Partners for Clean Streams (PCS) completed additional habitat and stream restoration efforts at Camp Miakonda in September. Last year, as part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funded project, PCS addressed erosion concerns along the Ottawa River and connected tributaries, excavated over 10,000 cubic yards of sediment from Lake Sawyer, treated and removed invasive species like reed canary grass, and revitalized multiple acres of wetlands within the camp’s borders. Adaptive management will continue through this year, which led to the deployment of contractor Ecological Restoration and Dave Derrick of River Research and Design. The team further stabilized Hartman Ditch (the Northern tributary at camp) by repairing in-stream structures and added stream bank protection with stone and other natural materials. Over 1,800 live stakes of sandbar willow, silky dogwood, and buttonbush were planted that will further stabilize the loose soil on the streambanks. By undertaking the additional restoration effort, PCS expects the two culverts Hartman flows through to flush more easily, reducing the amount of sediment buildup. Partners for Clean Streams will continue to monitor Camp Miakonda in the coming months. Initial monitoring done by Enviroscience has revealed positive results in the Ottawa River with some exciting fish finds like bass, large pike, and plenty of bluegill. Plant life at camp is thriving and the variety of plants is much improved. Additional fish and insect monitoring will continue in the months ahead. PCS will also be installing educational signage for Scouts and other visitors to learn about the great resources and natural classrooms available for everyone to enjoy and benefit from along the Ottawa River at camp.
Mt. Baldy

Fellow Scouters:

I begin with an entry in my first Philmont Journal: Friday, June 18, 2004, Crew 6-13-J ascending the North Face of Mt. Baldy, elevation 12,441 ft. crests at 11:28 am. Mountain top shroud of clouds breaks, and crew leader with American Flag, steps to the edge, viewing what lies ahead of us.

I return time and again when seeking clarity. This moment strips away noise and distraction. In a brief respite I gain focus, and a sense of urgency about what’s to come. A mountain top experience can do that, especially a first one.

Over the past four years, we’ve experienced change, much of it inevitable. Loss of our home brought forth Erie Shores Council’s largest Capital Campaign and the Jadel Leadership Center. An appreciation of changing membership demographics resulted in the Area 2 Project; and when we learned as much as we could, a broad consensus to develop MVP (Membership, Voluntarism & Philanthropy) on our own, and a call to reinvent/develop our Cub Program (MCR). The IVF (Ineligible Volunteer Files) and Membership Standards discussions within our family also brought about change, challenging us to grow in other ways. In each situation, we’ve studied, listened and learned; developed a vision and a strategy; built consensus; and found a way to make it happen. We are building on what’s working, and finding new approaches to what’s not.

“Leading change” when change is needed or inevitable, can make it a positive experience, empowering our stakeholders to participate, opening the door to inclusiveness. To stay on track we adopted Guiding Principles: acting as “One Council”; with transparency, showing respect for our stakeholders, and calling for trust in our leaders; in a culture of service to others; and with our tent flap open to members, volunteers and other organizations who share our values and culture. We’ve taken this approach over the last four years. The next change may prove to be the most significant challenge.

We need to serve more kids, and the membership growth experienced over the last year must be sustained well into the future. We need to reach more communities, and more kids in the communities we’ve already reached.

When their sons are in the Program, a high percentage of parents appreciate its value for developing citizenship, character and leaders. Scouting results in better grades, more scholarships, a higher college graduation rate, and eventually, better pay. Parents almost universally want this for their sons. Unfortunately, many of this generation’s parents don’t have their sons in Scouting. So we have to find a way to lead them there. They need to understand us, and we them. To be sustainable, Scouting must be owned by the current generation, and then the one after. Parents need to assign a value high enough to build Scouting into their busy lives, a shared purpose. We have much work to do.

One of the ways we can become better known is by inviting community leaders to participate on our Board, Committees, and District Committees. Another is to move volunteers through these committees, to and through the chair position and then on to other positions where they can gain knowledge, experience and a sense of accomplishment. We should also provide new and energizing challenges to the leaders we owe so much, those who brought us the success we enjoy today.

During the next few months you will see some of these changes. Like scaling the steep North Face of Mt. Baldy, we will take it one step at a time. We may slide and stumble, but after each step we will be closer to our goal: more kids in Scouting & a strong sustaining membership supported by community organizations across NW Ohio that know us much better and share our vision & culture.

Yours in Scouting,
Gary Harden, Council President
Wood Badge 2013

Congratulations to the participants for completing the practical part of the Erie Shores Council Wood Badge Course. The 2013 Course wrapped up its second weekend on September 30th at Camp Frontier. The awesome C6-460-13 staff presented a “mountain top” experience for the participants who are anxious to see their visions come to completion. Those who have completed Wood Badge know the positive emotions that exist at this point of the course and the excitement of returning to help your unit experience Scouting at its very best.

