BSA membership fee increased to ($24 + $1 for insurance). The Boy Scouts of America will increase its annual membership fee for youth and adults to $24 from $15, beginning Jan. 1, 2014. For those who join after the beginning of the year, the fee will be prorated at $2 per month. This does include units with a Dec. 31, 2013, expiration date. Click here to learn what your $25 buys? Click Here to Read More or contact Wendy.Shaw@Scouting.org

NewSite Gathers Cub-Related Social Media in One Spot

At long last, parents have one online source they can turn to that pulls together Cub Scout-related content and social media onto one site. Called “Cub Hub,” the new site gathers the very best ideas from the web to help maximize the Cub Scout experience. More information about this fantastic new resource will be released soon. For now, however, www.CubScouts.org.

2014 STEM – O – Rama

“Save the Date”

The 2014 STEM – O – Rama will take place on May 17, 2014 at Kane County Fairgrounds! Lot’s more information on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math at the event. For more information or to be a part of the event committee, please contact the STEM-O-Rama Event Chair, Harry Stout or Staff Adviser, Buzz.Wheeler@scouting.org or (630) 797-4621.
2013 Popcorn Sale—The 2013 popcorn sale is in full swing! Many of our Scouts have already reached their goal of $600 and have earned the BIG water gun! Encourage your Scouts to go out door to door and keep selling popcorn to earn prizes, tickets to one of the $1,100 incentive experiences, and any special incentives your unit has planned. Make sure you continue to communicate your unit’s sales goal to all of your families. Remember to have your Scouts go 5 houses up and 5 houses down from their home on both sides of the street. Encourage them to go back until they talk to their neighbors. These are their best customers & will help them reach their goals!

Talk to your District Kernel if you need additional popcorn or have some extra to transfer to another unit. Use all of your sales methods, including online sales, to reach your sales goal and fund your Ideal Year of Scouting! Talk to your District Kernel if you have any questions or need any additional order forms or materials. Thank you for all of your hard work with the 2013 Popcorn Sale!

Need More Popcorn to Sell?
If your unit needs additional popcorn to sell we will hold a bonus distribution on October 12th to offer more popcorn to deliver to our customers. Remember your Scouts should always take orders even if they are out of a particular product. You will be able to pick up some products at Super Saturday on November 2, 2013 and also place your final order that day for any product you need to fill your orders. If your unit would like to buy additional popcorn for Show and Deliver or storefront sales and to grow your sale you must place an order for exactly what you want in full cases by October 2nd to the Council office. We are using a separate order form which is on the Council website. The product you order must be paid for with a check at the time of pick up. Your unit will not be able to return this additional popcorn on Super Saturday. This is additional product your unit needs and will not be included on your settlement form. Here are the details on the distribution: October 12, 2012 from 7:30 – 9:30 AM at DEMAR Logistics - 320 Fullerton Ave, Carol Stream, IL 60188 (Take North Ave (Rt 64) into Carol Stream, Turn North on Gary Ave – go to Fullerton Ave. – Turn East, Facility will be on the South side of the road). Bonus Distribution Popcorn Order Form.

Bonus Rewards!
$600 Club Earn a huge squirt water gun for some extreme fun!
$1,500 Club Earn a bonus $50 gift card to get something special!
$2,500 Club Qualify for the Trail’s End Scholarship Program and earn 6% of your total sale this year and every year after to be invested in your own scholarship account.

$1,100 Sellers Incentives – NEW OPTIONS THIS YEAR!
Option 1 Wolves Game – Scouts will earn 2 tickets and a Wolves hat to a game in early February!
Option 2 Monster Jam – Scouts will earn 2 tickets to Monster Jam on February 8th at 2 PM!
Option 3 GameWorks – Scouts will earn 2 hours of game time and lunch on January 18th!

Online Sales
Each Scout and Leader should create their own account. All online sales from August 1 through November 1, 2013 will count towards your Scout Rewards.

