



# The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

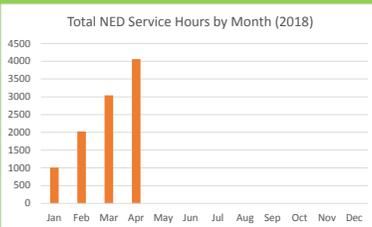
A Publication of the Crossroads of America Council, BSA – Northeast District

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

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## 2018 NED Goal Trackers



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## Silver Beaver Nomination Timeline and Awarding Changed

The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council. It is given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service. It is given to those who do not actively seek it.



This year, Crossroads of America Council has made a couple of significant changes in the awards time line. The first significant change is the **Silver Beaver Nomination Deadline**. This year, all nominations must be submitted by **July 25, 2018** (*not September 30<sup>th</sup> as it has been in recent years*). This is because the council's presentation of the Silver Beaver Awards will be held at a special event later in the year (date and location still to be determined).

**So, what do YOU need to do now?** Of course, get busy writing nominations for deserving Scouters. I say this because the multi-page nomination (including Scouter's training record and positions served) must be completed in full before a nomination will be considered. If you need training/position records for a nominee, please contact Council Registrars [Sharon Cone](#) or [Margo Purdy](#) and they will furnish information for you. To get started, please download the [nomination form](#), complete it and submit it to the Crossroads of America Council by **July 25, 2018**. Please note that all applications will be reviewed by a selection committee; the committee will not know the name of the nominee or the name of the nominator. Selections will be based only on the information provided on the application.

If you have any questions about this year's Silver Beaver nomination, contact Chuck Fippen at (317) 201-2694 or by [e-mail](#).

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## ACTION REQUIRED New YPT Completion Deadline Approaching!

As mentioned in the last issue of The Northeast District Monthly Gazette, new online **Mandatory Youth Protection Training** is now available. The Council has set an April 30, 2018 deadline for all adult volunteers to complete this new updated training. Currently only **18.3%** of all adult volunteers in the Northeast District have completed this requirement.



Please access [www.my.scouting.org](http://www.my.scouting.org), log-in with your unique user name and password. Please budget about 60-minutes to complete this offering, as it takes about 20 minutes to complete the Overview and Policies section, 20 minutes to complete the Sexual Abuse section, 20 minutes to complete the Bullying section, and 10 minutes to complete the required Quiz. If you cannot complete this course if one sitting, the course is structured that you can return to where you left off and complete this in more than one session.

If you have any questions, please contact [Leilan McNally](#) or [Laura Clay](#).

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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### In the Next 30 Days

- Apr 19, 2018 (6:00 PM)  
OA/Firecrafter Mtg
- Apr 20-22, 2018  
NED Spring Camporee
- Apr 27-28, 2018  
OA Ordeal
- Apr 27-28, 2018  
NYLT Spring Weekend #2
- Apr 28-29, 2018  
Voyageur Spring Weekend #1
- Apr 30, 2018  
New YPT Completion Deadline
- May 2, 2018 (7:00 PM)  
NED Committee Mtg
- May 4-6, 2018  
Firecrafter Spring Fellowship  
& Camp Belzer 100<sup>th</sup> Year  
Camporee
- May 6, 2018  
NED Eagle BoR
- May 9, 2018  
NED Commissioners Mtg
- May 9, 2018  
NED Round Tables
- May 10-12, 2018  
Wood Badge Spring Weekend  
#2
- May 12, 2018 (8 AM – 12 PM)  
Camp K Fishing Derby
- May 12-13, 2018  
Voyageur Spring Weekend #2

### In the Next 60 Days

- May 14-18, 2018  
Outdoor Challenge Days
- May 17, 2018 (6:00 PM)  
OA/Firecrafter Mtg
- May 18-20, 2018  
OA Ordeal
- May 19, 2018  
Voyageur Kayaking  
Certification
- Jun 1, 2018  
NED Swim Test @ LN

## Outdoor Challenge Days Needs Your Help – May 14-18, 2018

Did you know that Crossroads of America Council, in partnership with the Girl Scouts of Central Indiana and 118 schools throughout central Indiana delivers an in-school educational program to over 10,000 at-risk and special needs youth? This program provides a supplemental curriculum to equip the students in the program with life skills to achieve self-sufficiency. The “capstone” of the in-school Reaching for Tomorrow program is **Outdoor Challenge Days**. This annual event (our 26<sup>th</sup> year) is scheduled for **May 14-18, 2018** at **Camp Belzer** (right in our backyard). The organizers need your help to deliver the daily program, which runs from **8:30 AM - 2:00 PM**. Outdoor activities that will be shared during the daily program include:



