**Council Camping Locations**

- **Camp Conewago**
  450 Boy Scout Road
  New Oxford, PA 17350

- **Hidden Valley Scout Reservation**
  268 Hidden Valley Road
  Loysville, PA 17047

- **Camp Tuckahoe**
  400 Tuckahoe Road
  Dillsburg, PA 17019

- **Wizard Ranch**
  Hellam Township
  York, PA
  *2015 Wizard Safari to be held October 2-4, 2015*

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**2015-2016 Calendar and Planning Guide**

New Birth of Freedom Council, Boy Scouts of America

WWW.NEWBIRTHOFFREEDOM.ORG
Message from the Council President

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Whether you are a parent or a volunteer, I want to thank you for your time and commitment to Scouting. The mission statement for the Boy Scouts of America is “prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.” I know each of you also firmly believe in this desire and thus your deep commitment to the cause. We should never lose sight that the Boy Scout program is, without a doubt, the premiere youth organization that systematically helps deliver the skill sets which allow young people to grow and progress into healthy, confident young adults. We further know that through our core programs, as the Cubs enter the Boy Scouts they enter “the boy led troop,” these pre-teens learn first how to follow, then how to teach others and ultimately lead. The traits learned in the patrol and troop help them to develop leadership qualities that will serve them, their communities and future employers.

I have seen first-hand the personal journey and growth that takes place from Tiger to Eagle Scout. I do not recall ever encountering someone that was not duly impressed with meeting an Eagle Scout. I am convinced if the parents of every six-year-old saw the positive growth and changes in lives that we have seen, that each would choose to have their son join Scouting. So that is our charge - for every child we miss, in part misses the benefits of Scouting. We plainly and simply owe it to ourselves and our communities to introduce this incredible opportunity to every boy and every parent. We should be inviting the kindergartners and first grade families within our community to the Eagle Scout projects and Eagle ceremonies...who would not want their kid to resemble these Eagle Scouts a decade later.

Again, thank you for your commitment. Please know you make a difference in these Scouts lives and they will remember their parents being involved. The Scouts (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers) will look back fondly at the other adults that took time out of their lives to give support had fun-filled meetings; to hike, camp and cook with them; to mentor and serve as a role model. The scouts will remember their friends, the trips and incredible opportunities that Scouting provided. We will all look back in wonderment has the little Tiger grows into an Eagle and soars into adulthood. This is time well spent for ALL.

Warmest regards to each of you—you make a difference!

Michael V.Z. Summers, Council President & Eagle Scout

Training Course Schedule

**Boy Scout Leader Specific**
- 08/29/2015
- 10/10/2015
- 11/14/2015
- 01/09/2016
- 03/12/2016
- 06/04/2016
- 08/27/2016
- 10/08/2016
- 11/12/2016

**Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills & Webelos Outdoor Trainings**
- 10/08-09/2015
- 04/08-09/2016
- 05/20-21/2016
- 09/16-17/2016
- 10/07-08/2016

**Baloo Training**
- 08/29/2015
- 10/10/2015
- 03/05/2016
- 04/23/2016
- 08/27/2016
- 10/08/2016

**Cub Scout Leader Specific**
- 09/12/2015
- 11/07/2015
- 02/06/2016
- 04/09/2016
- 09/10/2016
- 11/05/2016

**Venturing Leader Specific**
- 11/07/2015
- 11/05/2016

**Unit Commissioner Basic Training**
- 03/19/2016 (U of Scouting)

**Commissioner College**
- 09/22/2015 (Bachelors)
- 09/29/2015 (Masters)
- 03/19/2016 (U of Scouting)
- 9/20/2016 (Bachelors)
- 9/27/2016 (Masters)

**Den Chief Training**
- 03/19/2016 (U of Scouting)

**Trainer’s Edge (for Trainers)**
- 09/12/2015
- 02/20/2016
- 09/10/2016

**Chartered Organization Representative Training**
- 12/01/2015

NYLT: National Youth Leadership Training

**June 12-17, 2016**

National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for Councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home Troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Scouts participating in NYLT must be nominated by their Scoutmaster, and will have an opportunity to interface with previous NYLT Youth Staff who lead the course.

Wood Badge

**April 29-May 1, 2016 (session 1 of 2)**

& **May 13-15, 2016 (session 2 of 2)**

In 1919, Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, directed the first Wood Badge premier training course for Scouters. It was designed so that Scouters could learn the skills and methods of Scouting through “learning by doing.” The course consists of camping, cooking, practicing Scout skills and utilizing the patrol method to organize and develop an enthusiasm and team spirit while accomplishing tasks and challenges placed before them. This fellowship brings out a deep dedication to Scouting’s principals, and a spirit of brotherhood among fellow Scouters. Many past participants consider it, “the best management course, ever.”

**Mechanicsburg Service Center**
- T Baden Powell Lane
- Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
- Ph: 717-766-1591
- Fax: 717-795-8721
- M-F 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

**Yo**rk Service Center
- 2139 White Street
- York, PA 17404
- Ph: 717-843-0901
- Fax: 717-845-6338
- M-F 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Mechanicsburg Scout Shop**
- Ph: 717-795-2703
- Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Open Late Thursdays until 7:00 PM
- Saturdays 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**York Scout Shop**
- Ph: 717-825-9039
- Fax: 717-845-2048
- Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Open Late Wednesdays until 7:00 PM
- Saturdays 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**PLEASE NOTE: COUNCIL SERVICE HOURS MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN SCOUT SHOP HOURS**
Welcome to the 2015-2016 Program Planning Guide. It is our sincere hope this guide and web-based resources will be helpful in providing your Scouts and families with the best experience Scouting can offer. The New Birth of Freedom Council continually looks to improve the tools volunteers can access to better prepare adult leaders to deliver a program that progresses each year by taking the Journey to Excellence. Please involve your Unit Commissioner in the Program Planning process, as they have been trained to help you execute all steps necessary for a successful program year in Scouting!

Table of Contents

1 Welcome & Table of Contents
2 How to Program Plan (NEW Tools!)
3 Communications – Stay Connected
   (Websites: Unit Sites, NBOF.org, MyScouting, & My.Scouting)
4 Why Take the Journey to Excellence
5 Guidelines for Unit Funds & Accounts
6 Fall 2015 Popcorn Sale
7 Spring Camp Card Fundraiser
8 Rechartering
9 Unit Membership Chair Responsibilities
10 Membership Recruitment & Retention
10 Advancement & Recognition
10 SCOUTBOOK: NEW Mobile Advancement Tracking
11 Council Calendar: July-Dec. 2015
12 Council Calendar: Jan.-June 2016
14 Battlefield District: Calendar & Meeting Info
15 Conococheague District: Calendar & Meeting Info
16 Indian Rock District: Calendar & Meeting Info
17 Keystone District: Calendar & Meeting Info
18 Pioneer District: Calendar & Meeting Info
19 Susquehanna Trail District: Calendar & Meeting Info
20 Urban District– ScoutReach: Info & Calendar
20 2016 Summer Camp Dates (CT & HV)
21 Sasquesahanough Lodge OA Dates
21 Venturing Calendar
21 Tour & Activity Plans
22 Great Wizard Safari: October 2-4, 2015
22 Shooting Sports Trainings
23 Special Camp Programs: Wilderness Survival, Halloween Days, Winterfest, Fishing Derby, & Spring Fling
23 Philmont Trek 2016: Council High Adventure Opportunity
24 JTE Service Hours & Good Turn For America
25 Training Course Schedule
25 NYLT & Wood Badge

2015-2016 Program Planning resources for all units are available on the Council website at: www.newbirthoffreedom.org. Read Page 2 of this guide to help you get started.
How to Program Plan for a Year of Scouting

The best way to achieve a successful year of Scouting is to first schedule time for a Program Planning meeting! A basic overview of the process should go like this:

Setup the Program Planning Meeting:

♦ Plan for the meeting to run about three hours to fully plan fun and meaningful events and activities that meet the needs of your Scouting families.
♦ Invite unit families to take part in planning the unit’s activities. The more personal the invite, the better.
♦ Attendees should include ALL registered Unit Leaders, the Unit Commissioner, and any parents interested in helping provide input about the year’s upcoming Scouting activities. Troops and Crews need to engage their youth members to participate in Program Planning.
♦ Important materials to have on hand should include:
  ◊ Council Calendar and Planning Guide
  ◊ Unit Program Planning Resource Drive (available on the Council website)
  ◊ Laptop (and Projector, if possible)
  ◊ NEW Cub Scout Adventure Meeting Guides for Packs OR Troop Program Features I, II, & III
  ◊ Any school and community calendars for the areas served by the unit.