Scouts
- Go to http://sell.trails-end.com to create a brand new account
- Go to the Spread the Word page to send emails to friends and family
- Go to Orders to see who has made a purchase. Trail’s End Ships orders directly to customers!

Leaders
- Go to http://sell.trails-end.com to create a brand new account
- View your Scouts’ sales on one page

At the end of December, the Council will notify units of the profit they received during the year and credit that amount to their unit account in either the Norris or Deicke Scout Shop. The profit received through this program is 30%, the same amount earned through the normal fall sale.

Resources Click Here for a list of contacts to help you throughout the Popcorn Sale and visit the popcorn section at www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org
A Century of Honor - Celebrating 100 Years of Service
All members of the Scouting family are invited to experience a spectacular new production celebrating the history and values that make us one. The multimedia celebration "A Century of Honor" will be broadcast live for the benefit of Scouting organizations across the country. With a cast of hundreds of Scouts, the 85-minute performance will feature inspiring original music and media, historical reenactments, and special guests.
7:00 PM Displays and Gathering Activities
8:00 to 9:30 PM "A Century of Honor" Broadcast from Salt Lake City.
For more information visit [www.Scouts100.lds.org](http://www.Scouts100.lds.org) for the broadcast.
Locations: Three Location Options: 1320 Ridgeland Ave., Naperville or Camp Big Timber 37W955 Big Timber Road, Elgin, & Prestbury Center Center, 100 Hankes Rd., Sugar Grove, IL

2014 Friends of Scouting
The 2014 Friends of Scouting campaign is just around the corner. We are producing all of the materials needed for the campaign, and you will be able to pick up your unit’s 2014 Friends of Scouting packet starting next month at your District Friends of Scouting Kickoff. The Friends of Scouting campaign is about asking for support, but it is also about telling the Scouting story and all the good Scouting has accomplished. We need your help to make sure every unit has a Friends of Scouting presentation sometime between December and March to give our families an opportunity to hear the Scouting story and to support at least one Scout for the year. Your District team can deliver the Friends of Scouting presentation, and we would like one member of your unit to tell their Scouting story and the impact Scouting has had on their family. Please let me know if I can be of assistance as you plan your 2014 Unit Friends of Scouting campaign or if you have any questions [ron.wentzell@scouting.org](mailto:ron.wentzell@scouting.org) or (630) 797-4615.

Friends of Scouting—Matching Gifts from Employers
Many employers/businesses will match their employees’ charitable contributions. For instance, if you give $500 to the Three Fires Council and your employer has a matching gifts program, the Council would receive the benefit of $1,000. If you are a contributor to the Three Fires Council, or are considering a contribution, please check with your employer to see if this program exists or if your employer might be interested in starting it. To help determine matching gifts companies we are asking that everyone write down their employer on the employer name line on your Friends of Scouting Card.

Legacy Planning: Remember the Three Fires Council, BSA in your will. Planned gifts, gifts of appreciated property, gifts through life insurance, and charitable trusts all help secure the financial future of the Scouting program for youth throughout Kane, Kendall, DuPage, DeKalb, and parts of Will and Cook Counties. Contact [Ron Wentzell](mailto:Ron.Wentzell@scouting.org), Director of Development, at (630) 797-4615 or for more information.

Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament Presents: Elgin Kiddie Hike 2013
Kiddie Hike FLIER with Information
October 19 & 26, Saturdays: 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. located at 37W955 Big Timber Road — Elgin, IL 60124 $8 entry. Open to the Public. Call Rich Dennis at (630) 584-9250 for more information.
Event to include: KID ID PROGRAM, GAMES, FOOD, TREAT BAGS, and MUSIC

"Take a Scout Trip to the 11th Century at Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament" All Scouts, leaders, family and friends can experience an evening of feasting, fighting and fun for just $25.00 a person on select Scout Appreciation Shows. All Scouts receive a free medieval patch. [Click here for more details](#)
Offer good with purchase of a complete Cub Scout or Boy Scout uniform (adult sizes included) –

* Shirt    * Pants or Shorts    * Uniform Cap    * Belt with buckle    * Neckerchief and Slide    * Socks

The 10% off applies to the above list of items when purchased together. (Free patch while supplies last.)

