who made this weekend a great weekend for the Scouting Youth! Thank you Todd for another great Cub Adventure, we're looking forward to next year's Cub Adventure Weekend, and another feather to the patch.

Fall Camper-All - The Little Kanawha District hosted a Fall Camporee on October 16th-18th at Camp Kootaga with a theme based strongly upon Scout Skills. The Little Kanawha District invited the Blennerhassett District to participate in this event as well. It will have Competitions that are focused on Scouting. Patrols competed against other patrols in a fun, exciting, and team building weekend. Thank you Jim and the committee for putting on a great Camporee for all Scouting Youth to enjoy, it was a job well done! Thank you to all leaders who helped make this event happen.

On The Horizon:

"Its Pinewood Derby Time": The Pinewood Derby's are ap-

proaching, Little Kanawha's Pinewood Derby will be held on January 9th, more information will follow and stay tuned to the Council website for additional information.

The Davis Anderson Memorial Pinewood Derby: will be held on February 6th at the Grand Central Mall. The information this year will be in majority located on the Council website, more information will follow, please check the Council website as well.

Looking ahead 30-60 Days:

Popcorn Distribution is Nov. 14th
Thanksgiving

Pinewood Derbies:

January 9th: Little Kanawha's Pinewood Derby

February 6th: Davis Anderson Memorial Pinewood Derby @ the Grand Central Mall in Parkersburg.

Nominating Committee - The Little Kanawha District Committee would like to ask if anyone is interested in serving on the District Committee to submit written nominations to the Blennerhassett District by Dec.30th. The Nominating Committee will present the Nomination Slate to the District at its Annual meeting in January. All Charter Representatives are encouraged to attend this meeting. If you would like to volunteer for a position on the District Committee or know of anyone who would be interested in the position, please submit your nominations in writing.

What is a POW WOW?

A POW WOW is training designed for Cub Scout Leaders to go beyond the scope of traditional New Leader Specific and Outdoor Leader Training. It dives deep into different arrays of topics that help you create ideas and help teach different subjects to the Cub Scouts, as well as develop the experience of the leaders. Topics that range from Ceremonies, Cub Cooking, to the Fundamentals of Financing the Pack, Neckerchief Slides, Program Planning, and the Webelos to Scout Transition. On Feb 13th, 2010, at Washington State Community College the Allohak Council will have for the first time in ten Years a POW WOW. If you register by Feb 1st the cost of the training is \$20 if you register after Feb 2nd the cost is \$25. The training fee includes lunch and all the handouts from the sessions that you attend as well as all the sessions that you don't attend, as well as a 2010 POW WOW themed patch. Please see the Allohak Council website for more details.

Allohak Council #618 Theatre Explorer Post presents:

"Les Miserables School Edition" The Mid Ohio Valley high school students are invited to audition in April, 2010 for the Theatre de Jeunesse Theatre Explorer's Post's production of Les Miserables School Edition, from stage crew, to technical crew, to costuming and the many features that go along with a production. A description of Les Miserables is located on the website. Performances will be scheduled in July, 2010 at the Theater on campus of Marietta College. Licensed by Musical Theatre International, Broadway's legendary musical has been specially adapted to meet the vocal needs of high school performers, while carefully maintaining the integrity of one of the greatest musicals ever written. The entire cast must be 19 years of age or under. A signed Parental Consent form is required to audition. A completed Audition Information form or Technical Registration form should also be brought to auditions. These forms and more information about the program, staff, auditions, production, and the Allohak Council # 618 of Ohio and West Virginia can be found on the website at www.theatredejeunesse.org

OUR NEWEST EAGLE SCOUTS

Congratulations to a "Job Well Done!" to each and every one of you.

In 2008 the Allohak Council had a total of 85 Eagle Scouts

Did you know that you can go to www.allohak.org and see a listing of **ALL** our Eagle Scouts for the past few years? There is a link that will show the past several years. Just go to our website (www.allohak.org), scroll down to the box that says "Other Useful Information", then click on "Eagle List and info".

For 2008 we had 85 Scouts that obtained the rank of Eagle, and for 2009 we have 54 that have achieved that honor.