IMPORTANT STEPS TO IMPLEMENT (AS OUTLINED BY UNIT PROGRAM PLANNING RESOURCE DRIVE):

1. LEADER SUCCESSION INVENTORY - Work with returning parents/leaders to identify and obtain commitments for future leaders. Ensure they register and complete required training and Youth Protection.

2. BRAINSTORMING - Think outside the box! Use your program tools to select a mix of activities that will allow Unit Leaders and Scout families to have the richest experience possible. Remember, Journey to Excellence is the benchmark that every unit should strive for in order to create a complete program.

3. CALENDAR - Be sure to fill in your calendar with all the great activities you now have planned.

4. BUDGETING TOOL - Based on the unit calendar, match costs with your planned activities to determine the amount of total expenses the unit can expect AND fundraising revenue needed to be earned by each Scout to meet their needs for the year.

5. “A SCOUT IS THRIFTY” SALES GOAL - This is your guarantee families will not have to pay more for planned program. With the right plan and execution, all funds necessary for the unit to sustain and thrive can be achieved through Council Product Sales- Popcorn in the fall and Camp Cards in the spring. Commit to them now!

6. UNIT INCENTIVES - Adopt a unit incentive program built to meet the needs of Scouts, parents, and the unit. Consider family out-of-pocket cost, as Scouting should not be a burden. This should include adopting a unit incentive program that allows youth to pay their own way while taking into consideration some different perspectives:
  ◊ “Why kids participate” = For recognition items or to cover costs of big program experiences. These are frequently not the same thing when comparing young Cub Scout to Boy Scout/Venturer perspectives.
  ◊ “Why parents participate” = To save on out-of-pocket expenses.
  ◊ “What the unit needs to operate and fund for the entire Scouting community.”

7. COMMUNICATE THE PLAN - It is critical to share the plan with your Scouts and parents. New families especially want to know “Who? When? How Much? & Why?” The steps above help to outline these answers. Ask for help. Often parents are willing to take on tasks to help with their son’s development, and may take on larger roles if they find success each step of the way. Having parents involved is the best way to keep Scouts interested in the program so they can get the most out of Scouting’s values.

8. EVALUATE - Determine best methods and look for new opportunities as communities and leaders change. Please share successes with District/Council so we can share with others to help them grow their program.
Communications– Stay Connected!

*Keep everyone up to date with your Unit’s achievements and program by creating a unit website or Facebook page. It’s easy as 1, 2, 3, and your Scout families will appreciate the consistency and accuracy of communications!*

A Unit website is a fantastic resource for Scouts, leaders and families to see how great the Scouting program is. By creating a website or Facebook page, you can share your units achievements and activities in a public forum for members of the community to see. This can also be a great recruitment tool to use to keep your unit growing. It can also let the community know where to look for Scouts who might be interested in helping out with community projects.

If your unit does not have a website, a few tools have been developed to make creating a site very simple. Unit templates have been created utilizing a free service from Google called **Google Sites**. (Note: this service does not show any advertising). Just follow these three steps:
1. Create a Google account for your Pack, Troop, or Crew. Be sure to share the login information with another leader so it is not lost.
2. Go to Google Sites and select either the Pack, Troop, or Crew template.
3. Change the information to meet your units specifics.

Other units choose to use web-based resources like Scoutlander to assist with calendars and communications. The main thing is units determine and use the most productive communication outlets for their families.

**New Birth of Freedom Council on the Web**

There are a lot of valuable resources and links available on the Council website www.newbirthoffreedom.org to keep your unit in-the-know! The Council is loaded with resources every Unit Leader needs to deliver a top-notch, safe, fun-filled program. Be sure to check out your District’s webpage for upcoming trainings and events, and news you can use. You will also find special promotions for Scouting activities and other area events. “Camping” also has several pages dedicated to their activities.

Don’t forget about us Facebook! Be sure to “Like” us and “Friend” us to help stay connected with Scouting locally and nationally!

Another helpful website is the National BSA website which can be found at Scouting.org. Here you will find many National resources like Program Updates, Membership Tools, The Guide to Safe Scouting, and other helpful tools to ensure a quality program through Journey to Excellence. New Birth of Freedom Council looks to have links to many of these resources from National on the www.newbirthoffreedom.org site.

**MyScouting.org & My.Scouting.org: Valuable Resources**

To access your own personal profile, go to www.myScouting.org. Here you will be able to take important online training courses, validate and track leader training, report service hours, check rosters, print membership cards, and create tour plans that are automatically approved. Be sure to update your profile as soon as you create your account with your National ID number so that your records will link to the National BSA database. You can also link directly from this site over to www.My.Scouting.org which provides for some additional profile updates and reports to better empower units and help themselves succeed.
Why Take the Journey to Excellence: Unit Benefits

1. A framework for planning the year.
The Journey to Excellence standards are based on what successful units do to continually improve. If your unit plans to achieve gold or silver Journey to Excellence, you’ll have a strong and active program.

Journey to Excellence provides tangible measurements based on things you are likely already tracking, such as how many campouts you have, how many youth are advancing, etc., and uses simple ways to calculate your performance.

3. Guidance in areas where you might do better.
As you track your performance against the Journey to Excellence standards, you can easily see where you could do better.

4. Specific guidelines and standards of what is considered good performance.
Journey to Excellence has specific, simple measures to help you. You can easily compare what you are doing against the standards.

5. Early warning of potential problem areas.
You track any areas where your unit is not performing as you might like and have plenty of time to make corrections.

6. Recognition for good Scouting.
You can proudly receive your bronze, silver, or gold recognition for your Scouting unit for the year.

7. Benchmarking to get ideas and tips from other good units.
You can receive help and best practices in areas where other units have met the gold standard. In the areas where you are doing well, you can give help and ideas to other units.

Journey to Excellence Scorecards are to be completed at the end of the Scouting year and turned in with the unit’s recharter. They can be found at Scouting.org, along with other tracking tools to measure progress.

JTE Measures the Following Key Components of a Quality Scouting Program
(Across all levels of Scouting- Packs, Troops, Crews, and even Districts and the Council)

- **Calendar & Strategic Planning**
  - Packs ensuring there are regular Den Meetings for boys to earn recognition.
  - Troops using Patrol Method to progress on the trail to Eagle.
  - Crews offering exciting adventures.
- **Budgets**- to support the unit’s program calendar and fund a youth’s experience.
- **Membership**— includes inviting new youth, retain returning youth, and graduating boys to the next program experience.
- **Advancement & Recognition**— to honor and keep youth motivated to succeed.
- **Regular Outdoor Programs and Summer Camping Experiences**—“Outing” in Scouting.
- **Community Service Projects**— like Adopt-A-School and supporting Chartered Partners.
- **Developing Leadership**— through Training and increasing Parent Engagement.
Guidelines for Unit Funds and Accounts

Tax ID Numbers

Under the Chartered Partner concept, Chartering Organizations (churches, service clubs, community organizations) “own” the Pack, Troop, Crew, Team and Post units that are affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America. To establish an account with a local bank, individual units have two options for obtaining a tax ID number. Units can either use ID number of their charter organization or they can apply directly to the IRS for their own tax ID number. The IRS may provide units with a tax ID number over the phone. Units are not permitted to use the Council’s Federal Tax ID number (it’s like a SSN for businesses). Units may, however, use Council’s Sales Tax Exempt number of 75-00519-5 to buy Scouting items; this can be downloaded on Council’s website.

Checking Accounts and Reconciling Funds

Unit funds should be deposited in a checking account that requires two signatures on every check. Same-family members must not approve payment or be the second signatory. The unit leader (Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Advisor) can be one of the signers, but it is recommended that it be a Committee Member. Unit leaders might have a petty cash fund (with a limit set by the unit committee) which is accounted for with receipts each month. The chartered organization should audit the unit finances annually and make this data available to the membership of the chartered organization. All funds and materials are property of the Chartered Organization and should be in their name. Units need to submit Unit Money Earning Applications when appropriate.

The unit committee is responsible for unit finances. A treasurer is recruited to administer accounts, and ideally the Committee Chair should receive bank statement to reconcile. All unit funds should pass through the bank account including, but not limited to, dues, popcorn sales income, camping fees, etc. An exception might be registration fees which are collected as part of an organized joining night for new kids to sign up. Fees collected can be transmitted directly to the Scout Service Center. Funds not needed for registration at that time could be reserved for recharter fees.

Individual Scout Accounts

Unit fundraising designed to make Scouting affordable is a fundamental part of Scouts “earning their way.” Private benefit rules of the Internal Revenue Service prohibit those involved in nonprofit fundraising from receiving a substantial personal benefit for their efforts. Some practices where dollar for dollar credit is provided for the sole benefit of the person who sold product, based upon amount sold, could violate the private benefit prohibition. Funds raised by the unit from product sales belong to the unit. They may not be transferred to the Scout or another unit, but may be re-assigned to units sponsored by the same chartered organization. The committee is responsible for expenditures from unit funds for the benefit of the unit, which may be used to reduce the cost of participation, including the cost of attending camp or obtaining uniforms. They may be used to provide financial assistance or awards to individual Scouts based on their level of participation. Unit funds may be used to buy equipment for the unit or for any other legitimate need of the unit.

