Council Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting for the Erie Shores Council, BSA, was held January 16th at the Ford Center at Camp Miakonda. All Chartered Organization Representatives from every pack, troop, post, and crew; Executive Board Members; and Council Members-at-Large were invited to attend.

Volunteer Scouters were elected to serve as Executive Board Members, Council Advisory Committee Members, Council Members at Large, Council Associate Members and National Council Representatives. Officers elected were Council President Gary Harden, Council Commissioner Ed Frey, Council Treasurer Jim Layman, Legal Counsel Gene Abercrombie, Past President Jack Randolph, Vice President Nominations Mary Arquette, Vice President Properties Shawn Chowdhary, Vice President Marketing Gary Corrigan, Vice President Program Roger Greive, Vice President Finance Brent Lochbihler, Vice President Membership Robert Thompson, Vice President Scoutreach Mark Urrutia, Vice President District Operations Jim Whitehead, and serving At Large Hal Munger and Richard Reynolds.

January 2013

Following pictures show the basement area constructed of concrete and reinforced masonry walls and precast concrete plank ceiling and floor construction. Grade around building has not been brought up and will be closer to the first floor when complete. This is a very sound bunker type construction which is designed to help protect against natural disasters.
Fellow Scouters:

A few years back I was fortunate to take a very nice 8 point buck during Michigan’s rifle deer season. It was a 400 yard shot across a meadow just before dusk. A standing clean shot so tracking, finding and dressing him was not much of a challenge. Finding my way home in the dark was another story. Dusk and the circumstances turned the playful barks and sunset serenade of a coyote pack into something unnerving. It became even more so dragging 150 lbs of dinner a mile through brush on narrow trails to where I’d parked my Jeep. Having hunted the area since I was old enough to buy a license, I was familiar with the terrain. I’d even walked the same path that morning in the pitch black of “O-Dark-Thirty” (5:30 am) with a simple penlight. When most of the way out, I slipped and fell. My head hit a tree and my glasses and flashlight flew. I rolled over my unloaded rifle, landing face up looking through branches at the stars, some in the sky and others in my head, next to the deer. The coyotes were now closer and their barks had turned to yips. Disoriented, my heart pounded as everything familiar seemed different. How do I get out of the woods in the dark with a pile of fresh meat and a pack of hungry coyotes on my trail, if I don’t know which way to go? I sat up, took a deep breath, said a prayer, found my flashlight, then my glasses, and pulled out my compass to find the way. And when I let the coyotes know that it was me they were hunting, and not just dinner, they stopped barking.

Monday afternoon, January 28th was similarly disorienting. With Council growth in membership for the first time since 2007, and key indicators improving, everything seemed exciting and yet familiar. Then my e-mail and phone erupted with reaction to what appears to have been a release of information on a policy reconsideration intended for a meeting of the National BSA Executive Board. The policy regarding homosexual leaders and members “would allow the religious, civic, or educational organizations that oversee and deliver Scouting to determine how to address the issue.” “The Boy Scouts would not, under any circumstances, dictate a position to units, members, or parents.” Under the proposed policy the BSA “would not require any chartered organization to act in ways inconsistent with that organization’s mission, principles, or religious beliefs.”

It is time to take a deep breath, say a prayer, and find our way out of the woods with a compass and a light to guide our way. It may be a long way out of the woods, and it may not. Today is Groundhog Day, February 2. By the time you read this article we should all know more about the path charted for us. I hope and pray that it is a direction home for our Scouting family. Yesterday at a briefing I was reminded that Scouting is a “big tent” and in charting a path in keeping with our mission, which is inclusive, we face a fundamental disagreement upon which we, as a family, are evenly split. There is a good faith disagreement on how to resolve the interpretation of religious principles and the Scout Law and Oath. Is homosexuality morally wrong and therefore a violation of the Scout Law (a Scout is Reverent) and Oath (Duty to God, morally straight)? Or is it reconcilable with faith and morality as it has been in practice with some mainstream faiths where even ministers are openly gay? The issue is not about the press, not about money, and not about the impact that pressure can have on the head of an organization. So the policy will be examined by opening a dialogue within the Scouting family, beginning at the National BSA Executive Committee in Texas on February 6th. We were told that it will be a family discussion, respectful of the positions, with the result, timing and any roll out of a new direction not predetermined.