Any Scouter who has not had the Wood Badge experience, be sure to include this on your ‘bucket list’ and plan to take the next course. It will be the best training that you will ever experience.

BSA Membership Fee Increasing to $24 Per Year

Effective January 1, 2014, membership in the Boy Scouts of America will increase to $24 per year ($2.00 per month). The BSA’s last fee increase was in 2010, and since then, the BSA has taken steps to control and reduce costs. The fee increase is a step in order to continue providing the services you and our members expect and need. This increase will affect all programs, including Exploring.

One hundred percent of the registration fees go directly to the national office and do not stay in Erie Shores Council.

Some prices for outside sports and activities in our area:

1) Oregon Schools charge $150 to participate in just the first sport.
2) Pacesetter Soccer is about $1200 a year to participate.
3) Bowling Green schools are $100 to participate in sport programs.
4) Band in most of our local schools start at $400 or more.
5) Private schools are about $90 per year for clubs and other activities.
6) Fremont schools activity fees first $175, second $125, third $75

Plan now to prepare for the increase. For every 2 items of popcorn at $15 your unit sells, you will be able to cover the additional increase. If your unit has never participated in the sale, now is the time to jump in and sell.
Cross Country Skiing at PSR

Cross Country Skiing will again be offered this winter at the Richard P. Anderson Pioneer Scout Reservation. The skiing program is a great opportunity for Troops, Venture Crews, youth/church groups, and families to enjoy just another aspect of what the Erie Shores Council camps have to offer.

There is a multitude of well marked and groomed trails to accommodate both first time skiers and seasoned individuals. Skiing will be offered during the weekend weeks on Saturday from 9am-4pm and on Sundays from 11am-4pm (snow pending). A skiing hotline will be open during the winter months posting the status on whether or not skiing is open for the current weekend based on snow conditions. Skis, boots and poles are available for rent for $5 per person for Scouting groups and $6 per person for non-Scouting groups. There is a $1 trail fee if you choose to bring your own skiing equipment. For larger groups and to check on weekday availability please call ahead.

**Camp Office:** 419-459-4486

**Skiing Hotline:** 419-459-4962

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New at the Scout Shop

**Pinewood Derby:** Cars, decals, weights, tools, colored wheels, cookie cutters and more! 2014 participant patches, Flexible composite weights (flat or cylindrical), Neck medals in bronze, silver and gold

**Holiday Gift Items**

**Lighted Village Collection** (Chapel, Trading Post, Ranger Cabin from 2012 in very limited quantities); Lighted Wall Tent, Bridge, Fence and Firewood Figures, Rowboat and Campfire Figures


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Miakonda Mini Golf Course

Any interested unit, organization or group of Scouters can sponsor a hole for the new miniature golf course planned for the Fort at Camp Miakonda. You create the hazards, bumps, tunnels, ramps, twists and turns for the ultimate hole. Units and groups will be required to send in their plans for final approval prior to construction.

Each participating unit or group will have a plaque posted at their sponsored hole for recognition. The theme of this course is Frontier/Fort/1800’s. Unit maintenance of the hole is required on an as needed basis. Scheduled completion date is May 31, 2014.

**Ideas for themed hazards:** Horse Shoes, Pitch Fork, Wagon Wheel, Out House, Saw Buck with leg, Mini Fort to play through, Bridge over sand trap, Windmill, Old Tyme Store Fronts, Hills and Valleys, Road Apples or Cow Patties, Miakonda logo, Oil Derrick, Train/track, teepee or tent, 2 man bucksaw, wagon(s) trail or Conestoga style, Mountain Mine. No mosquito breeding water hazards. Electric is not available.

If you are interested in sponsoring a hole and for all the details, please contact Diane Wilkie Smith by e-mail at dwilkesmith@msn.com and put in the Subject Box: **Miniature Golf Course**.
Harlem Globetrotters World Tour

Now in their 88th consecutive season of touring the world, the Harlem Globetrotters showcase a captivating assortment of trick shots, high-flying dunks, and ball handling wizardry with a side-splitting array of comedy guaranteed to entertain both the young and young at heart!

Scouts and Scouters are allotted special discount prices for the games. Free Globetrotter Scout patches are included with the tickets. They will be appearing at Toledo’s Huntington Center on Sunday, December 29th at 2 p.m. — save up to $14 per ticket and Monday, December 30th at Bowling Green’s Stroh Center at 7 p.m. — save up to $8 per ticket. Forms and registration flyers are available at the Scout Shop and online at the Council website www.erieshorescouncil.org.

