

THE POMPERAUG POST

August 2019



The official newsletter of Pomperaug District, Connecticut Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America

Serving the Scouting Communities of Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston and Westport

From the Key 3

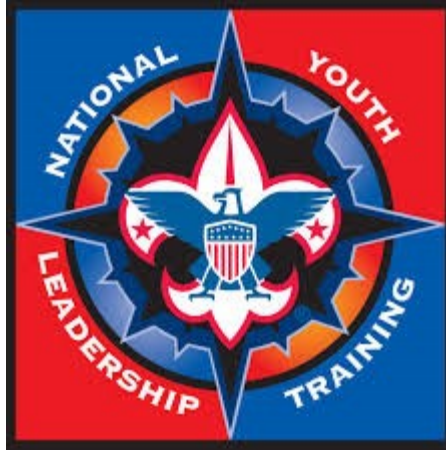
We are about to enter our second fall recruitment with family scouting being offered to all Cub Scout packs. We are also nearing one year of the Scouts BSA program as well. So now that we are one year in, how are family scouting and Scouts BSA working out? In general, things are going very well. In our district about half of all packs are currently serving all genders in their units, and there are even more that are planning on adding ladies to their unit in the fall. These numbers are similar for the other districts in our council, so we are on track relative to our peers. Our district also has 6 girl troops spread across 5 of our 8 towns, with another troop working on becoming an official unit.

However, things get more interesting once you look at broader areas. Our council is part of Area 2 which is a collection of 11 councils in Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut. In our area, our council has 26% of the total number of girls in the Scouts BSA program. We also represent 4% of the female Scouts BSA members in the Northeast region, which covers about one quarter of the country. We also are about 1% of the entire nation's total, where there are nearly 300 councils, so we are ahead in Scouts BSA members compared to all of our peers. Looking at the Cub Scout numbers, we are still ahead of our peers, but much closer to the average.

We are doing well with transforming our programs to be more family friendly, so now we can rest on our laurels, right? No this cannot be the case. We have made great strides to engage all family members in our program, but females still represent a small portion of our membership in Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA when it should be close to parity. We need to continue to work to bring the scouting program to more people, so that everyone can gain the lifelong benefits our organization has to offer.

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UPCOMING SUMMER PROGRAM: AUGUST 11- 17, 2019

CAMP POMPERAUG

1174 BUCKLEY HIGHWAY

UNION, CT 06076

WHAT IS IT?

Thunderbird National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) conference is designed for Scouts, Venturers, Sea Scouts, and Explorers to develop their leadership skills. This is an exciting, action-packed program designed 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. NYLT integrates the best of modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of the Scouting experience. Through activities, presentations, challenges, discussions, and audio-visual support, NYLT participants will be engaged in a unified approach to leadership that will give them the skill and confidence to lead well. Through a wide range of activities, games, and adventures, participants will work and play together as they put into action the best Scouting has to offer.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Any registered Scout currently serving as troop Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, or has the potential to be a SPL. Also open to any Venturer, Sea Scout, or Explorer currently serving in a leadership position or who has the potential to. Scouts must be at least First Class Rank and must be recommended by their Scoutmaster. Venturers, Sea Scouts, and Explorers must be recommended by their unit Adviser. Scouts must be at least age 13 by January 1, 2019, to attend the August, 2019 course.

For more info go to:

<https://www.ctyankee.org/events/summer-2019-nylt-course/>



WHAT IS WOOD BADGE?

Simply stated, Wood Badge is advanced leadership training for adult scout leaders.

Baden-Powell took the first steps in training Scouting's adult leaders by organizing a series of lectures. The first Wood Badge training was held in 1919 at Gilwell Park, near London. Since then, Wood Badge has continued to evolve to meet Scouting's needs. Wood Badge focuses on preparing adults to deliver the mission of Scouting.

As a result of attending Wood Badge training you will:

- Learn contemporary leadership concepts and discover how these apply to our value-based program
- Understand Scouting as a family of interrelated programs providing age appropriate activities for youth
- Revitalize your commitment to Scouting, sharing in an inspirational experience

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Wood Badge is designed for Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts and Exploring Leaders at the unit level, as well as district and council leaders. The course content and leadership principles introduced during the course apply to Scouters in all leadership positions. These skills provide common a leadership foundation that is beneficial for all program areas. To attend a Wood Badge course, you must:

- Be a registered adult member of the Boy Scouts of America. (There is no minimum tenure requirement.)
- All adult leaders must complete Leader Specific Training for their primary registered position. Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills is required for Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters.
- Successful completion of the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record is required for all participants (parts A, B and C only). No exceptions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www.ctyankee.org/events/wood-badge-2019/>

