



Troop 615 News



Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2015

Scout Master Minute

Happy New Year! As we begin our Scouting year, I think it's important to think about and plan for what it is that you want to accomplish in Scouting. Where would you like to be 3 months from now, 6 months, and a year into the future? Ask yourself and challenge yourself: What does that short term look like? What goals have I set? What accomplishments will I achieve? Start with your own personal goals and objectives and develop a plan to reach them. If you don't have a plan already in mind, then this is a terrific opportunity to start creating a plan. After all, how will you reach your goals without having a plan? Part of this planning process involves reflection: what have I done in the past that has allowed me to be successful? Are there things that I'm doing that are inconsistent with those stated plans? If so, how do I go about addressing those issues so that I can achieve my goals?

This process is challenging when being done for yourself. However, I'm going to challenge every Scout in Troop 615 to not only go through this process, but to also apply those same principles to the overall performance of the Troop. Do you think the Troop achieved it's goals? Are there things that the Troop can do to identify and address areas for improvement? Are there things happening in the Troop that you would like to see done differently??

The next step in the challenge: identifying specific things that you as an individual can do to help the Troop achieve it's goals and objectives. My challenge to all, both Scouts and adults in the Troop: what can you do to reach your goals? What can you do to help improve Troop 615?

YIS,
Dr. Anderson

Help Wanted!

Meeting Activities Coordinator – In an effort to add more content to the Wednesday night meetings we would like to bring in more outside visitors to speak to our troop once a month or every other month. In February, the Howard County Firefighters will be doing a CPR demo for the scouts. We need a volunteer that can find out the interests of the boys and help to schedule groups to visit us during a meeting. Possible organizations could be the Howard County police department, National Guard, Howard County Animal Shelter, etc.

Troop 615 Chaplain's Assistant – Mrs. Silvia Pugliese is looking for someone to assist her with the religious emblem training. Please contact her if you are interested.

Service Project Coordinator – We need someone to be the point of contact for troop service projects and help organize volunteers and track service hours for the troop. We really don't need to go out and search for service projects. Between BSA sponsored projects, requests from our Charter Organization and other organizations that contact us, we have a full plate!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PLC (PATROL LEADERS CONFERENCE) MEETINGS

ALL PATROL/ASST PATROL LEADERS, AND THOSE WITH A TROOP POSITIONS NEED TO ATTEND

2/11, 3/18, 4/8, 5/13, 6/10 6:00 PM

PARENT MEETINGS

ALL ADULTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND 2/11, 3/18, 4/8, 5/13, 6/10 7:00 PM

JANUARY OUTING - SKI TRIP – SEVEN SPRINGS RESORT – 1/30/15-2/1/2015 - *FAMILIES WELCOME*

FEBRUARY OUTING – IRON CHEF – CAMP TUCKAHOE, PA - 2/13-2/15 – IRON CHEF

SCOUT SUNDAY – 2/15 – 12:00 MASS – BRUNCH AFTER SERVICE – OPEN TO ALL FAITHS

SCOUTING FOR FOOD – BAG DROP OFF 3/7, BAG PICK UP 3/14

FINAL CHILI COOK-OFF – 3/8 – LOOK FOR COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING

COURT OF HONOR – 3/11

PACK 944 BRIDGING – 3/18 AT 7:00 PM - BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – WE WILL NEED SCOUT VOLUNTEERS

MARCH OUTING - WILDERNESS SURVIVAL – CAMP TUCKAHOE, PA 3/20-3/23

Merit Badge Session Sign Up

Several Merit Badge Counselors have volunteered to run Merit Badge sessions at the weekly meetings. Scouts will meet with them for 15-20 minutes on Wednesdays to help them earn merit badges.

Please go to this link to sign up for badges your scouts are interested in earning!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084ca9ae22a20-merit>

Scout Sunday Sign Up

Scout Sunday is a special recognition event for scouts of all faiths that will be held at the Church of the Resurrection on **Sunday, 2/15 at the 12:00** mass. There will be a brunch immediately following the service for all scouts and families. Please go to the sign up link to let us know if you can attend and if you can bring a dish for the brunch

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/805084CA9AE22A20-scout



"Did You Know?" – From the desk of Mr. Cho

I would like to refresh you on the matters of "Scout Master Camping Fund". This fund was setup to encourage other adults in the troop to go on camping outings and also as a thank you for offsetting some of the cost. We budget \$200 for each outing, for a total of 8 in all throughout the calendar year. The outings or events that are excluded from this are January (Skiing/Snowboarding), May (Whitewater Rafting), July (Summer Camp), and October (Webelos-O-Ree). How the funds are disbursed is up to the discretion of the Scout Master, but he has been distributing the funds evenly amongst all those who attend and contribute to help. So, let's say 8 adults (both program and committee) attend an outing, each will get \$200 divided by 8 or \$25 a person. For the accounting purpose, these are credit to your scout account for use and it is not reimbursed via check. We have set this up to encourage more and more adults to participate on outings and also not to worry too much on the cost, since part of your dues will be covered by this fund.

Scout Brag Box



Congratulations to our very own **Justin Cho** who was featured in an article that appeared in the Baltimore Sun on 1/14/15!

"Congratulations to **Mt. Hebron High School senior Justin Cho** who achieved the rank of **Eagle Scout** with Troop 615 last month. For his Eagle Project, Cho assembled a team of Scouts and high school students to clean up the Fuller-Cane-Smith Cemetery, a small family cemetery on Old Frederick Road across from the Bethany Fire Station. He also worked with the Howard County Cemetery Preservation Board to document the names of those interred in the cemetery and worked out the start of an agreement with the Bethany Fire Station to help maintain the cemetery in the future."