The discount does not apply to uniform insignia.

Offer good at the Three Fires Council Scout Shops from 8/21/13 - 10/27/13

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Three Fires Council—Boy Scouts of America

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Haunted Hike 2013

What Are You Scared Of?!

October 18, 19, 25, 26
Fridays: 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 6:30 - 11:00 p.m.
37W955 Big Timber Road — Elgin, IL 60124
$10 entry. $8 for all scouts in uniform.
630-584-9250 for more information

www.tfchauntedhike.org

Proudly Presented by:
Three Fires Council, BSA

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Yes! We Can.

Yes we can — work together to feed a hungry family today!
Yes we can — ensure no child goes to school hungry today!
Yes we can — support families in need by coming together!
Yes we can — come together by donating just one can each!
Yes we can — build stronger bonds by helping someone in need!
Yes we can — through community - create a positive impact today!

Please join us in a community wide effort to collect soup to feed the hungry.

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Second Version of MyScouting.org Tools Released:
The new tools provide more intuitive functionality and improved navigation. It’s made easy and transparent so that volunteers can focus more on Scouting. To become familiar and learn more about the new tools, select a link below to download instructions.

TRAINING MANAGER
Dashboard view of Trained Leaders and Youth Protection Training status and counts, add adult training information – not just YPT, for members in their organization structure, view member’s training history and YPT status, print training certificate(s)
Print Youth Protection Aging Report (lists those who have not taken YPT, those whose YPT expired and those that will expire in 30, 60, 90 days)

MEMBER MANAGER
Assign members to functional roles in sub organizations
View unit roster details, edit/update certain member profile
Information, print membership cards for each registered position, print Youth Member Age Report.

ORGANIZATION MANAGER
Create sub organizations in their unit, maintain unit’s organizational details (social media information)

MY DASHBOARD (enhancements)
Update additional profile information (education, employer, civic & professional associations), view personal training history, print training certificate(s), print membership card(s).

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
Supported browsers:
Best experienced with Google Chrome 14+.
Firefox 21+ also supported.
Safari & Internet Explorer are not fully supported at this time.

Non Key 3 members will only have access to the My Dashboard tool. For more information, please contact Wendy.Shaw@scouting.org.

In 2012, more than 3,000 Scouts received $100 grants for their Eagle Scout service project through the generosity of the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation. The BSA is pleased to announce that the foundation has offered to continue its support with a similar number of grant beginnings in July 2013. Three Fires Council has been granted 25 grants and they will be awarded on a first come first serve basis. Scouts should complete the GRANT APPLICATION FORM and submit it to your District Advancement Chair. The Scout’s obligations are clearly stated on the form. Once approved by the district it will be submitted by the Council to the BSA National Lowe’s Foundation Grant Administrator. Upon approval of your application by National, a letter and gift card will be sent to you directly from the BSA National Lowe’s Foundation Grant Administrator.
Keys to Implementing a Successful STEM Program for Units:

Click Here for the NEW Program Guide

The STEM program complements the traditional Scout program and provides another avenue for exploration, leadership development and fun. For many youth, the allure of science and technology is overwhelming and used properly the STEM program can be a powerful recruiting tool.

First, make it fun. The STEM program is not designed to supplement traditional schooling, but rather to spark the imagination and natural curiosity of youth. Second, incorporate it into your traditional program. It is simple to add a STEM element to Scouting activities which complements the “what” of the activity with the “how and why” it works. For example, the Pinewood Derby event at the Cub Scout level is all about science and engineering. Start with a group session to introduce the topic to your pack, troop or crew. The project should have a physical element.