District Calendar

August	September	October
<p>9th-11th Terrificon (Mohegan Sun Expo Center, Uncasville)</p> <p>11th-17th - NYLT (Camp Pomperaug)</p> <p>23rd-25th - Wood Badge 2019 (Camp Sequassen)</p>	<p>3rd - District Committee (First Presbyterian Church, 2475 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield)</p> <p>6th-8th - OA Induction (Camp Pomperaug)</p> <p>10th - District Roundtable (First Presbyterian Church)</p> <p>20th-22nd - Camp Sikorsky</p> <p>21st - 23rd Wood Badge 2019 (Camp Sequassen)</p> <p>27th-29th - Scout Day at Lime Rock</p> <p>27th-29th - Shooting High Adventure Outdoor Weekend (adults only - Camp Pomperaug)</p>	<p>1st - District Committee (First Presbyterian Church, 2475 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield)</p> <p>4th-6th - OA Fall Fellowship (Camp Sequassen)</p> <p>8th - District Roundtable (First Presbyterian Church)</p> <p>11th-13th - Fall Camporee</p> <p>26th - Fright Night (Deer Lake)</p>

Roundtable Planning Meeting

Many thanks to those who attended the Roundtable Planning Meeting! The calendar with next year's meetings will be published soon.

Reminder: Continue to Log Service Hours

Don't forget to continue to log in service hours. Check out [Bryan on Scouting](https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/09/101-great-scout-service-project-ideas/amp/) for innovative service ideas: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2015/10/09/101-great-scout-service-project-ideas/amp/>

Recruiting new Scouts and Parents

When to do Recruiting

Recruiting is **year-round**...but most commonly the two main times are in the spring (May) and the fall (September). Units throughout the District have started planning successful recruiting events and activities leading up to this exciting time!

Cub Scouts Spring Recruitment

Don't forget, preschoolers can join the Pack as Lions at the end of the school year. So, by having a sign-up in May, you can concentrate your efforts on the preschool and kindergarten classes. Benefits to having families sign up in May/June include:

- *Giving the new families a chance to get acquainted with the pack casually over the summer.*
- *New scouts can get a head start, especially if they go to Day Camp.*
- *New Lion, Tiger, and all other den leaders can be recruited and trained in the summer, making September go much more smoothly.*
- *The new Lion and Tiger Dens can start selling popcorn early with the rest of the pack.*

Note: Spring recruiting should be used as a supplement to fall recruiting not a replacement. Also, when your pack recruits in the spring, make sure the new scouts have several activities over the summer, you can earn the national summertime pack award!

Scouts BSA Troop Open House

The Scout troop open house allows a troop to swing open its doors and roll out the red carpet to welcome guests. It provides a forum to show off Scouting activities and the troop's accomplishments. It is an effective tool to reach youth who have never tried Scouting. Hosting a troop open house is a five-step process that has been tried and proven in troops throughout the nation. Each of the following five steps is vital to the event's success:

1. *Present a school rally to fifth- and sixth-graders. Give them something they can go home with.*
2. *Mail the parents of interested youth a personal invitation to the troop open house, and an invite through social media.*
3. *Follow the invitation with a telephone call, or email to the parents. Host the troop open house for youth AND their parents.*
4. *Organize a troop or district activity to involve new Scouts right away. Youth join Scouting for the fun and outdoor adventure.*
5. *Parents want them to join for completely different reasons—character building and leadership training.*

Following this plan for conducting a troop open house will help you address the wants and needs of both youth and their parents.

We need the help of every leader assisting their own unit or possibly another one nearby. It's a complete team effort! The question is: Will your unit grow significantly? Steady growth is the best indicator of a healthy unit. Will positive, helpful, and new parents be recruited to fill every volunteer role? The spring is a great time to recruit new leaders! They can begin their adventure as registered leader in a more relaxed setting with school out and fewer activities going on.

Please contact your Vice Chairman for Membership with any questions you may have, or for any assistance with your recruiting efforts. If your unit is planning on holding a fall recruiting event, and you would like some recruiting materials put together, please let us know. We can help coordinate materials, scout talks at the schools, lawn signs, flyers, base camp canopy, peer to peer cards, etc. Happy recruiting!

Counselors needed for 2020 MERIT BADGE COLLEGE

Dates: February 1, 8, 22, 29, 2020 with snow date March 7, 2020

Place: Lyman Hall High School, Wallingford, CT

Class Times: 9:00 AM, 9:50 AM, 10:00 AM, 10:50 AM, 11:00 AM, 11:50 AM

We do not offer badges that are camping/outdoors oriented. Counselors may teach all three periods or only one or two. They must be registered counselors and have completed Youth Protection Training in 2019 and be Merit Badge Counselor trained. If interested, please notify one of the following before August 30, 2019 with the badges you are available to instruct.

