



The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

A Publication of the Crossroads of America Council, BSA – Northeast District

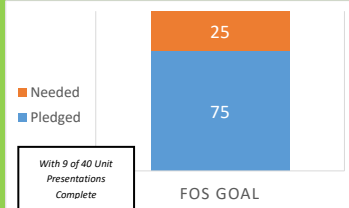
“All the News...That Is News...for Pack, Troop, Crew & Ship Leadership in the Northeast District”

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In the Next 30 Days

- Mar 16, 2017
Firecrafter/OA Chapter Mtg
- Mar 17-18, 2017
[Wilderness First Aid](#)
- Mar 17-19, 2017
OA Spring Fellowship
- Mar 18, 2017
Scoutmaster Specific Trng
- Mar 27-31, 2017
[Spring Break MB Camp](#)

Northeast District Spring Camporee Details Now Available

Our **Northeast District Spring Camporee** will be here before you know it, and details about this event are now available. This camporee will be held over the **April 21-23, 2017** weekend at **Summit Lake State Park** (near New Castle, IN), with check-in beginning at 6:30 PM on Friday, April 21, 2017. Sunday checkout can begin as early as 9:30 AM on Sunday, April 23, 2017.

The focus of this camporee will be “Revolutions of Life”, with the Saturday activities being STEM based. They include:

- What’s in This Mess?
- I Can’t Hear You!
- I Have To Go Where?
- I Need to Make a Call
- Where’d It Go?
- Don’t Touch That!
- Even the Trees Have Secrets
- Feed Me!

In addition, each unit will participate in a Service Project in support of Summit Lake State Park. The projects include:

- Trail Clearing
- Trash Pick Up

Since this camporee is at a state park, there are a few key logistical items to be aware of:

- All campsites for the camporee will be in the youth tent area at Summit Lake State Park. While we have the entire youth tent area, Troops will be asked to share campsites, so plan on tight space camping.
- Each unit will be allowed only one vehicle to park in the youth tent area. All of the rest will need to park in the campground overflow parking.
- As this will be at a State Park, there will be a gate fee for each vehicle. The district will cover the gate fee for one vehicle per Troop (either the vehicle that will be pulling your troop trailer or a vehicle you designate). Please plan accordingly.
- Cost to participate in this Camporee will be \$15.00 per participant, with the first two adults with each Troop at no cost.

So what do you need to do now if you plan on attending our Spring Camporee?

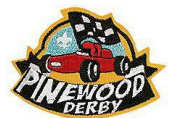
1. Download a copy of the 2017 [Northeast District Spring Camporee packet](#).
2. Register your Troop to attend [online](#)

If you have questions about the Northeast District Spring Camporee, please contact either [Jason Lopez](#) or [James Colter](#), Northeast District Camping Chairs.

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Northeast District Pinewood Derby Approaching

The **Northeast District Pinewood Derby** will be held on **Saturday, April 8, 2017** at Ed Martin Honda located at 770 North Shadeland Avenue. Every Cub Scout Pack in the Northeast District is eligible to participate. Each Pack should send their top four (4) cars in speed and their Best of Show winner (limit 5 cars per Pack). Cost to enter is \$6.00 per car.



In the event that the “owner” of any Pack-qualified car cannot attend, the Pack may substitute another car in its place. Regardless, all entries must be [pre-registered on-line](#) by April 3, 2018. To assure that the day will go smoothly, Pack leadership should download and familiarize units with the [2017 NED Pinewood Derby Rules and Guidelines](#).