Most important is to review the information in websites of both the BSA and the Three Fires Council. Everything a unit needs to start a STEM initiative is located on the website including the Nova awards guidebooks or you can purchase the guidebooks at your local Scout shop to explore the basic principles of STEM and discover how fun and fascinating STEM can be.

**See the Training Academy Course Guide for STEM Trainings Offered!

TFC STEM web page for Cub Scouts. TFC STEM web page for Boy Scouts & Venturers.

Click here to link to the TFC STEM page or Like us on Facebook.

Click Here to contact your District STEM Chair with questions.

Legoland October Events! Click on the Link for the flyer

Brick-or-Treat Event | October 5 – 31

A ghoulishly good time is brewing at LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Chicago during the month-long Brick-or-Treat Halloween extravaganza. Activities include; Trick-or-treat for LEGO® bricks that, when all are collected, create a special Halloween-themed model (free while supplies last). Dare to enter the haunted Jungle Expedition and take part in a spooky scavenger hunt, Get goose bumps as monsters overrun MINILAND Chicago and Sharpen your building skills with our creepy creative challenges.

OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE

Have your pack spend the night with over 3 million LEGO® Bricks! Saturday Dates Available October 2013 – May 2014 Includes admission, dinner, light breakfast, take-home model, commemorative t-shirt, souvenir photo and more! Prices range from $45 per person to $55 per person. Registration forms available online at www.LEGOLANDDiscoveryCenter.com/Chicago

PACK OUTINGS

Build a pack outing that fits your needs! Admission just $8 per person, Lunch in a private party room, LEGOLAND Activity Guides, LEGOLAND Iron-On Patches, Group Photos, Personalized LEGO® brick key chains. To Book, Call our Group Sales office at (847) 592-9708

A few minutes of your time, every six months will help improve my Scouting Experience. Surveys emailed in spring and fall. Help guide our future with your feedback!

Click here for more information on Voice of the Scout!
CUB SCOUT WORKSHOPS
(MOTORIZED MODEL BUILDS WITH LEGO® BRICKS, GEARS & MOTORS)

FALL 2013
Wolf, Bear & Webelos

Sat. October 5th, CCC
Wolf Achievement Badge - Living World: 9:00 – 10:00am
Bear Achievement Badge – Build A Model: 10:30 – 11:30am & 12:30 - 1:30pm

Sat. October 12th, Marriott
Bear Achievement Badge – Build A Model: 9:00 – 10:30am & 10:30 – 11:30am
Wolf Achievement Badge - Living World: 12:30 – 1:30pm

Sat. November 2nd, Marriott
Webelos Engineer Badge: 9:00 – 10:30am, 11:00 – 12:30pm & 1:30 – 3:00pm
Webelos STEM Nova Badge – Science Everywhere: 9:00 – 10:30am, 11:00 – 12:30pm & 1:30 – 3:00pm

Sat. November 16th, Marriott
Wolf & Bear STEM Nova Badge – Science Everywhere: 9:00 – 10:00am, 10:30 – 11:30am & 12:30 – 1:30pm

Sat. December 7th, Trinity
Webelos Scientist Badge: 9:00 – 10:30am, 11:00 – 12:30pm & 1:30 – 3:00pm

Workshop Details:
Wolf 1 Hr. Workshop: $18/scout
Bear 1 Hr. Workshop: $18/scout
Webelos 1.5 Hr. Workshop: $25/scout

Location Details:
Community Christian Church (CCC), 1635 Emerson Lane, Naperville, IL 60564
Marriott, 1801 Naper Blvd., Naperville, IL 60563
Trinity Lutheran Church, 2701 Maple Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532

For a full description of each workshop and to register online, please visit our website at bricks4kidz.com/naperville
(click on “Boy Scout” tab on website)

Or Contact Us At:
(630) 364-3950

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2013 Workshops for Cub Scout:
The Oakbrook Microsoft Store and Three Fires Council, BSA have partnered together to provide local Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts with the opportunity to earn technology merit badges and belt loop from Microsoft!

