



ROUNDTABLE MINUTE



Volume 4 Issue 4

www.mac-bsa.org

December 2011

THIS MONTH (AND BEYOND) IN MID-AMERICA COUNCIL

Dec 2 - 3	Aviation Merit Badge Overnight
Dec 2 - 3	OA/NBZ/Mic-O-Say Ceremony Lock-In
Dec 3	Gottschalk Scout Shop Sale
Dec 3	Free Will Seminar
Dec 5	"Fireside Chat with Eric"
Dec 6	This Is Scouting
Dec 9-10	Cub Overnight Strategic Air & Space Museum
Dec 10-11	Briar Cliff University Sports Camporee
Dec 17	\$1000 Popcorn Ball
Dec 21-28	Hanukkah
Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Dec 24-26	Durham Scout Center & Gottschalk Shop Closed
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 27-29	Gottschalk Scout Shop Open
Dec 30-31	Gottschalk Scout Shop Closed
Dec 30-Jan 2	Durham Scout Center Closed
Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 1-2	Gottschalk Scout Shop Closed
Jan 3	"Fireside Chat with Eric"
Jan 14	Leadership Summit

For more information about the above activities go to:
WWW.MAC-BSA.ORG

TRAINING AROUND THE COUNCIL

Trained leaders provide a quality, fun-filled program for troops and Packs. When leaders understand Boy Scouting and Cub Scouting, they are more effective in their roles.

December Scout Leader Trainings This Is Scouting

Dec 6, 2011 7:00 PM	Atlantic, IA	Sherry Frazier Sherryfrazier2@ yahoo.com
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For more information on the training opportunities go to:
http://www.mac-bsa.org/bs_training_schedule.aspx

COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Fireside Chats with Eric

Fireside Chats with Eric Magendantz, Chief Executive Mid America Council are scheduled monthly. The chats are open forum and Eric would like to hear your thoughts, concerns and feedback. You can ask questions, share ideas and learn best practices. This will be a conference call that will take place at noon. Please be respectful of other people on the call - not everyone will get to talk at once. If you would like to participate, please email katie.godbout@scouting.org for call in information. Additionally, if you have questions or topics that you would like on the agenda, please send them to Katie.

Questions? For more information please contact Katie Godbout at: katie.godbout@scouting.org or 402.431.9BSA (402.431.9272)

Leadership Summit

The winter Leadership Summit is scheduled for January 14, 2012 from 9:30am - 1pm at the Durham Scout Center, 12401 West Maple Road Omaha, NE 68164. This is a meeting of the district operations committees, Key 3's and commissioners of all the districts council-wide. Learn what is new with Scouting and the Mid-America Council. Interact with other volunteers who have the same position and can share best practices. Lunch will be provided. If you plan on attending please RSVP to Arli Boustead.

Questions? Please contact Arli Boustead at arli.boustead@scouting.org or 402.431.9BSA (402.431.9272) for more information.

The Gottschalk Scout Shop will be open.

NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

Lion Cubs

By Nick Ferraro

"The Boy Scouts of America Northern Star Council has a message for kindergartners: "We want you!" For the first time in its 101-year history, the Northern Star Council is recruiting kindergartners through its new Lion Cub program. This fall's council-wide rollout comes after packs picked for a three-year pilot program reported high participation and retention rates. For the whole story go to:

http://www.twincities.com/ci_19367378?source=most_viewed

Reach Out and Philmont Someone December 3rd 2011

Over 3,040 people have committed to “[Reach out and Philmont someone!](#)” on Saturday December 3rd, 2011. Advertised on Facebook as an Event, over 4,200 individuals have been invited. The Facebook event page states that it “is a social experiment to see how many Philmonters are lurking around in our every day lives.” The event organizer is crowning the first Saturday in December to be “Find a Philmonter Day!”.



The idea is that everyone who has been to Philmont, worked at Philmont, gone on a trek, gone on Rayado, worked on Trail Crew, wears their Philmont staff shirt, trek shirt, hat, or other prominent Philmont gear on December 3rd, 2011. Then as you spend time out at about, going about your daily life business, see who you might connect with. The goal of the event is to see how many other invisible Philmonters there are in your area/life that you always pass that you would never know have a Philmont connection.

[The Facebook event](#), says an important part of the experiment is to come back to the Facebook event and post who you saw, what you talked about, and tell a story.

Will you Reach Out and Philmont someone on December 3rd, 2011?

<http://www.scoutingnews.org/2011/11/29/reach-out-and-philmont-someone/>

Recruiting Helpers

National BSA has available Bookmarks, Door Hangers, Fliers, Postcards, Posters, Stickers, and Yard Signs that can be personalized for use by your Pack, Troop, or crew. To download your recruiting tools go to:
Go to:



<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/Marketing/Recruiting/WordsToLiveBy/CubScout/2011.aspx> .

Do you prefer to recruit electronically? National also has available email templates for Pack, Troops, and Crews!

<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/Marketing/Recruiting/WordsToLiveBy/Evite.aspx>

WINTER CAMPING

MacScouter - Winter Camping and Hiking Survival

Winter outings can be dangerous, but with careful preparation they do not have to be. To find a list of Winter Camping hints and helps compiled compiled by Chuck Bramlet, ASM Troop 323, Thunderbird District, Grand Canyon Council, Phoenix, Az go to <http://macscouter.com/KeepWarm/>

GIFTS FOR YOUR FAVORITE SCOUT(ER)

The question around our house this time of years is what to get our family and friends that are Scouts and Scouters for Christmas and/or Hanukkah. One of the first places to look is BSA Supply’s ScoutStuff.org (<http://www.scoutstuff.org/>). You will find everything from uniforms to camping equipment, and special gifts. The following are additional ideas for your favorite scouts and Scouters.