Some things are a distraction, others are central to our mission. If the policy changes and a membership filter shifts to chartering organizations, then we will find ways to support our chartering organizations. We will support our units, and make a way to keep our family together. If after careful consideration the policy remains unchanged, then we must stand up together and again let everyone know who we are and how important our work is. The development of our youth as leaders, with character, and a moral compass, has never been more important to our Community, the Nation, our World, than it is right now. We will listen, learn and chart our path. If we make mistakes, then I expect we will learn from them. I’m reminded of a couple famous quotes from Waite Phillips. “He who never makes mistakes, never makes much of anything.” The other one is “A college education is beneficial if the student continues to learn after he graduates.”

For our youth, for our future, let us all keep faith, keep open minds and hearts, and keep our family together.

Gary Harden
Council President
Camp Miakonda Cub Day Camp 2013 – Air and Space Odyssey!

Once again, historic Camp Miakonda is hosting their four week Cub Scout Day Camp program for all boys, grades 1-5. This is once again a four week program where young men can enjoy their time at camp doing such activities as: BB Guns, Archery, Blow Darts, Wrist Rockets, BMX, Fishing, Nature, Crafts, Swimming, Showmanship, and so much more. Camp is a perfect way for a young Scout to have the best time in Scouting...summer day camp! For more information, please visit: www.camp-miakonda.org/cdc or call 1-419/800-241-7293 to request more information or to register. Also, check out the website to view pictures from the 2012 camp along with the NEW promotional video. Weeks of camp are as follows:

- **Week 1:** June 17th – 21st
- **Week 2:** June 24th – 28th
- **No Camp Week of July 4th**
- **Week 3:** July 8th – 12th
- **Week 4:** July 15th – 19th

Scouts can sign up for multiple weeks to receive discounts! Packs and dens are encouraged to attend camp together. Want to volunteer? Discounts are offered for parent volunteers.

Partners for Clean Streams

Construction at Camp Miakonda to restore stream habitat, reduce erosion, enhance wetlands, and improve upland habitat along the upper Ottawa River is nearing completion. Partners for Clean Streams, with planning expertise from the Army Corps of Engineers, is in charge of the $1.36 million Habitat Restoration Master Plan partially funded through a U.S. EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The project has restored at least ten acres of wetland, thirty acres of upland habitat, and 1,200 linear feet of bank stabilization along the Ottawa River. This restoration project for Lake Sawyer and the Ottawa River will result in substantial long-term improvements to the Maumee River and to the Lake Erie Western Basin.

Nearly 10,000 cubic yards of sediment from Lake Sawyer were trucked off-site. Excavated areas on the Lake Sawyer bottom have been sloped back to help prevent erosion as well as provide a gradual transition between deeper and shallow areas, perfect for aquatic habitat and recreational activities.

Several built-up sections were created along the edge of Lake Sawyer to serve as wetland shelves. These shelves will allow for water to filter through, removing sediment and any potential pollutants before the water reaches the lake and eventually the Ottawa River. These areas will remain underwater yet will be shallow enough to become a unique educational opportunity for Scouts and the public to learn the differences between wetland plants and their benefits in contrast to plants found in drier conditions.

The project at Camp Miakonda has been a huge success, but more is yet to come. Over the coming year, Partners for Clean Streams will closely monitor over 26,000 plants, numerous stone structures, and water levels throughout the restoration area to ensure continued success. Partners for Clean Streams will also create educational signage that will teach Scouts and visitors about the many aspects of the restoration project.

Erie Shores Council would like to thank Partners for Clean Streams, the Army Corps of Engineers, contractors George Gradel and Ecological Restoration, and our other community partners for these significant improvements to Camp Miakonda, the Maumee River, and to the entire Western Lake Erie Basin.
Partners for Clean Streams
11th Annual Youth Patch Day Workshop

Fulfill requirements for environmentally related merit badges or patches including the Partnering for Clean Streams Patch.

