Improvements Coming To Our Camps In 2017

Facilities Coordinator Dale blue is working hard on renovating and improving our facilities at both Nobscot Scout Reservation and Camp Resolute so that they will be finished in time for our 2017 campers to enjoy. If you have visited Nobscot in the evening lately you may have noticed that the sign is now illuminated from 6-9 pm every night so that it's easier to see the entrance from the road. Other improvements coming include:

- A new UTV at Nobscot Scout Reservation
- Renovation of the main bathroom at Camp Resolute
- New fencing at the shooting sports ranges at Camp Resolute
- Solar panels on the new latrine at Kiowa campsite.

As well as a few others in the works. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details, we'll post photos of the improvements as they progress.

Merger Update: What's Next?

Now that both councils have voted to merge, much will be happening to begin implementation of the new Scout Council.

Volunteer committees and council staffs will be gathering to:

- Nominate a joint slate of new council board members and officers to be approved at a board meeting in late April and take office May 1.
- Immediately start the Scout Executive Selection Process

in early April, which will take a few months.
- Refine the details of how the new council will operate.
- Work with a team of staff members from the National BSA Office in Dallas to begin merging membership files, accounting records, personnel records, bank accounts and properties records

Meanwhile,

- Philmont Crews are making final preparations for their shake-down weekend and itinerary refinement and the Jamboree Troops will also be getting ready for their exciting summer.
- Next fall, a suitable satellite office will be secured to service the southern part of the new council.
- Councils will continue their current schedule of Boy Scout Resident Camps, Day Camp, STEM Camp and training courses.
- Cub Scout Packs, Scout Troops, Venture Crews and Exploring Posts and Clubs will prepare for fall recruitment drives across the 64 communities comprising the new council.
- Work will begin on developing a new council website soon, combining the best of both existing websites, providing more and more on-line opportunities for registration, advancement and enrollment in the best program Scouting has to offer.
- Coordination will begin for all the comprehensive leader training programs for 2018.

May 1st will be the official first day of our new council, serving 62-towns from Plymouth to Stow. A name-the-council contest will determine our council's new name. Watch for details soon on the web site.

Please continue to monitor the web site for more information and opportunities as we enter this new and exciting chapter in local Scouting in eastern Massachusetts.

Bob Dorn

Council Administrator

www.mayflowerbsa.org

Troop Looking For Gently Used Uniforms

Far away from the bustle of Mexico City in the small town of Puerto Penasco, families get by any way they can. The area is extremely financially depressed and parents worry that their sons will see the local gangs as a way to earn money fast and be driven towards dangerous choices. For that reason these parents jumped at the chance to partner with Troop 185 Wellesley for a supported Scouting program. Now they need your help!

With over 6 new units in the past year the Puerto Penasco Scouting program is attracting families from all over the area who see Scouting as a safe path for their sons to grow in character and skills while staying away from dangerous elements. A Scouting Information night held there last year attracted over 200 interested families and had to be moved to a local movie theater! While there is plenty of interest though, one thing is lacking: funds. Many of these parents cannot afford Scouting uniforms for their sons and so Scout Leaders Yvette Lavin and John Fortini are putting out a call for gently used Scouting uniforms.

Both Cub Scout and Boy Scout uniforms in all sizes are needed for the effort. This includes pants and shirts and should be clean and gently used (no holes). They may be dropped off

with John Fortini at 8 Macarthur Rd in Wellesley, MA 02482.

Knox Trail & Old Colony Councils Approve Merger

New Boy Scout Council Will Provide More Programs to 11,000 Local Scouts in 62 Massachusetts Communities

Following their respective Special Council Meetings, the Mayflower Council and the Old Colony Council announced today the approval of their consolidation and merger to form a new Boy Scout Council. This new council will serve youth and young adults from the metrowest to southeastern Massachusetts.

“We’re thrilled that our volunteer leaders voted to move forward with the merger plans of these two healthy councils. This creates a firm foundation for scouting to thrive in our region for years to come.” said Mayflower Council President Sherry Bowden.

Old Colony Council President Rob Hillman added “We worked closely together getting to this point. We are now ready to take the next steps of building a new scouting council which will enhance the programs for our youth.”

As a merger of equals a new name will be chosen for the combined council during 2017 which will carry forward the strong traditions of both councils and set the course for a

united future. The consolidation will result in more operating efficiency, thereby freeing up personnel and financial resources that can be reallocated to serve unit leaders, youth and their families. The scout offices in Canton and Marlborough will eventually be replaced by an office in a central location. Camps Nobscot, Resolute, and Squanto are key assets and all three camps will be retained and used by the new council.

The new council will serve over 11,000 young adults in 62 communities around Boston. Mayflower Council serves 21 towns and cities across the metrowest from Newton to Stow to Westborough to Mendon. Old Colony continues south from the Knox Trail region, serving 41 communities in southeastern Massachusetts from Bellingham to Hull to Plymouth

The new council will serve young adults with a full range of Boy Scout programs including: Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for boys and young men from kindergarten to age 18 and the co-ed Explorer and Venturing programs for young men and women in their teens. Currently there are 332 Boy Scout Troops, Cub Scout Packs, Explorer Posts, and Venture Crews across the 62 communities served by the new council.
To learn more about Old Colony Council, visit: http://www.oldcolonycouncil.org/