Unit Accounts at the Service Centers

All units can maintain a Unit Custodial Account at the Scout Service Center for the purchase of patches, pins, books, and more at the Scout Shop, or use these funds to pay for new youth/adult registration, re-chartering, Boys’ Life subscriptions or camping fees. Only a current account balance may be given over the phone and are subject to change pending daily transactions that may come in the mail. Unit accounts are provided as an optional, complimentary, and limited service. The funds do not earn interest and the bookkeeping system and software will not allow a negative balance. An account balance of at least $2 per youth is recommended.
Sell popcorn and fund your best year of Scouting ever!
Units can earn up to 40% commission on all sales!

Key 2015 Popcorn Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July Popcorn Kickoffs</td>
<td>Units earn an additional 2% commission for attending.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Show and Sell orders due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Unit Program Plans due. Units earn an additional 2% commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>Show and Sell orders distributed to units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21-24</td>
<td>Units may return unsold cases to Council Service Centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Take orders and prize orders due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Take orders distributed to units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4</td>
<td>Payments due. Units earn additional 2% commission.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Best Ways to Sell Popcorn:

**Take Order**
This is the most traditional way to sell; going door-to-door with the take order form. Your customer chooses the product(s) he or she wishes to buy and writes the order on your form. You will collect the money when you deliver the product to your customers a few weeks later.

**Show and Sell**
Your den, pack, or troop gets permission to sell in front of a retail store or in the local mall. You set up a display with products for people to purchase as they walk by. Have plenty of products on display for people to buy.

**Show and Deliver**
This method is similar to Take Order, except you carry Trail's End products with you to show to your customers as you visit them. The customer is able to select the products he or she wishes to buy from your product selection. You then hand over the product and collect the money right then and there.

**Selling Online**
This is the best way to sell to your friends and family who live out of town. You can send emails to your customers asking them to purchase Trail's End products online. Your customers click on the link in your email and can begin shopping right away. They order products online and pay with a credit card, and Trail's End ships the products directly to your customers.

**Selling at Work**
Parents take an order form to their work place. Their co-workers write their order on the order form. Parents deliver the product and collect the money a few weeks later.
New Birth of Freedom Council offers Camp Cards as a unit fundraiser. A “Camp Card” is a discount card that entitles the user to several discounts at local businesses. Three different versions of the Camp Card, representing different geographical areas of the Council, are available. These cards are designed to help Scouts earn their way to attend summer camp programs and activities. Scouts participating in this program will earn 50% commission on each NBOF Camp Card they sell.

**How It Works:**
Units may register by placing their Camp Card order online by February 1, 2016. All units can return their unsold cards at the end of the sale. If a unit wants to keep their unsold cards, they may choose to do so, however they must settle the 50% payment on those cards with the Council when final payments are done in late May. Late fees will be charged for each week a unit is late with their final payment.

**Offered Discounts:**
It is expected many vendors on the 2015 Camp Cards will return again and new businesses will be contacted and asked to participate as well. Last year’s cards offered discounts to places like McDonald’s, Sweet Frog, Jiffy Lube, Red Robin and various local grocery stores. Scouts can sell Camp Cards to family, friends, neighbors, and just about anyone and everyone in their community. It’s a GREAT value!

**Important 2016 Camp Card Dates:**
- Units Register to Sell Cards *February 1*
- Sales Begin & Card Distribution *March Roundtables*
- Sales End *May 20*
- Payment Due/Account Settlement *May 27*
Unit Membership Chair Responsibilities

- Meet with the unit leaders and committee monthly to discuss membership goals and retention.
- Have your unit participate in a fall and spring recruitment plan, by conducting at least two recruitment/Scouting promotion events per year to ensure unit growth.
- Access parent engagement and peer-to-peer recruitment methods to promote Scouting to other families.
- Distribute membership fliers to schools and churches in the unit's area.
- Conduct Scouting rallies and boy talks in schools, leveraging council support when needed.
- Attend district's membership chair training sessions, which focus on Council membership plans and best practices.
- Work with the unit committee to ensure the unit reaches Scouting's Journey to Excellence gold status in the membership category.
- Have your unit be involved in the required amount of Adopt-a-School service or community service projects needed for Scouting's Journey to Excellence score.
- Ensure that new youth and adult applications (complete with signatures), along with registration fees, are completed and turned into the Council Service Center within a week after receipt of the applications.
- Update the unit's BeAScout pin online and follow up on new member leads.
- Work with leadership in multiple units to encourage youth to transition to the age-appropriate program as they grow older (Webelos-to-Scout).
- Assist Committee with successfully processing the Unit Recharter.

Keep in mind that Membership has as much to do with retaining the parent as it does to retaining the youth member. Parent's are the decision makers, and when they say “Yes” to join Scouting and stay involved, then the boy often does too!
Membership Recruitment & Retention

Membership Recruiting is a YEAR ROUND process of community awareness and engagement. Some of the more prominent ways and best methods to successfully recruit include the following:

- **Community Events**: Participate in local activities such as parades, or local fairs and festivals.
- **Social Media, Emails, and School Directories**: Facebook, Twitter or other social media sites, along with other personal contact methods are a great way for parents to share the Scouting experience.
- **Community Visibility**: Yard signs are available at both Service Centers to help advertise your unit’s contact and meeting information.
- **School/Community Marquees & Media Outlets**: Promote upcoming events, like Scout registration nights, as well as achievements to showcase all the good Scouting brings to kids, in addition to local newspapers and church bulletins.
- **Adopt A School**: School Access is extremely significant to sharing the Scouting opportunity with families, so providing a service project for area schools is a great way to develop the relationship with school administrators. Parents of children should be able to interface with their child’s school administrators about what’s important to build the whole student, which includes Scouting’s citizenship, character education, and providing community service projects (to schools).
- **Curriculum Nights & Back to School Events**: Create a display that looks exciting with pictures and examples of activities, or use a looping slide show on a laptop. Have an interest sign up sheet and be sure to follow-up with interested families within 24-48 hours.
- **Peer-to-Peer Recruitment or Invite-A-Friend**: Boys can invite their non-Scout buddies to an upcoming fun activity. Every event/activity should be a recruiting opportunity to invite new friends. The Council has Invite-A-Friend Cards units can use to customize for their needs.
- **Boy Talks**: A brief, 5-7 minute, high-energy presentation at the schools promoting the fun and adventure of Scouting to kids. They are particularly effective for boys able to join Cub Scouts.
- **Round Ups, Rallies, School Nights**: These all equate to a Scout registration night, with a brief overview and time to fill out paperwork, so about 30 minutes. It should include an invite to the next step of a more thorough Parent Orientation meeting.
- **Parent Orientation**: A more detailed presentation of Scouting for parents following a registration night. This may be a prime time to ask them to fill supporting roles as assistants to someone who already has a lead position in the unit. They can help on one project, and may be willing to help more in the future.

Spring and Fall Recruitment: EVERY unit is urged to make a push during these key times to recruit.

**Spring Recruitment:**
- Hold in April/May, so apps can be processed by June.
- Great time to invite boys completing Kindergarten.
- New kids can still go to summer camp opportunities.
- Units use summer to prep parents and involve them in Program Planning, especially new Tiger Den Leaders.
- Ideally, units hold summer events like picnics, hikes, ball games, parades, swim parties, and summer camp.

**Fall Recruitment:**
- Hold in Aug/Sept prior to the start of Popcorn Sale.
- Inventory returning Scouts and share program calendar.
- New families may have moved to the area in summer.
- Kids are excited to see friends back at school; they need to connect outside the classroom in a fun, family-friendly environment that Scouting offers.

**Webelos-to-Scout Transition**: Boys moving from Pack to Troop is a key retention factor. Over 90% of the boys who join a Troop were Cub Scouts. Webelos to Scout Transition best methods include:
- Den Chiefs: Boys in Troop attend Den/Pack meetings.
- “Pack Mentor”: Troops might consider having an adult serve as mentor for a Pack. Perhaps someone previously involved with the Pack to serve as a Commissioner.
- Webelos Den Visits: Go to the Webelos Dens; don’t just have them come to the Troop meetings/outings.
- Crossover: Conduct a Bridging Ceremony for Arrow of Light boys during Pack’s Blue and Gold in Feb/March.
- Bear Den Visit: In Mar/Apr visit a Bear Den Meeting to help these families understand Webelos and Troop.
- Spring Camping: Help eliminate homesickness issues at long-term summer camp with weekend camping.
- Troop Open House: Rallies for 5th-8th graders to promote the fun and adventures of outdoors. Boys should complete an interest survey. Follow-up with personal phone calls to invite them to a Troop Open House.