For Huntington Center, contact Kristine Slizewski at 1-800-641-4667 x 122 or email Slizewski@harlemglobetrotters.com.

For the Stroh Center, contact Brian Hill at 1-602-707-7009 or email hill@harlemglobetrotters.com.

Cleveland Browns vs. Jacksonville Jaguars

The Cleveland Browns take on the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday, December 1st at 1 p.m. at First Energy Stadium in Cleveland. The Browns organization is offering discounted tickets to all Scouts and their families. Each Scout will receive a Scout Day patch and a portion of the price of each ticket sold comes back to the Erie Shores Council for our camping programs. Tickets range in price from $25 to $45. Deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, November 29th. Flyers with order forms are available on the council website at www.erieshorescouncil.org or at the Scout Shop store.

Camp Alaska

After 24 hours outside, sleeping in a shelter that you have built yourself, and, after having eaten three meals that you have cooked over an open fire, nothing is more refreshing than a good hot breakfast.

On January 19, 2014, 8:30 a.m. — 10:30 a.m., the staff at the Richard P. Anderson Pioneer Scout Reservation offer the option of a hot pancake breakfast to those who have completed Camp Alaska there on Saturday night, January 18th. Please let us know in advance that you will be there.

Cost is $8.00 per person with Camp Alaska and $5.50 for Breakfast Only. Call the Scout Service Center, 419-241-7293 ext 204, or email Jennifer at Jennifer.Medley@Scouting.org

Museum Donations

The Museum is looking for donations of Pinewood Derby cars from the 1950s to the present for a new display celebrating 60 years of Pinewood Derby races. Also looking for photos and film footage of local Pack Pinewood Derbies since the 1950s in the Council and/or district races as well. We can accept up to ten cars per decade. We already have two from the 1950s and one from the 1960s but are seeking more. Call 1-734-242-3445 if you have cars, pictures, or film footage. We plan to reorganize and change our displays in the next few months.

Membership

Please make sure your new Scout applications are turned in to the Scout office promptly. If you are unable to bring the applications in, contact your district executive who will be glad to bring them in for you. If you would like to hold an additional Join Scouting Night, please let your district executive know.

Charters will be available at the November Roundtables, please start planning for your rechartering now so it will be an easy process for your unit. Some steps you can take now to save time later are: 1) Make sure each adult leader’s Youth Protection Training (YPT) certification is less than 2 years old. 2) Make sure all adults and youth, new since last year’s charter, are listed on the charter application papers. 3) Remember you need to print out a copy of the charter to turn in at the office. Don’t forget the Executive Officer and the unit leader sign the cover page. If you have questions about your unit’s charter please contact your commissioner, district executive or Karen, our Council Registrar.
Calendar of Events

**NOVEMBER**
- 2 University of Scouting, Cardinal Stritch
- 8-10 Catholic Retreat, Camp Miakonda
- 19 Council Commissioners Meeting
- 21 Council Advancement Meeting
- 26 Council Training Meeting
- 27 Council Membership Meeting
- 28-30 Thanksgiving Holiday
- 30 Construction City, UT Health Ed Center

**DECEMBER**
- 17 Council Commissioners Meeting
- 19 Council Advancement Meeting
- 24-25 Christmas Holiday
- 31-1/1 New Years’ Holiday

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**Email Addresses**
- Council: erieshores@bsamail.org
- Scout Executive/CEO: Ed.Caldwell@Scouting.org
- Assistant Scout Executive: Andrew.Curran@Scouting.org
- Field Director: Pat.Keanan@Scouting.org
- Camping Director/Chris Reynolds: psrranger@juno.com
- Program Director: Matthew.Reineck@Scouting.org
- Office Manager/Executive Assistant: Joyce.Dale@Scouting.org
- Commodore Perry District Executive: Bobby.Johnson@Scouting.org
- Eagle Bay Sr. District Executive: Joel.Moszkowicz@Scouting.org
- Northwest District Executive: Jacqueline.Rivers@Scouting.org
- Swan Creek Sr. District Executive: Joe.Maxwell@Scouting.org
- Wood District Executive: Nicole.Shott@Scouting.org
- Scouting District Executive: Matthew.Reineck@Scouting.org
- Registrar: Karen.Krieger@Scouting.org
- Camp/Program: Jennifer.Medley@Scouting.org
- Development/Finance Assistant: Erin.LaLonde@Scouting.org
- Accounting Specialist: April.Bauer@Scouting.org
- Scout Shop Manager: Sara.Crosby@Scouting.org
- Pioneer Scout Reservation/ Ranger Jeff Frastaci: jeff@psrweb.org
- DeVilbiss Scout Reservation/ Ranger Jim Moore: James.Moore@Scouting.org