Karen Caiati: 203-722-9177 or karen.caiati@scouting.org

Robert Benoit: 203-209-0504 or rbenoit@rel-tech.com

Chet Wickett: 203-322-1390 or cwickett@optonline.net

Program Planning

With summer now upon us, it's time for all units to plan their unit program for the upcoming program year. Quality Scouting programs begin with program planning. Unit program planning is an annual process where a Unit invites all families to have input in the program and activities of the Unit. It is also the process of selecting great activities, developing a Unit Calendar and budget and sharing the plan with all the families.

The benefits of a strong unit program plan include: high quality and well-run activities, more parent involvement, more youth participation, more funding with less time fundraising, and makes your unit year run more simply and smoothly.

The unit program planning process consists of two key elements: the unit budget and program calendar. Ideally the program planning process will take place with both the adult and youth leadership involved (except for packs where youth are not expected to participate). The process should take several hours to complete, so don't rush through the process as this will just make your unit's program harder to manage throughout the year. The national council has great resources available to aid you in your program planning process and can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/Home/BoyScouts/ProgramPlanningTools.aspx>

In addition, keep in mind the events sponsored throughout the year by the district including:

Fall Camporee – October 11-13, 2019

Klondike Derby – January 17-19, 2020

SHOOTING HIGH ADVENTURE OUTDOOR WEEKEND (S.H.O.W.)



WHEN
Friday September 27th 8:00PM –
Sunday 29th Noon

WHERE
Camp Pomperaug
1170 Buckley Hwy, Union, CT 06076

FEATURING
Rifle Shooting • Pistol Shooting • Shotgun Target Shooting •
Archery • Tomahawk and Knife Throwing • Blow Guns • Primi-
tive Weapons • Stop the Bleed Training • Disc Golf

WWW.CTYANKEE.ORG/EVENTS/SHOW

**MUST BE 21
YEAR OR OLDER
TO ATTEND**

COST
\$195, includes lodging,
meals, all program
materials, polo shirt, pint
glass, and patch

REGISTRATION
Register is limited to only
50 people. Slots are ex-
pected to go quickly, so
register today in order to
secure your spot

**FUNDRAISING
EVENT**
Supporting the CT Yankee
Council, Boy Scouts of
America which serves
thousands of youth in
Fairfield and New Haven
Counties



TerrifiCon

As you all may have heard, the Connecticut TERRIFICON is this summer at the Mohegan Sun Expo Center, in Uncasville CT, on August 9-11. The event coordinators have allowed the Boy Scouts of America Connecticut Yankee Council to set up a booth and a display for the weekend. In return, we would be providing 10-12 volunteers each day to be runners. These would be older Scouts, Eagles, Venturers, Sea Scouts, etc.

Volunteers would be telling people where to go in the Expo Center, and help the people at the booths if they need a quick break and need someone to watch the booth, be at our display, get a bottle of water for the artists, pass out flyers, escort celebrities and special guests, bathroom break, get supplies, etc. They would also be assisting in other events, and the kid's parade. The Scouters would be in full class A uniform for the entire event.

Lunch is scheduled to be provided by TERRIFICON. Volunteers get in for FREE. It's a great opportunity to help volunteer, showcase and promote Scouting in Connecticut to our youth. People come from all over CT for this event.

Here is the link to the event: <https://www.terrificon.com/>

Please pass this information on to the Scouters in your units. I will be keeping a roster of volunteers for the weekend and will be coordinating the schedule. If you would be available to volunteer, yes Adults too, please contact me as soon as possible with your available date or dates attending. You would be required to be there an hour earlier and stay about an hour after.

Volunteer Schedule: *(includes 1hour before and after)*

Friday August 9: set up shift: 10am to 2:00pm, event shift: 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saturday August 10: event shift 9:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sunday August 11: event shift 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Tickets: *(if only attending event)*

Tickets are on sale at the box office located at the Mohegan Sun box office, and at ticketmaster.com

FRIDAY, AUG. 9 - \$26/adults \$13/kids ages 9-12

SATURDAY, AUG. 10 - \$30/adults \$15/kids ages 9-12

SUNDAY, AUG. 11 - \$30/adults \$15/kids ages 9-12

3 DAY PASS - \$75.00/adults \$40/kids ages 9-12

*Kids 8 and under FREE with paid admission. Limit (2) two free children tickets per admission.

For more info: Contact Gabriel Zayas Phone: 203-414-5196 Email: fddesign@optonline.net