When: Sunday, March 3 at 1-4:30 p.m. (registration begins at 12:30 p.m.)
Where: The University Student Union Ingram Room, room #2520,
free parking available
Cost: $5 per participant
Who: Youth Kindergarten through 5th grade looking to complete activities for environmentally related merit badges or patches

See the Patch Day Workshop registration flyer for more information and for registration. Preregistration required by February 20th with Partners for Clean Streams at Admin@PartnersforCleanStreams.org, or by visiting PartnersforCleanStreams.org or 419-874-0727.

Scout Shop News

- **Venturing Uniforms** have returned! Class A uniform pants and shirts remain unchanged. A new line of socks for Venturing is coming soon! Now is a great time to check out your uniform for summer camp. Beat the spring rush and get your uniform pieces today! Need camping gear for summer camp? We have mess kits, silverware, flashlights, knives and compasses available.

- **New Arrow of Light Plaque** available to order in the shop for $29.99 each (please allow 2 weeks for pick up).

- **2013 Requirement Books** now available! Check out modified requirements for Boy Scout ranks and changes to merit badge pamphlets all in one handy guide!

- We have all your Pack Graduation needs! Ranks, Mother’s Pins and Certificates available. Ready to think Spring? Try the Raingutter Regatta! Make a boat or Trimaran and race it on the water. It’s a fun Spring or Summer event for your unit.

Staff Changes

January 7, 2013 Khalfani Rice joined our staff serving as District Executive for the Scoutreach District. He is working with the packs and troops throughout the council area, and guiding our 7 Program Aides in providing program and activities for the Scoutreach youth. Khalfani brings a wealth of experience and leadership as he has served as Project Coordinator for Vista Americorps (Feed Lucas County Children), worked with the Boys and Girls Club, Camp Adventure in Ansbach, Germany, and as a Mentor to BGUS Upward Bound Program and BGUS Kids Camp. He earned an Associates Degree in Education at Grand Rapids Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University. She has worked with the Cherry Street Mission Ministries Ready for Life Program, the City of Toledo Board of Community Relations, and has a wealth of experience and leadership skills. Please welcome Jacqueline to the Erie Shores Council!!

Effective January 1, 2013 other staff changes include Joel Moszkowicz was promoted to Senior District Executive; Joe Maxwell also to Senior District Executive, Chris Reynolds to Camping Director; and Matthew Reineck to Program Director.

Congratulations to Nancy Brushaber who retired December 31, 2012 after serving for 16 1/2 years on the Council Support Staff as the Camp Program Secretary. Nancy oversaw all the camp reservations for Camp Miakonda and Camp Pioneer—Day Camp, Summer Camp, Camp Alaska, Dad & Lad, Mom & Me, Construction City, Halloween Party, Order of the Arrow, Jamboree Trips, Philmont Treks, the Order of the Arrow and much more. She will be missed by all as we wish her the best for her retirement.

Wood

- Noah Wagner
  Troop 145
  Richard Shedron
- Alexander Gibson
  Troop 144
  Matt Meyer
- Johnathon Gibson
  Troop 144
  Matt Meyer
- Gabriel Hickman
  Troop 144
  Matt Meyer
- Kevin Delvecchio
  Troop 63
  Jack Bobland
- John Horvat
  Troop 63
  Jack Bobland
- Christopher Kerr
  Troop 337
  Russell Hathaway
- Andrew Nye
  Troop 337
  Russell Hathaway
Silver Beaver Nominations

Do you know of one of our volunteer Scouters who has truly shown the Scouting Spirit and gone above and beyond in their service to the youth of Northwest Ohio? If so, be sure to nominate that special person for a Silver Beaver Award. It’s the highest honor a volunteer Scouter can receive from a local Scout council.

The Annual Scouter Recognition Dinner will be held June 6th at Camp Miakonda. Nominations for the Silver Beavers that will be presented that evening must be in to the Distinguished Awards Committee by March 29th for their consideration. Nomination forms are available at the Scout Office, online at www.erieshorescouncil.org in the leader Resources listing under the Resources section or email erieshores@bsamail.org and we can send you an electronic copy to print. Send the completed forms to: Erie Shores Council Distinguished Awards Committee, P.O. Box 8728, Toledo, OH 43623.