**Crew Open House**: Personal invitation night filled with fun (and food) to get high schoolers out to consider joining a Crew, while offering their parent’s the information they need to approve of their young adult joining the program.

**Membership Inventories**: Call families who haven’t attended Scouting recently to personally invite them back. Guide them to another Scouting option if schedule changes, or other scenarios are keeping them from attending.

**Who can help?** Please contact the Council’s Vice President of Membership, Craig Raisner at 717.648.6881 or craisner@gmail.com, to reach District Membership Chairs.
Advancement & Recognition

Reporting advancement is a requirement of the Boy Scouts of America. Internet Advancement makes this a simple process.

Youth earn recognitions and ranks along their journey in Scouting, so it is extremely important to keep member records up to date. Submitting an advancement report assures that records are maintained and awards can be purchased from the Scout Shop, not to mention it assists with a unit’s Journey to Excellence.

Internet Advancement is a convenient way to assist unit leaders with recording awards, ranks, and merit badges earned by Scouts from any online location. It also makes it easier to confirm existing ranks and awards, should a boy’s progress need to be checked. Beginning January 2016, the Advancement Committee, through Executive Board adoption, requires all units use Internet Advancement to complete reporting. Should you need assistance/support on this new requirement, each District’s Advancement Chair will help you get setup.

SCOUTBOOK: New Mobile Advancement Tracking

This year, we are pleased to announce that BSA National has acquired Scoutbook, a web application designed for mobile devices. Scoutbook delivers a suite of easy-to-use web-based tools that are helpful to Scouts, parents, and unit leaders. It enables units to better communicate, update records, track advancement and manage activities. Current programs that Scoutbook supports are Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing units. Unit leaders can see Scout advancement information as well as training data on other unit volunteers all from this resource.

Although any adult leader or Scout can register to use Scoutbook, it is designed specifically for registered unit leaders, registered Scouts, and parent or guardians of registered Scouts. New subscribers are currently being recruited and you can sign up at www.Scoutbook.com.

Scoutbook will be made available to all units, but units may continue to choose other third-party applications to use to track progress. However, Scoutbook will be the only unit-management system fully integrated with the BSA database. Because of this, there will be no need to port data from other third-party vendors, so it’s worth checking in to.

Utilizing Scoutbook will not have any affect on utilizing Commissioner Tools. Commissioners will continue to use Commissioner Tools to monitor the health of their units, but should expect the data to become more robust as more Scouts and unit leaders engage with Scoutbook.

More information can be found at http://Scoutingwire.org/Scouting-goes-mobile-with-Scoutbook/

PLEASE NOTE: In order to purchase advancement awards at any of the BSA Scout Shops, an advancement form must be submitted. This form can be produced using the Internet Advancement system. This policy is in effect for all advancement, including Cub Scout ranks, Boy Scout ranks, Boy Scout merit badges, and Venturing recognition. Please plan ahead when preparing for Pack/Den meetings, Pack Blue & Golds, and Troop Courts of Honor.
# 2015-2016 Council Calendar: July-Dec. 2015

This calendar includes Council-wide Committee Meetings, Popcorn, Training, Camping and Special Activity dates. Please refer to the District Pages for District Events and Meetings. CT= Camp Tuckahoe. HV= Hidden Valley

## July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Independence Day– Service Centers Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Camping Committee Mtg- CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tuckahoe Memorial Mall Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Council Membership Committee Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Camp Conewago Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Council Executive Board Mtg-HV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>LDS/BSA Relationships Mtg</td>
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## August 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>Session #3 Webelos Resident– CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-8</td>
<td>National Order of the Arrow Conf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>Session #4 Webelos Resident– CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>Session #3 Cub Scout Resident- CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Council Executive Committee Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Council Membership Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Camp Conewago Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Camping Committee Mtg- CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-23</td>
<td>OA Ordeal at Camp Tuckahoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Popcorn Show-N-Sell Order Due &amp; Program Plans Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Golf Classic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Boy Scout Leader Specific Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>BALOO Training</td>
</tr>
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## September 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Labor Day- Service Centers Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sporting Clays Shoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Popcorn Show &amp; Sell Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chainsaw Training at Camp Tuckahoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Trainer’s Edge Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cub Scout Leader Specific Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Philmont Mtg at Camp Tuckahoe</td>
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## September 2015 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>Region 3 Catholic Committee Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Council Executive Board Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Council Membership Committee Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>Catholic Scout Retreat Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Catholic Committee on Scouting Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Commissioner College (Bachelors)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Good Turn for America Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Commissioner College (Masters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Rifle Merit Badge Range Day</td>
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</table>

## October 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>Great Wizard Safari Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Camping Committee Mtg-CT</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) &amp; Outdoor Webelos Leader (OWL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Boy Scout Leader Specific Training</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BALOO Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Columbus Day-Service Centers Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Camp Conewago Mtg</td>
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</table>

## November 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Council Executive Board Mtg</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Council Membership Committee Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Council Advancement Committee</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg</td>
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<td>Council Executive Committee Mtg</td>
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<td>Council Membership Committee Mtg</td>
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<td>Council Advancement Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Camp Promotion Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Camp Promotion Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>26-27</td>
<td>Thanksgiving-Service Centers Closed</td>
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## December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chartered Rep Training</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Popcorn Payments Due</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg</td>
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<td>Camp Promotion Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Camping Committee Mtg-CT</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-13</td>
<td>OA Lodge Leadership Development</td>
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<td>Council Executive Committee Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Council Membership Committee Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-25</td>
<td>Christmas-Service Centers Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>New Years Eve</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Notes
- Oct.30-1 OA Fall Fellowship HVSR
- Oct.30-1 OA Fall Fellowship HVSR
- Oct.30-1 OA Fall Fellowship HVSR
- October 2015
- November 2015
- December 2015
2015-2016 Council Calendar: Jan.-June 2016

This calendar includes Council-wide Committee Meetings, Popcorn, Training, Camping and Special Activity dates. Please refer to the District Pages for District Events and Meetings.

**January 2016**
1. New Year’s Day- Service Centers Closed
9. Order of the Arrow Lodge Banquet
9. Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
10. Philmont Crew Mtg-CT
12. Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
16. Catholic Committee on Scouting Mtg
16. Philmont Crew Mtg
18. Martin Luther King Day- Service Centers Closed
19. Council Executive Board Mtg
20. Council Membership Committee Mtg
20. Council Advancement Committee
20. Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg

**March 2016 (continued)**
12. Chainsaw Training HV
12. Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
12. ARC CPR/AED Training CT
15. Council Executive Board Mtg
16. Council Membership Committee Mtg
16. Council Advancement Committee
16. Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg
19. Catholic Committee on Scouting Mtg
19. University of Scouting (includes:)
   - Unit Commissioner Training
   - Commissioner College
   - Den Chief Training
   - Many more supplemental trainings for all Scout leaders– Cub Scout, Boy Scout, & Venturing
19. Wilderness/Remote First Aid Training
23. Camp Promotion Mtg
25. Good Friday- Service Centers Closed
27. Easter Sunday

**April 2016 (continued)**
20. Council Advancement Committee
21. LDS/BSA Relationships Mtg
23. Beaver Work Day at Camp Tuckahoe
23. BALOO Training
23. Camp Open House at Camp Tuckahoe
29-May 1 Wood Badge Weekend #1 (1 of 2)

**May 2016**
April29-1 Wood Badge Weekend #1 (1 of 2)
2. Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner for Silver Beavers
7. Spring Fling at Camp Tuckahoe
7. Beaver Work Day at Hidden Valley
10. Commissioner Conference Mtg
13-15. Wood Badge Weekend #2 (2 of 2)
15. Philmont Crew Mtg- CT
17. Council Annual Business Meeting & Executive Board Meeting
18. Council Membership Committee Mtg
18. Council Advancement Committee
18. Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg
20-21. Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) & Outdoor Webelos Leader (OWL) Trainings
20-22. OA May Ordeal at Camp Tuckahoe
21. Catholic Committee on Scouting Mtg
24. Good Turn for America Cmte Mtg
27. Camp Card Sale: Payments, Unsold Card Returns, & Prize Forms All Due
30. Memorial Day- Service Centers Closed

**June 2016**
1. Program Launch
3-5. OA Section Conclave- CT
4. Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
12-14. Session 1 Cub Resident CT

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**February 2016**
6. Cub Scout Leader Specific Training
9. Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
11. Camping Committee Mtg
15. President’s Day-Service Centers Closed
16. Council Executive Committee Mtg
17. Council Membership Committee Mtg
17. Council Advancement Committee
17. Camp Conewago Mtg
20. Trainer’s Edge Training

**March 2016**
1. Camp Card Sales Begin
4-6. OA Winter Fellowship- HV
5. Philmont Mtg at Camp Tuckahoe
5. BALOO Training
8. Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
9. Cub Scout Leader Specific Training

**April 2016**
2. Shelter Drive Hanger Distribution
8-10. Fishing Derby at Hidden Valley
8-9. Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) & Outdoor Webelos Leader (OWL) Trainings
9. Camp Open House at Hidden Valley
9. Shelter Drive Collection Day
12. Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
13. Camp Conewago Mtg
14. Camping Committee Mtg- CT
15-17. OA April Ordeal at Hidden Valley
15-17. Philmont Shakedown at HV
16. Camp Conewago Work Day
17. Catholic Scout Mass with the Bishop
19. Council Executive Committee Mtg
20. Council Membership Committee Mtg

**June 2016**
1. Program Launch
3-5. OA Section Conclave- CT
4. Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
12-14. Session 1 Cub Resident CT

This calendar includes Council-wide Committee Meetings, Popcorn, Training, Camping and Special Activity dates. Please refer to the District Pages for District Events and Meetings.