Link to Full Article:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/ellcott-city/ph-ho-n-ellcott-city-0115-20150107-story.html>

Congratulations to the **Phoenix** patrol for earning **National Honor Patrol!** National Honor Patrol is not easy!

The patrol can earn the award by doing the following over a period of three months:

- Have a patrol name, flag, and yell. Put your patrol design on equipment and use your patrol yell. Keep patrol records up to date.
- Hold two patrol meetings every month.
- Take part in at least one hike, outdoor activity, or other scouting event.
- Complete two good turns or service projects approved by the patrol leaders' council.
- Help two patrol members advance one rank.
- Wear the full uniform correctly (at least 75 percent of the patrol's membership).
- Have a representative attend at least three patrol leaders' council meetings.
- Have eight members in the patrol or increase patrol memberships over the previous three months.

The National Honor Patrol Award is an embroidered star worn beneath the patrol medallion, and will spotlight a patrol as a high-standard group. Help your patrol become a National Honor Patrol. **Congratulations Phoenix Patrol!**

If you would like to send a shout out to any scout for an accomplishment in or out of scouts, please email the details to Melissa Maloney at Maloney.melissa2@gmail.com.

High Adventure - Sea Base



We have had a lot of excitement and interest in the 2016 troop 615 expedition to Sea Base! Over 30 parents and scouts have indicated they are interested in attending sometime in 2016 (Spring, Summer or Winter). We have entered the lottery and will find out when our dates are at the end of February! For more information on Sea Base, check out their website at the following link - <http://www.bsaseabase.org/>.

Earned this Month

Merit Badges:

Cooking - Matthew Vook

Congratulations!

Fruit Sale Recap

We had another successful fruit sale fundraising season! Please see the stats below.

November 2014: After all the expenses and paying COG sold, we had \$1429 to distribute among 7 scouts and 5 adults worked on delivery day. This equates to worked hourly rate of \$23.43. We also credited combined sales credits for 28 scouts of \$143. We sold total cases count of 329.

December 2014: After all the expenses and paying COG sold, we had \$1500 to distribute among 8 scouts and 6 adults worked on delivery day. This equates to worked hourly rate of \$31.75. We also credited combined sales credits for 20 scouts of \$112. We sold total cases and bags count of 321.

January 2015: After all the expenses and paying COG sold, we had \$1170 to distribute among 6 scouts and 4 adults worked on delivery day. This equates to worked hourly rate of \$32.29. We also credited combined sales credits for 16 scouts of \$75. We sold total cases and bags count of 225.



Troop 615 Victorious at Annual Parish Chili Cook-off!

Dr. Albuerne has done it again! His award winning chili has once again claimed first place at the Annual Parish Chili Cook-off at the Church of the Resurrection! This event benefits the **Bridges to Housing Stability** organization in Howard County. The final cook-off will be held at Resurrection on Sunday, March 8th. Please come out to volunteer and also support our troop and our Charter Organization.



Thanks for all your hard work Dr. Albuerne!

STAND Training – DUE 3/15/15

For returning volunteers registering for the first time

1. As a returning volunteer, please register as a volunteer at www.shieldthevulnerable.org.
2. Though you are a returning volunteer, you are new to Shield the Vulnerable. Select: **First-Time Signup.z**
3. Select **Catholic Dioceses**.
4. Select **Baltimore Archdiocese**. Then select **Confirm**.
5. You will then see a letter from Archbishop Lori. After reading his letter, select **NEXT**.
6. User Login Data section: You will create your own login-ID and password. Please try to retain this information. You will need it when you need to be rescreened. Once all requested information is completed, select **Next Step**.
7. Affiliation section: Select **Volunteer** as User Type.
8. User Type: **Parish**, Where Located: **Ellicott City**, and Location Name: **Resurrection parish**.
9. If you are working with children (or with a ministry that enters the school like SVDP), select **Substantial contact w/children**. However, if you also will be driving children as part of your volunteer service, then select **Drivers with contact**. If you choose **No Substantial Contact**, you will not see the screens for steps 14-17 below.
10. You will be asked, "Do you volunteer at another location?" If you will be serving at another location, repeat steps 6-8 for that location.
11. Application Info section: You will be asked, "Are you a new volunteer?" Select **No**.
12. Answer the three questions for volunteers/employees and provide three references. Since your references were checked previously, they will not be checked at this time. However, you must complete this field in order to move to the next step. Select, **Next Step**.
13. Summary/Confirm section: Review your information. If it is correct, select **Accept** and then **Confirm Signup**.
14. Background Check Registration/Criminal History Screening: Once you have registered, you will be asked for the date of your last criminal history screening. If you have been screened within the last five years, you should not be rescreened at this time. For your date of screening, please enter the date on your STAND card. If you don't know the date, contact lmclean@res-ec.org.
15. If you have not been screened within the past five years, complete the background check form and authorization. Enter your electronic signature, then choose **I Consent to the Background Check** or **I DO NOT Consent to the Background Check**. (If you do not consent to the renewal of the background check, you may no longer serve as a volunteer who will have substantial contact with children.)
16. Protect the Children: STAND online training: the new policy requires that volunteers with substantial contact with minors, all employees, and all clergy renew this safe environment training (Protect the Children: STAND) every five years. Volunteers who completed training prior to 2009 are required to complete the training by March 31, 2015. You will be required to take the training again when you are scheduled to be rescreened and then once every five years thereafter.
17. Read and answer questions about the newly revised *Code of Conduct for Church Personnel* in the Archdiocese of Baltimore and *A Statement of Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth*.

Any questions, contact Lynne McLean, STAND coordinator, at lmclean@res-ec.org or 410-514-2031.