Registration is for Cub Scouts to sign-up to participate in complimentary workshops to earn a Computer, Video Games or Photography Belt Loop. During these 2-hour workshops, Scouts will:

**Computer Belt Loop:** Your scout will learn parts of a computer, how to properly shut down a computer and to prepare a document and print on his own.

**Photography Belt Loop:** Your scout will learn functions of a camera, discuss Film vs. Digital, learn to take his own photos and share with others.

**Video Game Belt Loop:** Your scout will learn about the video game rating system, create a gaming schedule to include gaming, homework, chores, and family time, learn a new video game and discuss his favorite game and why.

Schedule a private belt loop workshop at Microsoft for your den today! Cub Scout Belt Loop Offerings

*All belt loops are two hours long. At the end of the Belt Loop we will give the scouts a certificate of completion and a Microsoft patch. During their two hours they will also have a short period of time dedicated to free time so they can have hands-on experience with the newest technology that they will see in the store. Please contact Ashley Trueblood, Community Development Specialist today at or call (630) 288-3420.

**FOR BOY SCOUTS:** Boy Scout Computer Merit Badge Workshop Topics covered to fulfill badge: Online safety, history of the computer, uses for the computer, five major parts of a computer, memory and storage, file compression, chip-based devices, software applications, programming languages, software packages and uses, viruses and protection, Internet, copyright laws, music downloading and file sharing.

The Scouts will also participate in hands-on projects utilizing Office 2010 during every workshop. Projects include creating a patrol outing food budget, designing a campsite plan, writing a letter inviting guests to a court of honor and many others.

Below are the dates for the Boy Scout workshops. We can have up to 12 Scouts for the following workshops. Registration is now open for the **FALL 2013 Boy Scout Merit Badge workshops from Microsoft.** Boy Scouts sign-up to participate in complimentary workshops to earn either a Photography Merit Badge, a Cinematography Merit Badge, or a Computer Merit Badge. During the 3-hour workshops session, Scouts will:

◊ Participate in hands-on projects utilizing Office 2010 and showcasing their newly developed photography skills!
◊ Participate in hands-on projects showcasing the elements of cinematography and utilizing Windows Live Movie Maker and the newest technology!
◊ Participate in hands-on projects utilizing Office 2010, including creating a patrol outing food budget, designing a campsite plan, writing a letter inviting guest to a court of honor and many others!

Click here to see available dates and workshop and register online!

To Register Your Camper Online Today visit: [www.MicrosoftStore.com](http://www.MicrosoftStore.com) and select the Oak Brook, IL location to view our community calendar and RSVP by date. For more information or details, please contact: Ashley Trueblood - Community Development Specialist at (630) 288-3420 or email OakbrookCommunity@Microsoft.com.
“Save the Date” Cubsicle 2013 – Held out at Camp Big Timber in Elgin this annual event is a wintery blast! There are plenty of outdoor activities such as winter games and hiking. Everyone will also keep warm inside with crafts and plenty of hot coco. These day camps are on Friday, December 27th, Saturday, December 28, 2013, and Saturday, January 4, 2014. Online registration will open on November 1, 2013 at [www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org](http://www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org). There is a limit of 200 per session and this event sells out fast.

2014 Camp Promotions – How can we help your unit choose CFL for summer camp in 2014? You may receive a post card or a phone call from a volunteer spreading the word about CFL. If you would like more information or a presentation to your committee or parents please contact the TFC Program Director, Buzz Wheeler at to arrange a CFL presentation tailored to your unit.

Philmont Training Center & 2015 Unit Registration - You’re Invited! Attend a conference at the Philmont Training Center – The National Training Center of the Boy Scouts of America. Registration for the 2014 Philmont Training Conferences is now open. [www.PhilmontTrainingCenter.org](http://www.PhilmontTrainingCenter.org) for full conference descriptions, family program details and registration information. [2015 Unit Registration at Philmont](http://www.threefirescouncil.org).