- Apr 2, 2017 (4:00 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Apr 5, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Apr 8, 2017 (8:30 AM)
[NED Pinewood Derby](#)
- Apr 8, 2017 (1-7 PM)
WD9BSA Open House
- Apr 8, 2017 (8:30 AM - 12 PM)
[BALOO Training](#)
- Apr 8, 2017 (1-7 PM)
[Scouting for Food Ends](#)
- Apr 12, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Round Tables
- Apr 12, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Apr 14, 2017
Camp Card Sales End
- Apr 15, 2017
BSA "Early Bird" #1 Due

In the Next 60 Days

- Apr 19, 2017 (7-8 PM)
[Den Leader & Assistant Den Leader Position-Specific Training](#)
- Apr 20, 2017
Firecrafter/OA Chapter Mtg
- Apr 20-22, 2017
[Spring Wood Badge #1](#)
- Apr 21-23, 2017
[NED Spring Camporee](#)
- Apr 22, 2016
Outdoor Leader Skills
- Apr 26, 2016 (7-8 PM)
[Pack Committee Position-Specific Training](#)
- Apr 29-30, 2017
[Voyageur Training](#)
- May 1, 2017
Cub Scout "Early Bird" Final Payment Due
- May 2, 2017 (7-8 PM)
[Cubmaster & Assistant](#)

The schedule details for this event are as follows:

Friday, April 7, 2017	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Car Pre-Registration
Saturday, April 8, 2017	8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Race Day Sign-In
	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Race Off
	12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Lunch (Provided by Ed Martin Honda)
	12:30 PM	Awards Presentation

Come out and support our Scouts as they race their Pinewood Derby Cars!

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A Reminder - Scout Summer Camp Payments Coming Due

Yes, yet another reminder about Summer Camp...it will be here before you know it! Please note that for Troops and Packs planning on attending summer camp at one of the Council's properties and wish to take advantage of "early bird" pricing there are key payment deadlines approaching. They include the following:



PACK EARLY BIRD DEADLINES	TROOP EARLY BIRD DEADLINES
May 1, 2017 – Payment #1 Due	Apr 15, 2017 – Payment #1 Due
June 1, 2017 – Final Payment Due	May 15, 2017 – Final Payment Due

Please don't let these key deadlines pass without taking action! We are looking forward to every Scout having the opportunity to attend summer camp (or a high adventure outing) this summer. If you have questions, please contact [Laura Clay](#).

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Ideal Year of Scouting at April Northeast District Round Tables

At the heart of every outstanding Pack, Troop, Crew, Ship or Team is the development of an **ANNUAL PLAN** and will lead to delivery of a quality program year-on-year. This takes effort to seek input, plan and come up with new adventures that your Scouts can continue to learn, grow and of course have fun in a safe environment!



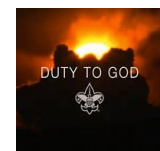
So are you looking for new ideas to spice up your program? If so, then you won't want to miss your next **Northeast District Round Tables**. The focus of this Round Table will be the Ideal Year of Scouting. We are looking forward to seeing every unit represented at the **Camp Belzer Activity Center** on **Wednesday, April 12, 2017** beginning at **7:00 PM**.

If you have questions, please contact [Laura Clay](#).

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Mark Your Calendar for the Duty to God Retreat

One of the twelve points of the Scout Law is "A Scout is Reverent". Mark your calendars now for the first **Duty to God Retreat** which will be held at **Gateway Community Church** located at 7551 Oaklandon Rd on **Friday evening, June 9 (6:00 PM to 8:00 PM) and Saturday, June 10, 2017 (10:00 AM to 8:00 PM)**.



During the Retreat, classes designed for youth in Protestant and Independent Christian Churches will allow either completion (or significant progress toward) the following age specific religious awards:

[Cubmaster Position-Specific Training](#)

- May 3, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- May 7, 2017 (4:00 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- May 9, 2017
Ransburg Scout Reservation
Merit Badge Registration
Opens
- May 10, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Round Tables
- May 10, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Commissioners Mtg.
- May 11-13, 2017
[Spring Wood Badge #2](#)
- May 13, 2017 (1-7 PM)
WD9BSA Open House
- May 13-14, 2017
[Voyageur Training #1](#)
- May 15, 2017
BSA "Early Bird" #2 Due