- Berenson, Jacob Alan** - Troop 12, Blennerhassett District
- Boles, Christian Thomas** - Troop 117, Blennerhassett District
- Clingerman, Jonathan Stewart** - Troop 88, Highland District
- Cordonier, Guy Jacob** - Troop 117, Blennerhassett District
- Cordonier, John Francis** - Troop 117, Blennerhassett District
- Hathaway, Jacob Daniel** - Troop 16, Stonewall Jackson District
- Kiger, Samuel Caleb** - Troop 6, Blennerhassett District
- O'Bryon, Justin Warren** - Troop 216, Washington District
- Pratt, Nicholas Reed** - Troop 357, Hock Hocking District
- Stemple, Jr., Kenneth Daniel** - Troop 12, Blennerhassett District
- Vanhorn, Garrett Allen** - Troop 215, Washington District
- Willis IV, Daniel Milton** - Troop 20, Blennerhassett District



Eagle Scout Pledge

I, [Eagle Scout's name], believe in the Boy Scouts of America as a movement that has as its aim and purpose, character building and citizenship training. I believe it to be a movement that helps a Scout become master of his own powers, helps him get along with others and helps him find a worthy use for his talents. I believe it is my duty to do my best to obey the Scout Oath and Law. I hereby renew my commitment to Scouting and promise to do what I can in service to other Scouts who are still on the Eagle trail.

WWW.ALLOHAK.ORG



Do you keep your eyes on the Council Website??

We post information there as it comes available to us. We also post last minute notices should they happen. We do our best to keep it current and up-to-date.

Remember, the site was developed and intended to keep you, the volunteer and Scout, posted with the most current information. There are copies of flyers, the Council Planning Calendar, District Information, and last minute information that could not be sent out in time for effective usage and much, much more.

Visit www.allohak.org today to see if there is something there that you need or didn't know. If you see something that needs to be corrected, be sure to let us know (there is usually an email link on each page), or if you have information that you think the rest of the Council should be aware of, be sure to let us know. The website can be updated as frequently as needed. Remember, the site is designed with **YOU** in mind, **YOU** the volunteer, **YOU** the Scout, and **YOU** the Scouter.



THE POLAR STAR

PUBLISHED EVERY 2 MONTHS

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Editor.....John D. Burns

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Mailed without charge to all registered Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Explorer Advisors, Assistant Unit Leaders, Den Leaders, Chartered Organization Representatives, Committee Chairmen, Members of the Committee, Executive Board Members, District Committee Members, District Commissioners



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District Commissioner
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Serving the counties of: Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison and Lewis in West Virginia



NOVEMBER

- 3 POPCORNORDERSDUE
- 10 Roundtable 7:00 P.M. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 14 Popcorn Distribution Day.
- 19 Camp Mahonegon Maintenance Committee Meeting starting at 7 P.M.
- 26-27 Scout Service Center Closed.

DECEMBER

- 7 Popcorn Money Due to Scout Service Center.
- 8 Roundtable 7:00 P.M. St. Mark's Lutheran Church. This will be our Christmas Roundtable as we ask each Scouter to bring a favorite dessert and we will also have a white elephant exchange. The rules concerning the exchange are something old or something new, something borrowed or something blue or you know the rest. The object should be something wrapped so the others will not know what it is. Topics of discussion include Klondike Derby, District dinner, Rechartering, and many other topics.
- 12 O.A. Winter Banquet 1:00 P.M. Cottage Corner Too Restaurant Salem, WV. The cost of the dinner is \$15.00. Dues are not included in the cost of the banquet.
- 24-25 Scout Service Center Closed.
- 31 District Award of Merit Deadline. Please submit the forms to me, this is the highest award the district can give to a volunteer.
- 31 Silver Beaver Nominations Due to Scout Service Center

Cub Adventure Weekend - My hat is off to the many volunteers for making the weekend a memorable experience for the Cub Scouts and their families. Over 300 Cub scouts, parents and staff converged on Camp Mahonegon to experience camping, games, archery, B-B guns, fire building and orienteering. My thanks to Denise Christafore for chairing this event. Special thanks to the many volunteers and to the group of Boy Scouts who serve as Junior Staff for helping at this event. It is wonderful to see Stonewall Jackson and Highland districts work and play together for the benefit of Scouting.

How to earn \$25.00 Certificate for Camp - Interested in using the fine facilities at Camp Mahonegon and don't want to pay full price? Schedule a Friends of Scouting presentation for your unit today. Your unit can be eligible to use the facilities at Camp Mahonegon or Camp Kootaga by simply holding a Friends of Scouting campaign presentation...it's that simple. So get your name on the list and schedule your presentation with Ben TODAY

Popcorn - My thanks to all who took part in the popcorn sale, this not only helps your unit but also helps the council in finance. Also thanks to Gary Taylor for once again being our popcorn chairman.