**June 2016 (continued)**
- 12-17 National Youth Leadership Training
- 14 Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
- 14-28 Philmont Trek
- 15 Council Membership Committee Mtg
- 15 Council Advancement Committee
- 15 Camp Conewago Mtg
- 15-17 Session 2 Cub Resident CT
- 16 OA Fellowship at Hidden Valley
- 19-23 Session 1 Webelos Resident CT
- 19-25 Session 1 Boy Scout Resident HV
- 21 Council Executive Board Mtg– CT
- 26-30 Session 2 Webelos Resident CT
- 26-July2 Session 2 Boy Scout Resident HV

**July 2016**
- June 26-2 Session 2 Boy Scout Resident HV
- 3-9 Session 1 Boy Scout Resident CT
- 3-9 Session 3 Boy Scout Resident HV
- 4 Independence Day-Service Centers Closed
- 8 Tuckahoe Memorial Mall Ceremony
- 9 Catholic Committee on Scouting Mtg
- 10-16 Session 2 Boy Scout Resident CT
- 10-16 Session 4 Boy Scout Resident HV
- 12 Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
- 17-23 Session 3 Boy Scout Resident CT
- 17-23 Session 5 Boy Scout Resident HV
- 19 Council Executive Board Mtg– HV
- 20 Council Membership Committee Mtg
- 20 Friends of Hidden Valley Mtg
- 21 LDS/BSA Relationships Mtg
- 24-30 Session 4 Boy Scout Resident CT

**August 2016 (continued)**
- 13-15 Session 3 Cub Scout Resident CT
- 16 Council Executive Committee Mtg
- 17 Council Membership Committee Mtg
- 17 Camp Conewago Mtg
- 19-21 OA Ordeal Weekend—HV
- 27 Boy Scout Leader Specific Training
- 27 BALOO Training
- 19-25 Session 3 Boy Scout Resident CT
- 26-30 Session 2 Webelos Resident CT
- 26-July2 Session 2 Boy Scout Resident HV

**September 2016**
- 5 Labor Day– Service Centers Closed
- 10 CS Leader Specific Training
- 10 Chainsaw Training at Camp Tuckahoe
- 10 Trainer’s Edge Training
- 16-17 Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) & Outdoor Webelos Leader (OWL) Trainings
- 23-25 OA Fall Fellowship- CT
- 24-25 Thanksgiving-Service Centers Closed

**October 2016 (continued)**
- 11 Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
- 15 Halloween Days at Camp Tuckahoe
- 18 Council Executive Committee Mtg
- 19 Council Membership Committee Mtg
- 19 Council Advancement Committee
- 19 Camp Conewago Mtg
- 22 Halloween Days at Camp Tuckahoe

**November 2016**
- 5 Scouting for Food Hanger Distribution
- 5 Venturing Leader Specific Training
- 5 Cub Scout Leader Specific Training
- 8 Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg

**December 2016**
- Nov.28-1 Council Camps Closed for Hunting
- 13 Council Commissioner Cabinet Mtg
- 20 Council Executive Committee Mtg
- 21 Council Membership Committee Mtg
- 23-26 Christmas- Service Centers Closed
- 31 New Years Eve

All Dates listed July 2016 to December 2016 are subject to change, and will be listed as final, confirmed dates in the 2016-2017 edition of the Council Calendar.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 2015</strong></td>
<td>19- Day Camp Parents Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20-24- Cub Scout Day Camp- Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UCC Picnic Grove in Littlestown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 2015</strong></td>
<td>6- Roundtable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24- District Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 2015</strong></td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28- District Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 2015</strong></td>
<td>1- Roundtable; Recharter Distribution &amp; Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 2015</strong></td>
<td>5- Roundtable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19- Recharter Turn In</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>December 2015</strong></td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14- Commissioner Staff meeting</td>
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<tr>
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<td>28- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>January 2016</strong></td>
<td>7- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16-Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>19-21- Klondike Derby</td>
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<td>22- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>February 2016</strong></td>
<td>4- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>25- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>March 2016</strong></td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
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<td>14- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>28- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>April 2016</strong></td>
<td>7- Roundtable</td>
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<td>11- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29-30- Spring Camporee</td>
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<td><strong>May 2016</strong></td>
<td>1- Spring Camporee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5- Roundtable</td>
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<td>10- Commissioner Meeting</td>
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<td>17- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
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<td>19- Volunteer Recognition Dinner</td>
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<td>23- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 2016</strong></td>
<td>1- Program Launch</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>27- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>July 2016</strong></td>
<td>24- Day Camp Parents Meeting</td>
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<td>25-29- Day Camp</td>
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<td><strong>September 2016</strong></td>
<td>1- Roundtable</td>
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<td>12- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>20- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
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<td>26- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
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<td>30- Fall Camporee</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 2016</strong></td>
<td>1-2- Fall Camporee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>24- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 2016</strong></td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
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<td>14- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>26- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>December 2016</strong></td>
<td>1- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>19- District Committee Meeting</td>
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**Meeting Locations & Times**

All Committee, Commissioner, and Roundtable Meetings are held at:
Brethren Home
2990 Carlisle Pike
New Oxford, PA 17350
7:00 PM
Conococheague District

Includes these school districts: Chambersburg, Shippensburg, Fannett-Metal, Tuscarora, Big Spring, West Perry, Greenwood, Newport, & Susquehita

July 2015
6-10– Franklin Cub Scout Day Camp—Letterkenny Army Depot
13-17- Perry Cub Scout Day Camp—Sherman’s Dale Lion’s Club Park

August 2015
6– Franklin Commissioner Staff Mtg & Roundtable Kickoff Mtg
13– Perry Commissioner Staff Mtg & Roundtable Kickoff Mtg
20– District Committee Meeting

September 2015
3– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
10– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
17– District Committee Meeting

October 2015
1– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable; Recharter Distribution & Training
8– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable; Recharter Distribution & Training
15– District Committee Meeting
24– Recharter Workshop

November 2015
5– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
7– Franklin Recharter Turn In
12– Perry Recharter Turn In; Commissioner & Roundtable
19– District Committee Meeting

December 2015
1– District Committee Meeting
3– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
10– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable

January 2016
7– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
9– Newville Merit Badge College

January 2016 (continued)
14– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
21– District Committee Meeting
22-24– Klondike Derby

February 2016
4– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
11– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
18– District Committee Mtg
20– Newville Merit Badge College

March 2016
3– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
10– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
17– District Committee Mtg

April 2016
7– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
14– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
21– District Committee Mtg
22-24 Spring Camporee

May 2016
5– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
12– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
19– District Committee Mtg

June 2016
1– Program Launch
9– District Recognition Picnic

July 2016
4-8– Franklin Day Camp
11-15– Perry Day Camp

August 2016
4– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
11– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
18– District Committee Meeting

September 2016
1– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
8– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable

October 2016
6– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
13– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
20– District Committee Meeting
22– Recharter Workshop in Newville

November 2016
3– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
5– Franklin Charter Turn In
5–First Aid Meet
10– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
10– Perry Charter Turn in
17– District Committee Meeting

December 2016
1– Franklin Commissioner & Roundtable
8– Perry Commissioner & Roundtable
15– District Committee Meeting

Meeting Locations & Times

Franklin County:
Commissioner Meeting (at 6:00 PM)
& Roundtable (at 7:00 PM)
Baker Center
King Street Church
162 East King Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Perry County:
Commissioner Meeting (at 6:00 PM)
& Roundtable (at 7:00 PM)
Hidden Valley Scout Ranch
268 Hidden Valley Road
Loysville, PA 17047