In the Next 90 Days

- May 16, 2017 (6:30 – 8:30 PM)
Riley 500 Eagle Project
- May 18, 2017
Firecrafter/OA Chapter Mtg
- May 27, 2017
[500 Festival Parade](#)
- Jun 1, 2017
Cub Scout "Early Bird" #2 Due
- Jun 3, 2017
[College of Commissioners Science](#)
- Jun 4, 2017
[Voyageur Kayak](#)
- Jun 4, 2017 (4:00 PM)
NED Eagle BoRs
- Jun 7, 2017 (7:00 PM)
NED Committee Mtg
- Jun 9-10, 2017
[Duty to God Retreat](#)
- Jun 14-28, 2017
CAC Philmont Trip

RELIGIOUS AWARD	AGE
God & Me	Grades 1 to 3
God & Family	Grades 4 to 6
God & Church *	Grades 6 to 8
God & Life *	Grades 9 to 12

* These classes will require work before or after the retreat to complete all their requirements.

The cost for the retreat is \$20.00, which covers all materials and two meals (Friday evening's meal will be provided by Gateway Community Church, while Saturday evening's meal will be provided by Boy Scout Troop 276). As an added bonus, Scout units may camp on the church grounds during the retreat, please register

To register or get more information contact: William "Wild Bill" Jensen via [e-mail](#) or telephone (Home Office: 317-537- 2256 or Cell Phone: 317-657-2182).

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Sign-Up Now - Northeast District to Offer Leader-Specific Training

The Northeast District will be offering the following courses this spring. This is a great time of year to complete training and get ready for next year. All courses will be held at the Activity Center at Camp Belzer.



COURSE OFFERING	DATE	TIME
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	April 8, 2017	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Den Leader & Assistant Den Leader Position-Specific Training	April 19, 2017	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Pack Committee Position-Specific Training	April 26, 2017	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Cubmaster & Assistant Cubmaster Position-Specific Training	May 2, 2017	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Remember, "Every scout deserves a trained leader." Please visit the Northeast District [Training Page](#) for more information and to sign up.

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Annual Scouting for Food Campaign Is On – Is Your Unit All In?

Crossroads of America Council's annual **Scouting for Food Campaign** has begun and will run through **Saturday, April 8, 2017**. The most recent statistics from Feeding America.org show that 1 in 5 school age children in America live in hunger. Nationally, Scouting for Food is a major player in helping feed those in need. You and your Scouts can make a difference in the lives of those living in food insecure households.



There are two ways that Scouts (and their families) can participate in this national program and help local families in need:

1. When families shop for food at Kroger Grocery Stores there will be an opportunity to add a small donation to the overall bill. Even a single \$1 added to the grocery bill will provide three meals, while a \$10 donation will provide thirty (30) meals for a hungry American.
2. Scouts can directly participate by collecting food through neighborhood door-to-door solicitation and pick-up. All food collected should be delivered to the food pantry of the unit's choosing. Scouts that participate are eligible to receive a 2017 Scouting for Food patch (see [website](#) for details), and all hours worked on this community service project by the unit should be logged [online](#).

We certainly hope that every Scout and their family will actively participate in this very important service project. If you have questions, please contact [Laura Clay](#).

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Who Can I Contact

Do you have feedback on the current issue?

Do you have ideas for news items in a future issue of **The Northeast**

District Monthly Gazette?

Contact: [Mike Chambers](#)

There is Still Time to Sign-Up for Spring Wood Badge

There is still time to sign up for the Spring Wood Badge Course. Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout leadership training and provides participants with the tools to be a well-rounded leader. The leadership skills taught are for volunteers from all Scouting areas including Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Venturing and the district and council. Ask anyone who has been to Wood Badge and they will absolutely recommend it to every Scouter. If you can't make it this spring, consider attending the fall course. To sign up or for more information, please visit the [Council's Wood Badge web page](#).



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April is Youth Protection Month – Is Your Training Up-to-Date?