Cub Leader Training - This training was held at Camp Mahonegon with both districts participating. Special thanks to Joan Propst for chairing the Cub training, and all the other leaders for your help.

Golf Outing - Special Thanks goes to Justin Tanner for Chairing Night Golf for Scouting. This event was held at the Elkins Golf Club in Elkins with 27 teams participating. The Council raised over \$5,000.00 from this one event. Justin with a small group of volunteers made this a fun, exciting evening and did an outstanding job with this special event. If

you see Justin give him a BIG HAND.

District Committee Election: Purpose and Procedures

A district committee consists of chartered organization representatives and council members at large within the district territory plus duly elected district members at large and is responsible for increasing the effectiveness of Scouting throughout a district through the achievement of district goals. For this reason, the task of selecting a slate of competent officers and members at large for the next year is a very important one. The appointment and report of this committee are provided for in article VIII, section 4 of the Local Council Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Each district committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman; the district chairman is then eligible for election to the executive board of the council. Ninety days prior to the district annual meeting, the district chairman submits suggestions for members of the nominating committee to the council president for approval. Once approved, the nominating committee meets with the district executive (serving in an advisory capacity) to form the slate of nominees for district chairman, one or more vice-chairman, and district members at large, plus a nominee to be submitted by the district chairman for council executive board approval to serve as district commissioner. The nominating committee will be identified to the district Scouters between 60 and 30 days prior to the annual district committee meeting so that suggestions may be given to them for consideration. Suggestions for nominations may be made in writing to the nominating committee two weeks prior to the annual meeting. At the district annual meeting the chairman of the nominating committee reports the slate of officers and conducts the elections. Vote of the majority of the members present at the district meeting is required for election.

Thanksgiving a Day of Thanks - The Law of Moses calls the people to share their bounty with family, servants, widows and orphans. Today in America many people have no way to share in Thanksgiving Day because they are hungry, homeless or isolated from family and friends. On Thanksgiving Day we remember them in prayer and service. Let us not forget we are all Scouts and will do a good turn daily, not only on Thanksgiving but every day. Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday.

Ben's Comments - In preparation for Christmas we invite others to celebrate with us. We write cards to keep in touch. We clean house. We shop. We attend rehearsals. And every so often we take a break so we can remember why we're doing this work. Whatever we do, we also do it for others. I am grateful to the multitude of volunteers who have contributed countless hours of service to local, district and council activities, without their help and dedication our success would not have been possible. During this time of year, I would like each and everyone to pause and give thanks to God for all our blessing.

Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.
 Ben and Family

VACANT

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 1-800-654-5272
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District Commissioner
Joe Testerman
 jtesterman1114@gmail.com



Serving the counties of: Pleasants and Wood in West Virginia and Washington County in Ohio



November

- 2 Washington District Committee Meeting 6:30 @ WSCC
- 3 POPCORN Orders Due
- 12 District commissioner Meeting 6:00pm @ WSCC and Roundtable follows at 6:30pm
- 14 Popcorn Distribution Day
- 26-27 Scout office closed
- 27 Happy Turkey day

December

- 7 Popcorn Money due
- 7 District commissioner Meeting 6:00pm
- 10 District committee Meeting 6:00pm @ WSCC and Roundtable follows at 6pm
- 24-25 Merry Christmas and Happy New year
- 28 Scout Offices Closed

SCOUTING FOR FOOD- LET'S have 100% participation in a great cause. We are asking each unit to collect cans of food and donate to a charity of their choice starting in November. Let your district know how many pounds of food your unit has collected in December's roundtable.

IT'S CHARTER TIME!! The Charters are printed and are available within the Districts and to each and every unit leader. This year we will still be doing On-Line Rechartering. We have a tutorial on our website plus have Roundtable discussions regarding Chartering the do's and don'ts, and questions & answers. I need all of your help to get them turned in on time and to make sure that everyone has them completed properly. We can do it!! Any concerns Please contact the Scout Service center.

POPCORN: It is Popping time again! Popcorn sales are in full swing during October and November and I would like to thank all the units that participated in this year's event.

Marketing Popcorn is an important part of Scouting. It helps each unit as well as the council, Plus young members get out in the communities and meet new people. These sales immensely help

the unit and council. Again, Thank YOU!!!!