District Committee:
Newville Scout Building
49 Vine Street
Newville, PA 17241
7:00 PM
Indian Rock District

Includes these school districts: Dallastown, Red Lion, York Suburban, South Eastern, & Southern York County

July 2015
13-17- Cub Scout Day Camp– Izaak Walton League in Dallastown

August 2015
6- Roundtable
13- District Committee Meeting
27- Commissioner Staff Meeting

September 2015
3- Roundtable
10- District Committee Meeting
24- Commissioner Staff Meeting

October 2015
1- Roundtable; Recharter Distribution & Training
8- District Committee Meeting
22- Commissioner Staff Meeting

November 2015
5- Roundtable; Recharter Workshop & Turn In
12– Recharter Turn-In Night
19– District Committee & Commissioner Staff Meeting

December 2015
3- Roundtable
10- District Committee Meeting
17- Commissioner Staff Meeting

January 2016
7- Roundtable
14- District Committee Meeting
28- Commissioner Staff Meeting

February 2016
4- Roundtable
11- District Committee Meeting
19-21- Klondike Derby
25- Commissioner Staff Meeting

March 2016
3- Roundtable
10- District Committee Meeting
17- Commissioner Staff Meeting

April 2016
7- Roundtable
14- District Committee Meeting
28- Commissioner Staff Meeting
29-30- Spring Camporee

May 2016
1- Spring Camporee
5- Roundtable
12- District Committee Meeting & Commissioner Staff Meeting

June 2016
1– Program Launch
9- District Committee Meeting & Commissioner Staff Meeting

July 2016
18-22 Day Camp

August 2016
4 Roundtable
11 District Committee Meeting
25 Commissioner Staff Meeting

September 2016
1- Roundtable
8- District Committee Meeting
22- Commissioner Staff Meeting
30- Fall Camporee

October 2016
1-2- Fall Camporee
6- Roundtable
13- District Committee Meeting
27- Commissioner Staff Meeting

November 2016
3- Roundtable
10- District Committee & Commissioner Staff Meeting
17- Recharter Turn in Night

Meeting Locations & Times

Roundtable:
LDS Church
2100 Hollywood Drive
York, PA 17403
7:00 PM

District Committee and Commissioner Staff Meetings:
Codorus Valley Business Center (aside People’s Bank)
105 Leader Heights Road
York, PA 17403
7:00 PM
Keystone Capital District

Includes these school districts: Millersburg, Upper Dauphin, Williams Valley, Halifax, Central Dauphin, Susquehanna Twp, Lower Dauphin, City of Harrisburg, Steelton-Highspire, Middletown, & Derry Twp.

**July 2015**
20-24- Cub Scout Day Camp– Camp
Catherine in Hershey

**August 2015**
6- Roundtable
25- Commissioner Staff Meeting
26- District Committee Meeting

**September 2015**
3- Roundtable
29- Commissioner Meeting
30- District Committee Meeting

**October 2015**
1- Roundtable; Recharter Distribution & Training
16-18- Jamboree on the Air
17– Recharter Workshop & Turn In
27– Commissioner Meeting & Recharter Turn-In
28– District Committee Meeting

**November 2015**
5- Roundtable & Recharter Turn In
17- Commissioner Meeting & Recharter Turn-In
18- District Committee Meeting

**December 2015**
3– Recharter Turn in & Roundtable
22- Commissioner Meeting
30- District Committee Meeting

**January 2016**
7- Roundtable
23– Harrisburg Merit Badge College #1
26- Commissioner Staff Meeting

**January 2016 (continued)**
27- District Committee Meeting
30- District Klondike at Hidden Valley

**February 2016**
4- Roundtable
23- Commissioner Staff Meeting
24– District Committee Meeting

**March 2016**
3- Roundtable
5- District Pinewood Derby
17- Hershey FOS Breakfast
19- Harrisburg Merit Badge College #2
29- Commissioner Staff Meeting
30- District Committee Meeting

**April 2016**
7- Roundtable
22-24- Spring Camporee at Indian Echo Caverns
23– District Recognition Dinner
26- Commissioner Meeting
27- District Committee Meeting

**May 2016**
5-Roundtable
24- Commissioner Staff Meeting
25– District Committee Meeting

**June 2016**
1– Program Launch

**July 2016**
18-22– District Day Camp

**August 2016**
4- Roundtable
30– Commissioner Staff Meeting
31– District Committee Meeting

**September 2016**
1-Roundtable
27– Commissioner Staff Meeting
28– District Committee Meeting

**October 2016**
6- Roundtable
14-16- Fall Camporee (& JOTA)
25- Commissioner Staff Meeting
26- District Committee Meeting
31- Recharter Turn IN

**November 2016**
3- Roundtable
29- Commissioner Staff Meeting
30- District Committee Meeting

**December 2016**
1– Roundtable
27– Commissioner Staff Meeting
28– District Committee Meeting

**Meeting Locations & Times**

Roundtable:
Church of Latter Day Saints
4788 Union Deposit Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111
7:00 PM

Commissioner Staff:
Charlton United Methodist Church
5920 Jonestown Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112
6:30 PM

District Committee Meeting:
Gander Mountain
5005 Jonestown Rd.
Harrisburg, PA 17112
7:00 PM
Pioneer District
Includes these school districts: Carlisle, North Middletown, Northern York County, Cumberland Valley, Mechanicsburg, Camp Hill, & East Pennsboro

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>February 2016</th>
<th>October 2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-10- Cub Scout Day Camp– Willow Mill Park in Mechanicsburg</td>
<td>3- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>5- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6– West Shore Merit Badge College #2</td>
<td>14-6 Fall Camporee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11-Roundtable</td>
<td>13- Roundtable</td>
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<td>19-21- Klondike Derby</td>
<td>24- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<th>September 2015</th>
<th>March 2016</th>
<th>November 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>2- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>2- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>2- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10- Roundtable</td>
<td>5- Pinewood Derby</td>
<td>10- Roundtable</td>
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<td>10- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
<td>10- Roundtable</td>
<td>23- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>23- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<th>October 2015</th>
<th>April 2016</th>
<th>December 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>7- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>3- Recharter Turn In Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>8- Roundtable; Recharter Distribution &amp; Training</td>
<td>14- Roundtable</td>
<td>7- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>28- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>14- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
<td>7- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>29-30-Spring Camporee</td>
<td>8- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>27-District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>8- Roundtable</td>
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<tr>
<th>May 2016</th>
<th>June 2016</th>
<th>Meeting Locations &amp; Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>1– Program Launch</td>
<td>Roundtable:</td>
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<tr>
<td>12- Roundtable</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>25- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>300 E. Simpson St.</td>
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<td>Mechanicsburg, PA 17055</td>
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<tr>
<th>December 2015</th>
<th>July 2016</th>
<th>District Committee:</th>
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<tr>
<td>2- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11-15- Mechanicsburg Day Camp</td>
<td>Saint Katherine Drexel Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>2- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>August 2016</td>
<td>1 Peter Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>10- Roundtable</td>
<td>3- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>Mechanicsburg, PA 17050</td>
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<td>11- Roundtable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>31- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Commissioner Staff:</td>
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<td>September 2016</td>
<td>Bethany Village</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>5225 Wilson Lane</td>
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<td>8- Roundtable</td>
<td>Mechanicsburg, PA 17055</td>
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### Susquehanna Trail District

Includes these school districts: West Shore, Northeastern York County, Central York, City of York, West York, Dover, & Eastern York

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27-31- Cub Scout Day Camp- Rocky Ridge County Park in York</td>
<td>4- Roundtable</td>
<td>1- Roundtable</td>
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<td><strong>August 2015</strong></td>
<td>11- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>8- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6- Roundtable</td>
<td>23- Unit Recognition Dinner</td>
<td>14- Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>13- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>25- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>22- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>27- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td><strong>March 2016</strong></td>
<td>16-18- District Fall Camporee</td>
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<td><strong>September 2015</strong></td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
<td>6- Roundtable &amp; Recharter Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
<td>10- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>13- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>10- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>17- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>27- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>17- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td><strong>April 2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>November 2016</strong></td>
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<td><strong>October 2015</strong></td>
<td>2- District Pinewood Derby</td>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
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<tr>
<td>8- Roundtable &amp; Recharter Training</td>
<td>7- Roundtable</td>
<td>10- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>15- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>14- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>&amp; Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>22- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>22-24- District Spring Camporee</td>
<td>17- Charter Turn in Night</td>
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<td>29–Recharter Workshop (By Apptmnt)</td>
<td>28- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td><strong>December 2016</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>November 2015</strong></td>
<td><strong>May 2016</strong></td>
<td>1- Roundtable</td>
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<tr>
<td>5- District Roundtable</td>
<td>5- Roundtable</td>
<td>8- District Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>12– District Committee Meeting &amp; Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>12- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>15- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>19– Recharter Turn In</td>
<td>19– Life to Eagle Seminar</td>
<td><strong>Meeting Locations &amp; Times</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 2015</strong></td>
<td>26- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Roundtable:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3- Roundtable</td>
<td><strong>June 2016</strong></td>
<td>Christ Lutheran Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>10- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>1- Program Launch</td>
<td>66 South Main Street</td>
</tr>
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<td>17- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td><strong>July 2016</strong></td>
<td>Manchester, PA 17345</td>
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<td><strong>January 2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>August 2016</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7- Roundtable</td>
<td>25-29 Rocky Ridge Day Camp</td>
<td><strong>District Committee and</strong></td>
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<td>14- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td><strong>April 2016</strong></td>
<td>Commissioner Staff :</td>
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<td>28- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>4- Roundtable</td>
<td>Garrold Hydraulics</td>
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<tr>
<td>29-31- District Klondike Derby</td>
<td>11- District Committee Meeting</td>
<td>1050 Locust Point Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>25- Commissioner Staff Meeting</td>
<td>York, PA 17406</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Meeting Locations & Times