Personalized Scouts Ornaments

Salute the Scout in your family!
Choose Cub Scout or Boy Scout.
They add any name, up to 9 characters.



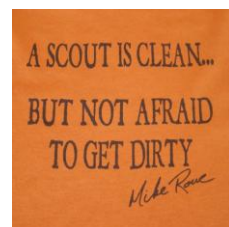
http://gifts.personalcreations.com/productdetail.aspx?cobrand=PCR&pid=30019693&ssid=4&REF=PCRFeedFroogle_30019693_swpc&prid=TierDiscRibbon&mr:trackingCode=B3B6334E-0E71-E011-A366-001517B1882A&mr:referralID=NA&mr:adType=pla&gclid=CPXjlqOm4KwCFeldtgodamKinQ



<http://www.ornamentshop.com/SearchResult.asp?cat=9&cat=41>

Mike Rowe’s Dirt Shirt

The scouts love these shirts!
Go to the following web site to order the shirts for your favorite Scouts and Scouters.



<http://www.dirtshirt.com/ProductInfo.aspx?productid=MRW-IN DEFENSE OF DIRT TEE>

Fire Pistons and More....

Have you heard of a Fire Piston? They are a cool way to start a fire, one location to find out more about them and purchase them is: <http://www.wildersol.com/>. Other fire starters are available on this site as well. Many other web sites have fire pistons, Google Fire Piston to find other sites.



Swedish FireSteel

Originally developed for the Swedish Department of Defense, Swedish FireSteel is a flash of genius. Its nearly 3,000°C spark makes fire building easy in any weather, at any altitude. Used by a number of armies around the world, Swedish FireSteel's dependability has already made it a favorite of survival experts, hunters, fishermen and campers. It has also found its way into cabins and backyards as a fool-proof way to light stoves and gas-barbecues. Amazingly enough it also works equally well when wet. We think geeks will appreciate the power of being able to start a fire with such a simple tool. One source of the Swedish firesteel is: http://www.thinkgeek.com/gadgets/travel-outdoors/754d/?itm=swedish_firesteel&rkid=279949318&cp_g=oggdgt1&source=google_gadgets&gclid=CPCXsZS83awCFXJrtgodgnwlmQ

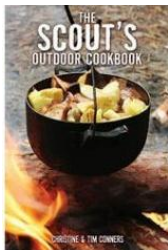


Campmor

Campmor.com has many gifts that would be appreciated by Scouts and Scouters. They have books, reduced cost tents, sleeping bags, cots, jackets, hats, boots, basically everything you need to camp and enjoy the great outdoors!

The Best of Boys' Life: Boy's Life celebrates the 100 year anniversary of the Boy Scouts by showcasing the very best of Boys' Life, the magazine for the Boy Scouts of America. This popular magazine was launched in 1911 and became one of the most popular youth magazines in America. Every month it featured news, stories, jokes, and practical how-to instructions invaluable to all Scouts...

Camp-out cooking is about providing sustenance, teaching thoughtfulness and cooperation, and being grateful-not to mention healthy eating balanced by a little bit of indulgence.



Scout Nutcrackers

Looking for something a bit more unusual? These not only say scouting but are traditional Christmas ornaments!



http://www.hayneedle.com/sale/ulbrichtboyscoutnutcracker.cfm?source=placpc&adtype=pla&kw={keyword}&ci_src=17588969&ci_sku=ATI721-1&gclid=COu8yuyyp4KwCFcpeTAodRiF3ng

ASK ANDY

Hi Andy, I'm trying to find a specific policy on knives for Cub Scouts. I'm a Bear Den Leader and there seem to be a lot of opinions about what's allowed and what's not, concerning type and size (mostly size), but no one can point to an official document from BSA and say that that's the real deal.

For Andy's answer go to:

<http://netcommissioner.com/askandy/2011/11/issue-279-november-30-2011/>

Hi Andy, I've been struggling with an issue that, at first, seemed pretty straightforward. Maybe it still is. The issue is bell-ringing for the Salvation Army. I could probably just have said that, and you'd know exactly what I'm talking about, but I'll go into it anyhow...

For the rest of the question and Andy's answer go to:

<http://netcommissioner.com/askandy/2011/11/issue-278-november-22-2011/>

Hey Andy, What's your take on a "Life service project"—sort of mini-Eagle project, prior to the Scout earning his Life rank? For Andy's answer go to:

<http://netcommissioner.com/askandy/2011/11/issue-277-november-19-2011/>

INSPIRATION

Boy Scout Earns 132 Merit Badges

Hillary Bowler, *Deseret News*

Nate Christensen seems like a typical almost-18-year-old boy. Now in his senior year at Bingham High School in South Jordan, he plays the trumpet in the marching band. He took a longtime friend to the school's homecoming dance. He loves popular music artists from Justin Bieber to Owl City. He enjoys playing "Just Dance" on his family's Nintendo Wii and writes a blog in his free time. He admits that his favorite class at school is his sports class. But two things set him apart. One is that he's earned 132 merit badges — every possible Boy Scout merit badge he could earn. The other is that Nate is autistic.

For whole story go to:

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705392563/Autistic-Boy-Scout-earns-132-merit-badges.html>

Note from the Editor

Not quite my normal newsletter but I hope you enjoy this one time change for this special time of year!

**I hope that you all have a safe and very happy
Holiday Season!**

**Merry Christmas! Happy Haunakka!
Happy New Year!!**

Yours in Scouting, Cathy Talmadge
cathycommish@gmail.com

