Greetings to all.

NOTE: In order to prevent automated theft off the District websites, all email addresses reported in Chainemail have an -at-inserted in them instead of the "@" character; this will have to be changed back before you can use them.

1) Projectoree Update
(from Paul Maloney, CM-T167)

Good news! We have found two volunteers to be Projectoree Co-Chairs for 2014. So we will have the 2014 Projectoree as scheduled. Projectoree will be at Camp Wilson May 2-4, 2014. All the units that went to the Projectoree last year (a total of 15 units) have their deposits in place.

As you know, we will have two meetings to plan for the Projectoree, and each unit must send at least one scout and at least one adult to those meetings. You may send more scouts and/or adults if you wish. The two meetings will be Sunday March 9, at 7:30PM, and Sunday, April 27, at 7:30PM (locations to be announced).

2) Roundtable Reminder
(from Tom Ballew, Roundtable Commissioner)

Thursday, 13 February 2014 is the next Chain Bridge District Boy Scout Roundtable meeting, starting at 8:00 PM at the Arlington LDS Church, 1600 N Inglewood, Arlington. Troop 821 is the Featured Troop. The February Roundtable Topic they choose for our discussion is "Backpacking: where to go, what to eat, what gear to use."

Featured Troops in future upcoming months:
13 March 2014 Troop 822
10 April 2014 Troop 652
8 May 2014 Troop 825 [probably "Program Launch"]
12 June 2014 Troop 827

3) Merit Badges Afloat
(from Tom Ballew, Skipper-S1942)

Registrations are being taken for our 21st annual 'Merit Badges Afloat (MBA)' sail training weekend: Saturday and Sunday, April 26 - 27, 2014, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (must attend both days). Registration "flyer" posted at the Chain Bridge District website: www.ncacbsa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=356093

This year we've added a one over-night tent camping Saturday night to our MBA. Chain Bridge District's Order of the Arrow 'Brotherhood' members get "front-of-the-line-privileges" for signup to this MBA Registration only through the first week in February 2014. This is a great way to tune up your Scouts heading off to Sea Base. See our Registration 'flyer' posted on the CBD District & Calendar website.

The cost is $60 per Boy Scout with ALL meals provided (Lunch and Dinner on Saturday) and (Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday) for all participants. This event is open to 1st Class Boy Scouts age 13 and older and is an overnight event, but YOU must bring your own TENT.

Those attending will earn the Merit Badges of Smallboat Sailing, Weather, & Oceanography. Adults do not need to stay during the day but request one Adult per Troop stay on the overnight portion of the event. Boys who register must attend the full time on both days!! Please do NOT sign up for this training if you can't be there for the full time!

Space is limited to 40 boys - First come, first served. Every year we have put this on to FULL Capacity. Payment is required with registration form. A waiting list will be maintained after the event is full. Refunds will be given for cancellations received before April 1 ONLY IF YOUR SPOT IS FILLED with someone on the waiting list. NO REFUNDS will be given for cancellations on or after that date. An e-mail confirmation will be sent to the Troop leader or parent, once registration has been received.

Questions? Contact Tom Ballew (Skipper of Sea Scout Ship 1942) at tballew-at-cox.net.

Note: This event will be held rain or shine. If weather conditions are unsafe for sailing, other activities will be done on land until the weather conditions improve. All Guide to Safe Scouting requirements will be followed. In the unlikely event that the workshop is canceled due to severe weather conditions, the payment will be refunded.

4) In the News...

BOY SCOUTS & NEIGHBORS HELP LOUDOUN COUNTY FAMILY AFTER FIRE
(condensed from article by Susan Svrluga, Wash Post, Dec. 27, 2013)

Lourine Cooney's father built a little brick house in Potomac Falls in 1959, and she grew up here, sharing a big bed in a small room with her sister, playing flashlight tag in the yard with neighborhood kids while their parents played card games inside, watching her mom cook breakfast for neighbors who didn't get it at home.

Her own two children grew up in the same house, always full of friends staying for a cookout - or for a few months, while they got back on their feet.

“They're the ones that have taken care of so many of us,” said John Riordan, who knows the family through Boy Scout Troop 761. “They're the kind of people who glue a community together. The Cooneys are the ones that have everyone over, that initiate everyone knowing each other. They bring everyone else together.”

So when the Cooneys' house - a place so full of character in the midst of a region so full of uniform rows of brand-new homes - was destroyed a few days before Christmas, the community came together.

People brought armloads of coats and hats. Neighbors hunted for the family's border collie, Brooke, and finally found her, whimpering but unhurt. The Red Cross had gotten them a hotel room. Friends convinced one store to donate a Christmas tree and another the decorations. Sixteen new presents somehow were under the tree in their room.

Neighbors they didn't know walked up the driveway with a letter and a bundle of gift cards. The Boy Scout troop where Tom had helped scores of kids earn merit badges, and watched his son become an Eagle Scout as he had decades before, set up a fundraiser. An old friend brought Tom the things he would need for all the insurance paperwork: an accordion file, a stapler, stamps.