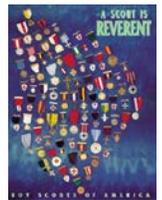
- Rope Bridges
- Baseball
- Knot Tying
- Cookie Decorating
- Sack Races
- Dancing
- BB Gun Safety
- Archery
- Leaf Rolling
- Ring Toss
- Nature Hikes
- Face Painting
- Rain gutter Regatta
- Instrument Zoo
- Marshmallow Blow Tubes
- Putt-Putt Golf
- Earth Ball
- Body Bowling
- Obstacle Courses
- Tent Set-Up
- Campfire Set-Up

There is a need for over 80 volunteers per day to help run the event; volunteer activities could include helping to run one of the stations (above), serving as a greeter as the children arrive, or even helping to safely fill the Camp Belzer parking lot with school busses! So, you are interested in helping out, but you can't work the entire week at this event; no problem...there are opportunities for volunteers that can be customized to your availability. To volunteer, please contact Heidi Viergutz via [e-mail](#) or by phone at (317) 989-8654. We are looking forward to seeing many of our Northeast District volunteers at this weeklong event!

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## Did You Know that Religious Awards Are Available in Scouting?

The twelfth point of the Scout Law is “A Scout is Reverent”. This means that he/she is reverent toward God, as well as faithful to his/her religious duties, while respecting the convictions of others in matter of custom and religion. We usually talk a lot about rank advancement, merit badges, advancement in Firecrafter ranks and Order of the Arrow membership, but did you know that both youth may earn religious awards created by 35 [religious groups](#) (from African Methodist Episcopal Church to Zoroastrian) which are approved by the Boy Scouts of America?



Many of these religious groups have awards available for Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, Boy Scouts and adult volunteers. More information on the requirements for your particular religious award will be available on-line, or you may contact your Northeast District Chaplain, [“Wild” Bill Jensen](#).

On a related note, the dates and location have been set for an upcoming [religious retreat](#) where participating youth may earn their God and Me (Cub Scout), God and Family (Webelos), and God and Church (Boy Scout) religious awards. Information on these awards are available at [www.praypub.org](#), or by contacting [“Wild” Bill Jensen](#). Please mark your calendars for **Friday, January 18, 2019** (from 6 to 8 PM) and **Saturday, January 19, 2019** (from 10 AM to 8 PM). More information will be provided as we get closer to the retreat.

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- Jun 3, 2018  
NED Eagle BoR
- Jun 10-16, 2018  
Wood Badge Summer Course
- Jun 14, 2018 (6:00 PM)  
OA/Firecrafter Mtg

### In the Next 90 Days

- Jun 17-23, 2018  
NYLT Summer Course
- Jul 6-8, 2018  
Firecrafter Mid-Summer Ritual
- Aug 1, 2018 (7:00 PM)  
NED Committee Mtg
- Aug 3-19, 2018  
Base Camp @ State Fair
- Aug 5, 2018  
NED Eagle BoR
- Aug 8, 2018  
NED Commissioners Mtg
- Aug 8, 2018  
NED Round Tables
- Aug 10-12, 2018  
Firecrafter Grand Ritual

### 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](#)

## Preparing Your Unit for Summer Camp – Part 1 of 2

OK, April may seem really early to begin planning for your unit's Summer Camp experience, but for both the youth and adults in your unit going to camp to have the best experience possible, you may already have some catching up to do!



Let's hit some key "to do's" that will require effort at the unit level between now and when you actually leave for camp.