**Roundtable:**
Christ Lutheran Church
66 South Main Street
Manchester, PA 17345
7:00 PM

**District Committee and Commissioner Staff:**
Garrold Hydraulics
1050 Locust Point Rd.
York, PA 17406
7:00 PM
The New Birth of Freedom ScoutReach Division gives special leadership and emphasis to urban Scouting programs. ScoutReach is the BSA’s commitment to making sure that all young people have an opportunity to join Scouting, regardless of their circumstances, neighborhood, family income, or ethnic background.

Today, young people are faced with many challenges as they often face fragile families and disintegrating neighborhoods. ScoutReach meets the developmental needs of youth in urban settings of inner city Harrisburg and inner city York. Both of these school districts offer a very comprehensive afterschool curriculum which supports additional instructional time and tutoring followed by extracurricular like Scouting on a weekly basis. In an effort to reach every kid, New Birth of Freedom Council also looks to partner with other non-school based after school entities.

Scouting, by emphasizing ethics and moral values, addresses many of the social concerns of parents and youth in our country. Scouting prepares our youth, no matter what their circumstances might be, to be leaders, to accept responsibility, and to care about principles and causes beyond their own self-interest.

### Urban District Calendar

#### 2015
- **July 8**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **August 12**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **September 9**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **September 14**: York Afterschool Program Starts
- **September 21**: Harrisburg Afterschool Program Starts
- **October 10**: York Fall Hike
- **October 14**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **November 11**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **November 21**: Harrisburg Pinewood & Awards Ceremony
- **December 9**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **December 12**: York Pinewood & Awards Ceremony

#### 2016
- **January 13**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **February 10**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **March 9**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **March 12**: York Spring Hike
- **March 28**: York Blue & Gold Awards Dinner
- **April 13**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **April 22-24**: Family Cabin Camping at Camp Tuckahoe
- **May 11**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **May 21**: Harrisburg Blue & Gold Awards Picnic
- **June 8**: York Urban Committee Meeting
- **July 13**: York Urban Committee Meeting

### 2016 Summer Camp Dates

#### Cub Resident Camp Tuckahoe
- Session #1 June 12-14
- Session #2 June 15-17
- Session #3 August 13-15

#### Boy Scout Resident Camp Tuckahoe
- Session #1 July 3-9
- Session #2 July 10-16
- Session #3 July 17-23
- Session #4 July 24-30

#### Webelos Resident Camp Tuckahoe
- Session #1 June 19-23
- Session #2 June 26-30
- Session #3 August 1-5
- Session #4 August 7-11

#### Boy Scout Resident Camp Hidden Valley
- Session #1 June 19-25
- Session #2 June 26-July 2
- Session #3 July 3-9
- Session #4 July 10-16
- Session #5 July 17-23
The Order of the Arrow is Scouting’s National Honor Society and recognizes Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.

- August 3-8, 2015 NOAC at Michigan State
- August 21-23, 2015 August Ordeal at Camp Tuckahoe
- October 30-November 1, 2015 Fall Fellowship at Hidden Valley
- December 11-13, 2015 Lodge Leadership Development at Hidden Valley
- January 9, 2016 Lodge Banquet
- March 4-6, 2016 Winter Fellowship Hidden Valley
- April 15-17, 2016 April Ordeal Hidden Valley
- May 20-22, 2016 May Ordeal Camp Tuckahoe
- June 3-5, 2016 HOST Section Conclave at Tuckahoe
- August 19-21, 2016 August Ordeal Hidden Valley
- September 23-25, 2016 Fall Fellowship Tuckahoe
- November 11-13, 2016 LLD Hidden Valley

Visit the lodge’s website at http://lodge.newbirthoffreedom.org or check us out on Facebook.

Venturing Calendar

Venturing is the co-ed youth development program of the BSA geared for young men and women ages 14-20, and maintains the purpose of providing positive experiences to help young people mature and preparing them to become responsible, caring adults. It’s also pretty cool that they often take some pretty incredible high adventure trips and cultivate leadership through fun, challenging adventures. Find out more about Venturing and the flexibility of this exciting program at Scout-ing.org.

- August 20, 2015– Venturing Roundtable
- October 2-4, 2015– Wizard Safari
- October 15, 2015– Venturing Roundtable
- November 7, 2015– Venturing Leader Specific Training
- December 17, 2015– Venturing Roundtable
- February 18, 2016– Venturing Roundtable
- March 19, 2016– University of Scouting
- April 21, 2016– Venturing Roundtable
- August 18, 2016-Venturing Roundtable
- October 20, 2016– Venturing Roundtable
- December 15, 2016– Venturing Roundtable

Tour & Activity Plans

The tour and activity plan is a planning tool for best practices to be prepared for safe and fun adventure. While it may not address all possible challenges, it can help ensure that appropriate planning has been conducted, with qualified, trained leadership in place, and the right equipment for the adventure. It also helps to organize safe and appropriate transportation to and from an event, defining driver qualifications and minimum limits of insurance coverage for drivers and vehicles used to transport participants. Tour plans should be submitted at least 21 days in advance to provide time for review and approval by the Council, and must be submitted for the following adventures:

- Trips of 500 miles or more; trips outside Council borders.
- Trips to National destinations like Sea Base, Philmont, Northern Tier, The Summit, NOAC, etc.
- When conducting activities outside of Council/District events that include any of the following– Aquatics (swimming, boating, scuba, etc.); Climbing/Rappelling; Orientation Flights; Shooting Sports; Activities with Motorized Vehicles (snowmobiles, ATV’s, Boats, etc.); or any other times the Council requests.

Login to www.myscouting.org to complete a Tour and Activity Plan.
Great Wizard Safari: October 2-4, 2015

The backbone of our great nation was made by pioneering and the steel rails of the railroad. Miles and miles of track were laid down by hard workers to help move goods and people across the land. What used to take months of trail riding in covered wagons along the Oregon Trail could now be accomplished by a few days of riding the rails. Riding on the train would have been great fun. As you rode through the open range you’d likely see cattle grazing on the plains, and cowboys on horseback protecting them. You might pass through little towns such as Deadwood Tombstone, and Sunnyside, where there were famous shoot outs. There might even be some prospectors traveling along with you, hoping to strike it rich in the famous Cripple Creek gold mine. Join in our Wizard Safari to experience all the fun!

The Great Wizard Safari is held every four years at Wizard Ranch is open to the full family of Scouting participants: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturing Crews. We look forward to seeing you there!

Adventures include:
- Oregon Trail Obstacle Course
- Mississippi River Snapper Fishing
- Native American See and Do
- Miner 49er
- Cowboy Breakfast
- Lazy “H” Cattle Branding
- Ranch Hand Rodeo
- Shootout at the OK Corral

…..and much more!