CENTENNIAL QUALITY UNIT AWARD - Each unit can earn their Centennial quality award now! The Centennial Quality Unit award allows your unit to set their own standards. If you need a form, please go to www.scouting.org and click on the sitemap. Once you are at the sitemap, click on the letter "c" and you will find Centennial Quality Unit Commitment Forms available for download.

WHERE TO FIND RESOURCES??- Roundtable is open to everyone interested in preparing for next month's Scouting theme. We also provide additional information on upcoming events in our District and Council. Do you feel like you are in the dark? Send someone to Roundtable, and let's have some fun!!!

Thanksgiving a Day of Thanks - The Law of Moses calls the people to share their bounty with family, servants, widows and orphans. Today in America many people have no way to share in Thanksgiving Day because they are hungry, homeless or isolated from family and friends. On Thanksgiving Day we remember them in prayer and service. Let us not forget we are all Scouts and will do a good turn daily, not only on Thanksgiving but every day. Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday.

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Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.
 Ben and Family

(Continued from page 1 "Stargazing")

Robert Frost (1874–1963). Mountain Interval. 1920.

The Road Not Taken

TWO roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the Allohak Council owns and maintains two camping facilities, Camps Kootaga and Mahonegon for the use of Summer Camp, Day Camp, Roundtable and year round use by units at a cost of approximately \$45,000 per year? Did you know that all registration fees paid for membership are forwarded to the National Council, BSA and that not a single cent is kept by the local council? Did you know that the Allohak Council provides a sickness and accident insurance policy to benefit all youth at a cost of over \$3,000?

Allohak Council receives all of its funding for these and other services from local sources such as the United Way, the annual popcorn and candy sales, Friends of Scouting activity fees and other sources.

Help continue the fine tradition of Scouting in the Allohak Council. Remember to schedule your Family FOS presentation for January, February or March and promote participation among your families.

SETTING THE EXAMPLE

Did you ever consider that Scouting volunteers lead by setting the example? As leaders we set the example for youth and our community to follow in many different ways. We set the example by the way we dress; do you wear a proper uniform at all meetings and events? We set the example by what we say; are the words you chose designed to praise and build or criticize and destroy? We set the example by our attitude; attitudes are contagious, is yours worth catching? We set the example by how we treat other people in and out of Scouting; are you Friendly, Courteous and Kind?

Remember that volunteer leaders have tremendous influence in the character development of young people. Set a positive example for others to follow in and out of Scouting!

INTERNET RECHARTERING BEGINS NOVEMBER 3!

The internet charter renewal system will go live on November 3. Each pack, troop and crew in the Allohak Council will be able to access the system on or after November 3 using the login and password supplied with the charter renewal packet distributed in October. If you have not received your information, contact your district commissioner or district executive.

It is recommended that the unit administrator first complete the tutorial to become familiar with the system. A password is not required for the tutorial. For the initial logon, use the information provided on the charter renewal face sheet. You will find this information on a bright neon label placed on the upper left corner of the face sheet. After the initial logon, the charter renewal administrator will create a unique user name and password that will be used for all subsequent logon sessions.

To ensure a smooth charter renewal, submit all youth and adult applications to the Council Service Center prior to beginning charter renewal. Any new youth or adult members who join after beginning the renewal process may be added by the unit charter renewal administrator, the charter renewal systems will walk the administrator through the process. Be sure to submit any applications and fees including the pro-rated registration fee with the charter renewal in December.

The internet charter renewal system will calculate the charter renewal fees. Once complete, the charter renewal administrator will submit and print the charter renewal, collect appropriate signatures and submit the signed charter renewal application and fees to the Allohak Council Service Center. This can be completed any time after November 3 but must be completed by December 15.

Internet charter renewal can be completed using any computer at any location though high speed internet access is the best. Most public libraries can provide access to a computer with such access. Contact your district commissioner or district executive for assistance.

A tutorial is available a link from the Allohak Council website, go to www.allohak.org

CENTENNIAL QUALITY UNIT AWARD

Earlier in the year, each unit should have received the necessary paperwork and determined goals for the 2009 Centennial Quality Unit Award. If your unit has not filled out the 2009 Centennial Quality Unit Award Commitment form, contact your unit commissioner, district commissioner or district executive for assistance.

Qualifying units will receive a distinctive Centennial Quality Unit Award streamer for their unit flag and unit members may wear the Centennial Quality Unit Award patch on their uniform. The Streamers and uniform patches will be blue for 2009 qualifiers,

Remember, Centennial Quality Unit applications can be submitted any time between October 31st and December 31st.