After the new year, their son Alex leaves for the Coast Guard and daughter Olivia goes back to high school and JROTC. Lourine and Tom will be figuring out how to rebuild their house. “I feel like for me, the lesson learned here is don’t get so caught up with tangible things,” Lourine said. “I don't need to worry about possessions.” Her family is safe.
5) High Adventure Opportunities

2014 NCAC Philmont Contingent Opportunities: NCAC is sponsoring two 2014 Philmont contingents: a standard P701 contingent (6/29-7/13) costing about $2250 per person and an economy P708 contingent (7/7-20) costing about $1950 per person. P708 is full, but there is one unit crew opening on P701 along with provisional openings. The youth application for this contingent is available at c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high_adventure/hac_2014_provo_youth.pdf. For more information, see ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/group.aspx?id=114116 or contact Dave Talbott at dave.talbott-uspto.gov or 301-933-0048 or Wes Haynes at Wes.Haynes-at-scouting.org or 301-943-8376. (third listing)

2014 NCAC Florida Sea Base Opportunity: NCAC is sponsoring a Coral Reef Sailing Contingent S713 leaving Washington on July 13 and returning on July 19 at an estimated cost of $1700 per person. Two adult advisors are still needed. The application is available at c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high_adventure/hac_2014_ncac_sea_base_youth.pdf. For more information, see ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/group.aspx?id=114116 or contact Dana Abrahamsen at dabrahamsen-at-ftc.gov or 703-280-9782 or Wes Haynes at Wes.Haynes-at-scouting.org or 301-943-8376. (third listing)

T647 is going on the Live Aboard Scuba Diving trek at Florida Sea Base this spring break (Sat, Apr 12-Sat, Apr 19 are the trek dates). The troop has 2 slots available that they’d be happy to fill with other Chain Bridge district scouts. Estimated cost is $1800. This trek requires participants to be already certified (or junior certified) as Scuba Divers through PADI, NAUI, or another recognized organization. Contact is John MacLaury (john.maclaury-at-gmail.com). (first listing)

2014 and 2015 Florida Sea Base Reservations: Reservation requests for 2015 Sea Base Adventures must be made online at www.bsaseabase.org starting 1/15/14 and continuing through 2/15/14. A lottery will be held and crews contacted when they have been accepted for a 2015 Sea Base Adventure.

2014 Unit-Crew Philmont Reservations: Philmont has exhausted its 2014 waiting list and will soon offer slots for additional 2014 unit-crews. For more information, contact Philmont at camping-at-philmontscoutranch.org or 575-376-2281 and see www.philmontscoutranch.org/Camping.aspx.

High Adventure Opportunities Bulletin Board: The High Adventure Committee hosts a forum at ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/forums/?group=114116 for crews to post notices looking for scouts and scouters to join a high adventure crew or for individuals looking for a high adventure crew to join. To post a notice, send an e-mail with the details to Stan Turk at stanley.turk-at-verizon.net.

Wilderness First Aid Opportunities: Beginning in 2014, BSA high adventure crews are required to have “two” members currently certified in wilderness first aid. For a list of NCAC High Adventure Committee-endorsed classes, see c.ymcdn.com/sites/ncacbsa.site-ym.com/resource/group/95d23063-d63f-4ee8-858c-9c43c002b826/high_adventure/hac_2014-2013_wfa_courses.pdf. BSA Venturing Crew 80, First Christian Church, 2723 King Street, Alexandria, VA also offers wilderness first aid classes at a reduced rate. For more information, see www.w3bsa.org/WFABPlan.htm or contact Demi Pulas at demetrios.pulas-at-ferc.gov or 202-502-8676.

50 Miler Conservation Hours Opportunities: The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club is in need of scout volunteers for trail work. For more information, contact Rush Williamson at longportage-at-comcast.net or 301-424-7132.

Updated High Adventure Program Summaries: For information on program opportunities, age requirements, and prices at Lenhok’sin High Adventure, Adirondack High Adventure Area, Maine High Adventure Area, Northern Tier High Adventure Bases, Philmont, Florida Sea Base, and other NCAC high adventure programs, see the 12/8/13 edition of High Adventure Program Summaries, and additional information is available at the NCAC High Adventure website at ncacbsa.site-ym.com/members/group.aspx?id=114116. Many of these programs provide provisional opportunities for youth and adults unable to participate as a unit-crew. You are welcome to contact Dave Green at dkgreenva-at-hotmail.com or 703-536-5189 if you need help finding a program suitable for your situation.
The following are some upcoming events and training opportunities to assist in preparing for high adventure activities:

* 2/1-2 - Wilderness First Aid - cost 240 - Arlington, VA, Wilderness Safety Council. For more information, see www.wfa.net or contact Chris Tate at chris-at-wfa.net or 703-836-8905.

You may contact Dave Green, our district high adventure representative, for additional information or questions on any of the above topics at dkgreenva-at-hotmail.com or 703-536-5189.

6) E-mail Changes

CORRECTION John Rhoden to ASM-828

Problem e-mails - updates requested
[no new listings]

7) Quick Reminders

***** 5 Days to Submit Unit Scouter of the Year Form. Form (available in Dec 31 Chainemail, or on the district website); send it to Pauline Clark at pauline.clark-at-verizon.com by January 31.

***** Online rechartering is open now. Contact your Unit Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner with any questions. Journey to Excellence (JTE) score sheets should be also completed and submitted ASAP.

***** Save March 21 for our annual Chain Bridge District Dinner and Wednesday, February 19, 2014 for the annual Oratory Contest (open to all Scouts). Contact jon-at-ethertonandassociates.com

Chain Bridge Master Website: www.ncacbsa.org/ChainBridge

For entry to the Merit Badge Directory: The MB Counselor list is available to Scoutmasters on the CBD website on the MB page. It is password-protected and the Scoutmasters were sent the password. If unclear, please see your unit commissioner.

Complete District Calendars are also posted at: www.ncacbsa.org/ChainBridge

Hope there was something there for you!

Send news and new contact info to chainemail-at-twelfthpoint.com

-Paul