Shooting Sports Trainings

2015 Shooting Sports Dates:
- June 7 PAH and TE at CT
- Sept. 11-13 BIT and Rifle Instructor at HV
- September 18-20 RSO and Shotgun Instructor at HV
- Sept. 26, Rifle Merit Badge Range Day at CT
- October 17 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- October 24 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- October 25 PAH and TE at HV
- November 1 PAH and TE at CT
- November 6-8 MLR and Pistol Instructor at HV
- November 14 Level 1 Archery Instructor at HV
- November 15 Level 2 Archery Instructor at HV

2016 Shooting Sports Dates:
- January 16 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- April 24 PAH and TE at CT
- May 7 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- May 14 Level 1 Archery Instructor at CT
- May 15 Level 2 Archery Instructor at CT
- September 9-11 BIT and Rifle Instructor at HV
- September 16-18 RSO and Shotgun Instructor at HV
- September 24 Rifle Merit Badge Range Day at CT
- October 15 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- October 22 BSA Range Master Training at CT
- October 30 PAH and TE at HV
- November 6 PAH and TE at CT
- November 11-13 MLR and Pistol Instructor at HV
- November 19 Level 1 Archery Instructor at HV
- November 20 Level 2 Archery Instructor at HV

BIT=Basic Instructor Training
PAH=Pennsylvania Hunter
RSO=Range Safety Officer
CT= Camp Tuckahoe
HL= Hidden Valley
MLR=Muzzle Loading Rifle
TE=Trapper Education
Special Camp Programs

Throughout the year, New Birth of Freedom Council holds special events to help foster the spirit and adventure of the outdoors. These fantastic events provide an opportunity for Scout families to visit one of their home Council’s camping properties, both of which are close to home. Here is a sampling of a few key events that many Scout families have enjoyed attending in the past, and we hope you will circle these dates on your calendar and come be a part of the fun. Don’t forget to invite the entire Scout unit!

**Wilderness Survival Weekend**
This program is for Boy Scouts and Venturers wishing to complete the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge while enjoying a weekend of fun at Hidden Valley. Outdoor activities are scheduled from Friday evening through Sunday morning on October 16-18, 2015. Dates for 2016 will be October 7-9.

**Halloween Days**
Camp Tuckahoe provides fun filled days for all Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, parents and leaders. Events include a haunted trail, BB and archery shooting, crafts, and games. The event is held on two Saturdays in 2015-October 17th and 24th, and is limited to 700 participants per weekend. This event fills up fast! More information will be sent out to unit leaders in August/September and will be available on the Council Camping website. In 2016 dates will be October 15th and October 22nd.

**Winterfest Weekend**
This casual weekend is a great opportunity for Cub Scouts and their families to relax and have fun at Camp Tuckahoe. All sorts of activities, both indoor and outside, like sledding, games, shooting sports, crafts, and more, are scheduled from Friday evening through Sunday morning. Winterfest Weekend will be held January 22-24, 2016.

**Hidden Valley Fishing Derby Weekend**
A great way to kick off fishing season! All Cub Scout and Boy Scout families are invited to join in the fun April 8-10, 2016 at HVSR.

**Spring Fling**
Held at Camp Tuckahoe on May 7, 2016. This is a day of fun for Cub Scouts and their families in celebration of the return of warm spring weather. Activities include crafts, sports, games, BB and archery shooting. More information will be available in March.

**Philmont Trek 2016: Council High Adventure Opportunity**
Philmont Scout Ranch, located in New Mexico, is a bustling center for high adventure and training. Youth and adults take advantage of the Ranch’s camping, training and work programs. New Birth of Freedom Council has 24 spots (18 youth, 6 adults) in 2016 to send two Crews of 12 on a Philmont Trek, June 14-28, 2016. Scouts must be at least 14 years of age by January 1, 2016, or have completed the 8th grade AND be at least 13 years of age prior to participation. All participants are required to have a current physical and meet Philmont’s height and weight requirements. All participants must attend Shakedown weekend April 15-17, 2016. The crews will depart on June 14, 2016 flying to either Denver, Albuquerque, or Colorado Springs. Are you up for the adventure? Reserve your spot now! A payment schedule has been established, for the $2100 projected cost of the June expedition.
JTE Service Hours

Every unit provides community service, whether they realize it or not. Many participate in an annual clean-up or provide a service project for their charter organization or local schools. They also may participate in community parades or festivals which contribute to the positive, character building principal of citizenship, not to mention food, blood, or clothing drives they support. Even those camp service projects count, and the NBOF Camp Rangers at Hidden Valley and Tuckahoe both appreciate the help, so don’t hesitate to check in with them about upcoming projects or other opportunities. The New Birth of Freedom Council offers several service projects as overviewed below to help support units and communities in their service needs.

Ultimately, the Council is interested in seeing all those hours tracked through the JTE Service Hour portal on Scouting.org. This information is helpful in communicating to government leaders, school administrators, Scouting donors, and the general public about the good Scouting brings to communities. Community service does make a difference, as the value of a service hour has been estimated at over $20/hour/volunteer.

So don’t keep your unit’s service a secret. As part of Scouting's Journey to Excellence, units must enter their own service hours at the site, but doing so only takes a couple of minutes, so please log them. You will need a code to enter your hours which can be obtained from your District Good Turn for America Chair.

Good Turn For America

All Scouts and families throughout the Council are asked to participate in the annual Good Turn for America program. This program is part of the Boy Scouts of America’s nationwide call to service. It consists of the following three parts:

Scouting for Food
This food drive takes place in November and consists of two consecutive Saturdays. On the first Saturday, November 7, 2015, Scouts are asked to distribute door hangers in their neighborhoods. These hangers explain the collection and ask that food items be donated. On the second Saturday, November 14, 2015, Scouts return to homes where hangers were left and collect donations. These items are given to local food banks. More information will be distributed at the October roundtables, but mark your calendars now.

Blood Drive
The blood drive happens over several days in January and February. Units have an opportunity to support one or more particular drives. Scouts and their families are asked to recruit community volunteers to donate blood to the American Red Cross at one of several organized blood drives in the area. While the drives don’t occur until January, preparation takes place in December each year. This drive kicks off at November Roundtable.

Collection for Shelters
Collection for Shelters is a program similar to Scouting for Food where Scouts are asked to collect donations in their neighborhoods of personal care items like shampoo, soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shaving items, paper products, etc. Currently, Saturday April 2, 2016, is slated as door hanger distribution, followed by a Saturday, April 9, 2016 collection day. Best methods to improve this program are being evaluated, so stay tuned.

Details on these drives will be available at future Roundtables. If you have questions on the projects, recognition patches, or recording service hours, please check with your District Good Turn Chair.
Message from the Council President

Dear Fellow Scouters,

Whether you are a parent or a volunteer, I want to thank you for your time and commitment to Scouting. The mission statement for the Boy Scouts of America is "prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law." I know each of you also firmly believe in this desire and thus your deep commitment to the cause. We should never lose sight that the Boy Scout program is, without a doubt, the premiere youth organization that systematically helps deliver the skill sets which allow young people to grow and progress into healthy, confident young adults. We further know that through our core programs, as the Cubs enter the Boy Scouts they enter "the boy led troop," these pre-teens learn first how to follow, then how to teach others and ultimately lead. The traits learned in the patrol and troop help them to develop leadership qualities that will serve them, their communities and future employers.

I have seen first-hand the personal journey and growth that takes place from Tiger to Eagle Scout. I do not recall ever encountering someone that was not duly impressed with meeting an Eagle Scout. I am convinced if the parents of every six-year-old saw the positive growth and changes in lives that we have seen, that each would choose to have their son join Scouting. So that is our charge - for every child we miss, in part misses the benefits of Scouting. We plainly and simply owe it to ourselves and our communities to introduce this incredible opportunity to every boy and every parent. We should be inviting the kindergartners and first grade families within our community to the Eagle Scout projects and Eagle ceremonies...who would not want their kid to resemble these Eagle Scouts a decade later.

Again, thank you for your commitment. Please know you make a difference in these Scouts lives and they will remember their parents being involved. The Scouts (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers) will look back fondly at the other adults that took time out of their lives to give support had fun-filled meetings; to hike, camp and cook with them; to mentor and serve as a role model. The scouts will remember their friends, the trips and incredible opportunities that Scouting provided. We will all look back in wonderment has the little Tiger grows into an Eagle and soars into adulthood. This is time well spent for ALL.

Warmest regards to each of you—you make a difference!

Michael V.Z. Summers, Council President & Eagle Scout

NYLT: National Youth Leadership Training

June 12-17, 2016

National Youth Leadership Training is an exciting, action-packed program designed for Councils to provide youth members with leadership skills and experience they can use in their home Troops and in other situations demanding leadership of self and others. Scouts participating in NYLT must be nominated by their Scoutmaster, and will have an opportunity to interface with previous NYLT Youth Staff who lead the course.

Wood Badge

April 29-May 1, 2016 (session 1 of 2) & May 13-15, 2016 (session 2 of 2)

In 1919, Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, directed the first Wood Badge premier training course for Scouters. It was designed so that Scouters could learn the skills and methods of Scouting through "learning by doing." The course consists of camping, cooking, practicing Scout skills and utilizing the patrol method to organize and develop an enthusiasm and team spirit while accomplishing tasks and challenges placed before them. This fellowship brings out a deep dedication to Scouting’s principals, and a spirit of brotherhood among fellow Scouters. Many past participants consider it, “the best management course, ever.”
2015-2016 Calendar and Planning Guide

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