- ☑ **"Sell" Summer Camp Attendance** – for many Scouts (and their parents) just entering Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts, unit leaders will need to sell the benefits of attending summer camp with their Den, Pack or Troop. Additionally, as this will require funding, making sure that parents understand the costs of attending, as well as what financial assistance may be available. Don't forget to set deadlines for phased payments to help ease the financial strains, as well as communicating the Council's [Camp Scholarship](#) program, if needed.
- ☑ **Updated Medical Forms Required** – Get started early to assure that everyone going to camp will have an updated [BSA Medical Form](#) (Parts A, B, and C) that has been updated within the last twelve months (this must not expire while at camp). Remember this will require a Physician's signature on Part C, so don't wait for the last minute to get this done!
- ☑ **Swim Tests Completed Prior to Arriving at Camp** – While not required, having all participants going to summer camp complete their BSA Swim Test prior to arrival at camp can make for a less hectic check-in day. The Northeast District will be holding a district-wide BSA swim test on **June 1, 2018** at [Lawrence North High School](#). More information will be sent out as it becomes available. If your unit completes your swim test prior to arrival, download a copy of the [Unit Swim Test Classification](#) form, complete it, have it signed by the certified lifeguard administering the test and bring it with you to camp.
- ☑ **Review Firecrafter Rank Requirements** – Crossroads of America Council is unique in that we also have a council-wide service organization called Firecrafter. Firecrafter ranks may be earned during a stay at summer camp, with all requirements for each rank being completed during a single week at camp. It is a good idea to review the requirements for [Webelos Camper](#) (for those attending Cub Scout Day Camp or Year 1 of Webelos' Adventure Camp), [Webelos Firelight](#) (for second year Webelos), [Camper](#) (first year Boy Scouts), [Woodsman](#) (second year Boy Scouts) and [Firecrafter](#) (top earned Boy Scout rank) with all participants prior to arriving at camp to maximize the probability of each youth completing all requirements while at Summer Camp.
- ☑ **Boy Scout Merit Badge Sign-up** – To assure that Scouts attending either Ransburg Scout Reservation or Camp Krietenstein will be able to get into the merit badges that they want to work at while at camp, make sure that your unit has a merit badge sign-up coordinator. All merit badge classes are signed up for online, and popular classes fill up fast, so don't delay at getting Scouts signed-up!
- ☑ **Communicate Summer Camp Logistics** – Units will need to effectively communicate the basics about your unit's week at summer camp (When and Where), but also consider providing a list of what to bring (and what **NOT TO BRING**) to Summer Camp at least a month ahead of your stay. This will give parents plenty of time to get the names of their Scouts in every item of clothing that will be sent to Summer Camp, as well as time to round up any needed items that they do not already own.
- ☑ **Encourage Parent's to Attend with their Scouts** – Unit leaders should encourage as much parental involvement as possible during the week at summer camp; in fact units may REQUIRE additional registered adults to attend to meet Scout to leader ratios. Required or not, this is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY for parents to see their Scouts grow and mature!
- ☑ **Unit Leader Guide** – Unit leaders should download and thoroughly review the [Camp Belzer Day Camp Leader Guide](#), the [Camp K Adventure Camp Leader's Guide](#),

the [Ransburg Scout Reservation Leader's Guide](#) or the [Camp Krietenstein Leader's Guide](#) before arriving at Summer Camp!

In the next issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette* we will provide some key hints to make your week at Summer Camp as pleasurable as possible. Stay tuned for Part 2.

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## Northeast District Pinewood Derby a Huge Success!

On Saturday, March 8, 2018 the three fastest Pinewood Derby cars from each Pack across the Northeast District assembled at Ed Martin Honda on N. Shadeland Avenue for the annual district-wide Pinewood Derby race. In addition, each Pack sent their best in show cars.



Thanks to the outstanding guidance provided by Leilan McNally of Pack 831, Andy Troxell of Pack 50, several HELPFUL Boy Scouts and the generosity of both [Ed Martin Honda](#) (for providing the location for the Northeast District Pinewood Derby) and [Firepoint Creations of Noblesville](#) (for providing the trophies for our Pinewood Derby winners), the event was a huge success!

The statistics of the heats (both overall and final-6) are downloadable PDFs: [all heats](#), [final-6 heats](#), [overall standings](#), and [final-6 standings](#) are available on the District Website. Check out a couple of pictures taken during the event.



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## Where Do We Stand on our Northeast District Goals So Far?

In last month's issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*, you were informed of the 2018 Northeast District Goals. While only a month has lapsed since that announcement, we have made some progress we want to spotlight.



- **Recruiting Committee Members** – We are pleased to announce that Mark Sweet, an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 335 has accepted the Vice-Chair for Program position for the Northeast District. Please help us welcome Mark to the Northeast District Committee.
- **Training Update** – While we have made some progress on the training initiative for direct contact leaders within units in the Northeast District, due to new individuals stepping up to fill openings, we actually have more individuals to train than what we indicated last month.
- **Service Hours** – Through the middle of April we have logged 4,062 hours of service across the Northeast District (an average of 1,015.5 per month). Please help us by making sure that all service projects are logged into the BSA National Service Hour database as service projects are created.

- **Friends of Scouting** – while not declared specifically as a 2018 Goal for the Northeast District, please note that we are at 77% of our fund raising goal in our annual campaign with only two unit presentation left. If you were not able to pledge at your respective unit Friends of Scouting presentation, please help us by joining many of your fellow scouters to help assure that the council will have sufficient funding to deliver our outstanding programs.

If you have any questions about our 2018 Northeast District Goals, please contact [Jon Guimont](#), [Kim Wiggins](#), or [Laura Clay](#).

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## University of Scouting Changes Afoot - Mark Your Calendars Now

During the recent the recent Crossroads of America Council Operations Meeting big news was announced about the **University of Scouting**. There are three major changes that will impact the upcoming version of this outstanding Scouter training event:



- First a location change...the next University of Scouting will be held at Carmel Junior High School.
- The second change is the date...the upcoming event will be held on **Saturday, November 17, 2019**.
- The third change is that the Silver Beaver Luncheon will not be held in conjunction with the University of Scouting...this should make for a slightly shorter day since the lunch break will be shorter.

By moving the date for the University of Scouting earlier in the year, the hope is that we will have better weather (opening up the possibility to move some classes outside). More information to come. For now, please mark your calendar with this date.

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