Webelos Adventure Camp 2014 – Spend four days and three nights at Three Fires Council’s premier Boy Scout Summer Camp—Camp Freeland Leslie located in Oxford, Wisconsin. If you’ve experienced Cub Day Camp and had a blast, then wait until you see what our fifty trained and certified staff members have in store for you at Camp Freeland Leslie (CFL). Earn Activity Badges, Belt Loops, climb high on the climbing wall, or swim and fish on Lake Emrick - one of the cleanest lakes in Wisconsin. Challenge yourself and your peers at archery and be the first in 2014 to shoot our air rifles. Come join us at CFL and learn how much fun Boy Scout camp can be! Parents are encouraged to join. Online registration will open on January 2, 2014 at [www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org](http://www.ThreeFiresCouncil.org). The three Webelos sessions fill up fast so sign-up as soon as you can.


Information Flyer / Okpik Youth Permission Slip - Parental Consent


Schedule:

1. **Indoor Session** - Thursday, December 19, 2013 - LDS Geneva 6:30pm Registration
   Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 7:00 – 9:30pm / 0n429 Old Kirk Road, Geneva

2. **Outdoor Session** - Saturday, January 11, 2014 - Cantigny 8:00am Registration
   Cantigny Park—8:30am – 1:00pm / 1s151 Winfield Road, Wheaton

3. **Overnight Session** - Friday - Saturday, February 7-8, 2014 - Camp Big Timber
   Begin Arriving: 5:00pm Friday CBT located 37w955 Big Timber Road, Elgin, & departure: 4:00pm Saturday

4. **Patrol Meetings**: Each patrol will have 2 patrol meetings. Times and locations to be determined by each patrol.

**REGISTER FOR OKPIK COLD WEATHER TRAINING**

Training is Required for ALL volunteers: new leaders are required to take Youth Protection Training within 30 days of registering and before serving as a leader with youth. An online course is available at [www.MyScouting.org](http://www.MyScouting.org), (you do not have to be a registered member or have an ID number to take the training). Click on the e-learning link to begin the training.

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Prepared. For Life.
Three Fires Council—Training Academy “Scouter Space”
The premiere supplemental training opportunity for Leaders in Three Fires Council is coming at Training Academy—**November 9th, 2013**. Training Academy will be held at East Aurora High School in Aurora, Illinois and runs from 8:30am to 4pm. Registration opens at 7:30am.

Early bird fee $30 includes hot lunch, Senior Patrol Leader and Den Chief Training early bird fee $25 (by October 31st) and Order of the Arrow Lodge Leadership Development $10. Keep your eye on the Three Fires Council website for more information at [www.threefirescouncil.org](http://www.threefirescouncil.org). If you are interested in teaching, please contact Loree Thompson with your class suggestion and information before May 31st, 2013. For any other questions please contact: Loree Thompson—Training Academy Chairman 2013 or Eric Gardner—TFC Staff Advisor. See the TFC website for online registration!

**Training Academy Vendor Registration Information**
The Vendor Midway at the Three Fires Council Training Academy is the place to display business information, merchandise, products and programs that can be a resource to the attending 600+ Scout Leaders of Three Fires Council. Please view the attached fliers for more information.

Vendor Information Flier - [FLIER](#)

**Internal Midway Vendor Registration Form** (Divisions of Three Fires Council) / Contact - Mary Ann Griswold (630) 377-3882

**External Midway Vendor Registration Form** / Contact – Jennifer Griffin (630) 848-0136

**Special Needs & Scout Training Opportunities:** There are a couple special needs training opportunities for parents & Scouters coming up. The first one is the Central Region Special Needs Conference on October 5th, 2013 at The Compass Church located at 95th Campus, 2244 W. 95th Street, Naperville, IL 60564. The cost is $18 and includes a boxed lunch. The online registration deadline is Wednesday October 2nd, 2013. Classes are: Functions of District & Council Special Needs Committees, Advancement, Special Needs Leader Training, Resources, Panel Discussions, Grant Writing & Fundraising, Autism, ADHD, Guide to Working with Scouts with Special Needs, and How to Start a Unit for Scouts with Special Needs. See the website for flier & registration.