C6-460-13 Wood Badge

Leadership development in Scouting is essential for effectively helping the youth we serve. There is no better program for leadership than completing the Wood Badge course.

The best opportunity to enroll in a Wood Badge course for 2013 is here in the Erie Shores Council. An outstanding staff has been assembled to provide a quality program. If you are not already signed up for the course, be reminded that space is limited and filled on first-enrolled basis. Applications and course information can be found on the ESC website.

The course dates are:
- First Weekend: 7:30 a.m., Friday, August 16 to 6 p.m., Sunday, August 18, 2013.
- Second Weekend: 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28 to 6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 30, 2013.

Any questions should be emailed to the Course Director at Dennis.Gable@boyscouting.org.

Remember to sign up for the Wood Badge breakfast on Saturday, March 23, 2013. Help other leaders by donating to the Wood Badge Scholarship Fund.

Youth Protection Facilitator Training

A session for Facilitator Training will be held Saturday, April 20th from 10 am to 12 Noon at the Ford Center at Camp Miakonda. If you want to learn how to teach Youth Protection Training this is the course to take. You can sign up for this session by emailing Ed at edtaylor49@yahoo.com or contact the Scout office at 419/800-241-7293 ext. 205 (Karen).

Leaders are required to take Youth Protection training every two years. Youth Protection Training is available on line at: http://olc.scouting.org/info/ypt.html.

Dad & Lad Overnight

Saturday, APRIL 27—Sunday, APRIL 28

Mom & Me Overnight

Saturday, MAY 4—Sunday, MAY 5

Come join the fun at Camp Miakonda! Spend some quality time with your son while participating in some exciting activities… archery, branding, BB guns, BMX bikes, cooking, crafts, fishing, songs, skits, a confidence course and much more! Each weekend will have everyone’s favorites and some new activities too.

This year if you sign up as a Pack with a minimum of 5 pairs (Parent & Son) for one weekend, each family will receive a discount. If a family signs up for BOTH weekends, they will receive an ADDITIONAL discount. Cubmasters will be receiving registration forms soon. See your Cubmaster to sign up.

If you have any questions, contact: Scout Offices at 419/800-241-7293 or Matt Reineck at Matthew.Reineck@Scouting.org

Watch for your registration form to come in the mail soon!
Calendar of Events

**MARCH**
1. God & Country Banquet
4-7. COPE Training
8-10. God & Country Camporee
10. Daylight Savings Time Begins
19. Council Commissioners Meeting
21. Council Advancement Committee
23. OA Workday
26. Council Training Committee
27. Council Membership Committee
28. Council Camping Committee
29-30. Good Friday – Office/Store Closed
31. Easter

**APRIL**
16. Commissioners Meeting
18. Council Advancement Committee
20. Youth Protection Training
23. Council Training Committee
24. Council Membership Committee
25. Council Camping Committee
27-28. Dad and Lad Overnight

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**Email Addresses**

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- Assistant Scout Executive: Andrew.Currnan@Scouting.org
- Camping Director/Chris Reynolds: psranger@juno.com
- Program Director: Matthew.Reineck@Scouting.org
- Office Manager/Executive Assistant: Joyce.Dale@Scouting.org
- Commodore Perry District Executive: Ian.Blodgett@Scouting.org
- Eagle Bay Sr. District Executive: Joel.Moszkowicz@Scouting.org
- Northwest Sr. District Executive: Matthew.Shanahan@Scouting.org
- Swan Creek Sr. District Executive: Joe.Maxwell@Scouting.org
- Swan Creek District Executive: Jacqueline.Rivers@Scouting.org
- Wood District Executive: Nicole.Shott@Scouting.org
- Scoutreach District Executive: Khalfani.Rice@Scouting.org
- Registrar: Vacant
- Camp/Program: Erin.Lalonde@Scouting.org
- Development/Finance Assistant: April.Bauer@Scouting.org
- Accounting Specialist: Sara.Crosby@Scouting.org
- Scout Shop Manager: Vacant
- Pioneer Scout Reservation/Ranger Jeff Frastaci: Jeff@psrweb.org
- DeVilbiss Scout Reservation/Ranger Jim Moore: James.Moore@Scouting.org

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