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and the Boy Scouts of America has designated April as Youth Protection Month for councils, units, families, and community organizations. All registered and non-registered adults are encouraged to complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) in April. Youth Protection Training is valid for 2 years and can be completed online or as part of a pack, troop, crew, or ship meeting.



Completing YPT in April will greatly speed up your unit's re-charter process this fall. Units are also encouraged to show the appropriate youth videos at one of their April meetings:

- "It Happened to Me" (BSA No. AV-09V011) is designed for Cub Scouts (boys ages 6 to 10)
- "A Time to Tell" (No. AV-09V004) is designed for Boy Scouts (boys ages 11 to 14)
- "Youth Protection: Personal Safety Awareness" (No. AV-09V027) is for young adults (boy or girl, ages 14 to 20).

These videos are available from the Golden-Burke Scout Center. Please contact [Laura Clay](#) to make arrangements to borrow the appropriate video.

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A Request from Our Firecrafter Ember Advisor

Are you, or do you have Scouts that are members of Firecrafter? If so, please note that your [Ember Advisor](#) is seeking to make sure that he has up-to-date e-mail addresses for every member. If you have not provided this, please do so as soon as possible.



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The NED Recipe Exchange – Cajun Smothered Steak and Gravy

Are you interested in "bam...kicking-up" your next campout dinner menu? Then today's NED Recipe Exchange should do the trick. Presented here are the directions to create **Cajun Smothered Steak and Gravy** and is provided by Mike Chambers. Please note that this takes about 30 minutes to prep and 2-3 hours of cooking time...Don't worry, the 2-3 hours of cooking time requires minimal effort on your part and will be well worth it!



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Pounds Thinly Cut Round Steak
- 1 Cup of Diced Onion
- 1 Cup of Diced Celery
- 1 Cup of Diced Bell Pepper

Cooking Oil (or Butter)
Tony Chacherie's Creole Seasoning
Flour
Water

DIRECTIONS:

Dice the onion, celery and bell pepper and put aside. Cut the round steak into serving size, removing excess fat. Season both sides of each round steak serving with Tony Chacherie's Creole Seasoning and coat the steaks evenly in flour. Put a small amount of cooking oil (or melted butter) in a cast iron skillet that must have a lid (or Dutch oven), and brown both sides of each steak over a stove burner. Remove the browned steak and set aside. Next, do not clean the skillet (or Dutch oven) of any steak browning remnants. Add a small amount of cooling oil (or melted butter) into the skillet (or Dutch oven) as needed, and place the diced onion, celery and bell pepper in the same skillet and allow the vegetable trilogy to soften...stirring constantly. When the vegetable trilogy has been softened, remove about 66% of the trilogy and place in a bowl; spread the remaining 33% in the bottom of the skillet (or Dutch oven). Return a layer of browned steaks to the skillet (or Dutch oven) and then place about half of the remaining softened trilogy over those steaks. Repeat with another layer of browned steaks and place the remaining trilogy over the top layer. Add enough water to the skillet (or Dutch oven) to just cover the bottom layer(s) of steak (**DO NOT** cover the top layer of steaks with water). Put the lid on the skillet (or Dutch oven) and turn the heat on the stove burner as low as it can go and let it simmer for 2+ hours until the steaks can easily be cut with a fork. It is a good idea to check the skillet (or Dutch oven) every 20-30 minutes to make sure that the bottom layer is not sticking. When this is complete, you will have rich brown gravy (best served over rice or mashed potatoes)...if the gravy is too thick, you may add water to thin to taste.

Note: This recipe has been scaled up to simultaneously cook 5 layers of steak in a single Dutch oven; cooking time may be slightly extended for large servings. When serving you should hear the following:

C'est bien...Laissez les bon temps rouler!
This is Good...Let the Good Times Roll!

Do you have a favorite recipe that you are known for and are willing to share? Please send your recipes to [Mike Chambers](#) for sharing via future issues of ***The Northeast District Monthly Gazette.***

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