The second one is Training Academy on November 9th, 2013 at East Aurora High School. Classes include “Dealing with ADD & ADHD Scouts” (2 periods), “Special Needs Awareness”, “Autism & Scouting Basic,” Autism & Scouting Advanced,” Advancement & Special Needs Scouts,” and “Unit Special Needs Coordinator—The position every unit needs”. Registration is now available online and early bird cost is $30 until October 31st. This is a great opportunity to learn more about working with Scouts with special needs, and to help make a difference in their Scouting experience & their lives. Make sure to stop by the midway and visit the councils special needs table.

**TFC Outdoor Ethics - Leave No Trace Trainer Course**—[Click on Flyer for Info](#)
This 16 hour, overnight training course is designed for adult and youth members of Scouting 14 years of age and older, who value the land and want to teach others how to protect and preserve it. Participants receive introductory training in Leave No Trace skills and outdoor ethics in a condensed two day format. Read More

**Dates:** October 11 - 13, 2013 (Camping from Friday, October 11 to Sunday, October 13)

**Location:** Von Oven Scout Reservation, Naperville, IL

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. Friday until 11:00 a.m. Sunday

**Gear:** Additional information on paperwork and gear will be provided after confirmed registration.

**Cost:** September 21 - October 4 $85.00 (Includes Camp fees, Trainer Packet, Leave No Trace Materials and Food). For further information, please contact: Mark Thomas - [REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT](#)
The **Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA**, is an annual Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. Held on the third full weekend of October each year, this worldwide jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby radio amateur’s ham shack. Many times the hams will come to you by setting up at a Scout camporee, or perhaps they already have a ham shack at your council’s camp. There are many ways to get your Scouts involved in JOTA.

The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2012 JOTA had nearly 700,000 Scout participants from more than 13,500 amateur radio stations! A participant patch is available, as is a certificate/log sheet that can also be used to fulfill a Radio merit badge requirement.

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. The official hours are from Saturday at 00:00 hours local time (right at midnight Friday) to Sunday 24:00 (midnight Sunday evening). So you’ve got the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. You can also try out the “JOTA Jump Start” on Friday from 18:00 to 23:59 local time to test your set-up.

You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at [www.arrl.org/find-a-club](http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club). This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

For more information: [www.scouting.org/jota](http://www.scouting.org/jota).

### JOTI 2013

The Jamboree-on-the-Internet, or JOTI, is an annual Scouting event sponsored by the World Organization of the Scout Movement. This event utilizes the Internet and the numerous devices that are used to get online, from your home computer to iPad tablets, to link Scouts from around the world. Last year, JOTI had almost 16,000 Scouts and leaders registered in the worldwide JOTA-JOTI database in 146 countries!

Scouts of any age can take part, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers. JOTI is an economical way of communicating around the world. The exchanges can include such information as name, location of event, Scout rank, age, and hobbies. Some exchanges lead to long-lasting friendships. Another great idea is to use JOTI participation to help fulfill a Citizenship in the World or Computers Merit Badge requirement!

JOTI will begin on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at 00:00 hours local time, and will end on Sunday, October 20, 2013, at 24:00 hours local time.

For more information: [www.joti.org](http://www.joti.org) or [http://www.scouting.org/joti.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/joti.aspx)

### Local Contacts:

Please contact your Three Fires Council international representatives, **Ken King** (630) 513-0494 or **Joe Harrington** (630) 707-0200 for questions and answers about international Scouting opportunities.