

THE VIET SCOUTS OF POTOMAC

Troop 1794- White Oaks District- NCAC-BSA
 Thiếu Đoàn Trần Hưng Đạo, Liên Đoàn Potomac
 Hội Đoàn Trung Ương Hướng Đạo Việt Nam



Official Monthly Newsletter of Troop 1794

February 2013

*Tôi lấy danh dự hứa cố gắng hết sức: Làm bổn phận đối với tín ngưỡng tâm linh, tổ quốc và quốc gia tôi;
 Giúp ích mọi người bất cứ lúc nào; Tuân theo luật Hướng Đạo.*

February	Troop Leaders:
2 Meeting	Nguyễn Kim Sơn (SM) 301-943-1111
9 Meeting- Practice for Tet performance Parent Meeting (10:30-11:00)	Phạm Ngọc Lâm (ASM) 202-213-5461
16 No meeting. Tet Huong Dao	Trần Nghĩa (CC /ASM) 301-515-1872
18 White Oaks Merit Badge Day	Phạm Thanh Tùng (ASM) 301-649-3049
23 Meeting	Hồ Đức Hiếu(AMS) 240-751-7093
	Trịnh Quốc Hưng (AMS) 240-271-3831(c)
	Nguyễn Long Jimmy (ASM)
	Nguyễn Hữu Uy (JASM) 301-681-3453
	Nguyễn Vũ (David) (JASM) 301-294-3408
	Nguyễn Khải (John) (JASM) 301-384-3270
	Lê Trực (James) (JASM) 301-528-7996
	Chung Nam (Bryan) (SPL)
	Trần Phát Steve (ASPL)
March	<u>Đội Ưng (Falcon Patrol)</u> <u>Đội Hồ (Tiger Patrol)</u>
2 Meeting	Nguyễn Nam Trương Triệu (PL)
9 Meeting	Trần Jeffrey (TG) Huỳnh Clinton
16 Backpacking (for older scouts) Meeting or hiking (for younger scouts)	Đặng Alan Trần Jason
22- 24 Merit Badge Madness	Hoàng Nhật Anh Hồ Nam
30 Spring break. No meeting	Lê Thạch Kevin Lê
31 Easter	Kevin Đỗ Trương Tony
Outdoor activities:	<u>Đội Beo (Cheetah Patrol)</u>
April 13: LD Camping	Athen Pham
May 18: Troop Camping Jane Island, MD	Vincent Trinh
Jun 29-Jul 6: Goshen Camp, VA	Zachary Chau
July 20: National Scout Jamboree, WV	Eric Phan
August: Lửa Việt Camp, VA	Timothy Le
	Christopher Le
	Position Code: SPL : Senior Patrol Leader; ASPL : Assistant SP
	PL : Patrol Leader; APL : Assistant Patrol Leader
	TG : Troop Guide; IN : Instructor; QUAR : Quarter Master;
	JASM : Junior Asst. Scoutmaster;(*) new scouts

The list of Patrols will be revised in next month newsletter

PHILADELPHIA FIELD TRIP JANUARY 19-20, 2013

We left early Saturday morning on 5 different mini-vans heading towards Philadelphia on I-95. As planned, we met at the Delaware Welcome Center between 8:45 and 9:15 AM. Tr. Hung's van was the first one there at 7:45 AM. The others were lost and came there late, but by 9:15AM all were accounted for. After the 15 minute break, we started following each other into the city of Philadelphia.



We were at Mutter Museum around 10:00 AM. Because we reserved ahead, we did not have to spend time at the registration desk. Our group consisted of 24 scouts and 10 adults. Mutter is a small museum. It used to be a place where they collected things that can happen to the human body. These collections started in the mid 1880 including conjoined twins, tumors, cysts, a giant colon... which helped doctors at that time. The upper floor contains many skulls and skeletons. The lower floor displayed human organs. In addition, the Museum opened a section dedicated to Civil War medicine.



After spending 90 minutes at the museum, we divided into two groups by choice of lunch. One would go eat Pho ga Thanh Thanh, a famous Vietnamese noodle soup. On the other hand, others preferred to eat the Philly famous steak and cheese.

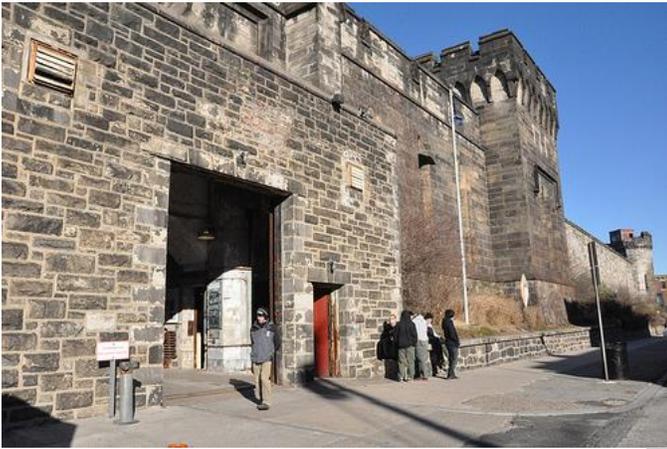


Mom's homemade steaks are much better...



The group went to eat Pho included Anh. Phương, chi Thống, anh chị Lan-Thìn, anh chị Bích Sơn-Truyền; anh chị Khương-Trang; anh Phuoi, tr. Tùng and tr. Hiếu along with Alan, Bryant, Clinton, Nhật Anh, Hữu Uy, Thạch, Tâm, Tony, Kevin, Jimmy and Nam. The people in cheese and steak group were tr. Hung, Vincent, Athen, Zach, Jeffrey, tr. Nghĩa, Khải, Vũ, and tr. Son.

After lunch, we were supposed to meet at 1:00 PM at the Eastern State Penitentiary. However the Pho restaurant was overcrowded, so the Pho group did not come to the Penitentiary until 1:45 PM. So we had to cancel the tour guide. It was fine though as the



Penitentiary has self- audio tour guide. The boys seem to like to wander around on their own. The Penitentiary was the standard for penal reform with its soaring castle-like Gothic architecture and its founders' Quaker-inspired belief that solitary confinement could reform criminals. The 11-acre prison even had central heat, running water and flushing toilets before the White House. Much of the prison is in decay since it has been abandoned since 1972. It has no heating or air condition. Fortunately for us, the weather was nice.



Scouts were taking a break in the prison yard

Al Capone's cell. He even had a moonroof.

We were able to go into the cellblocks, the prison yard, and saw death row cells, and the cell where the famous gangster Al Capone spent a year for income tax evasion. His cell was much more comfortable than other prison cells.

After spending more than one hour at the prison, we drove to the home of author Edgar Allan Poe which is about 5 minutes from the prison. Edgar Allan Poe is a famous American writer who lived in this house for six years. After watching a short film about Poe life, a Park Ranger led us to tour the house and the garden.



Ranger: I saw the ghost of Alan Poe, right here, right at this spot!!



Eerie...did you see an invisible shadow in the mirror?

Around 4:30 PM we crossed the Delaware River into Camden Yard, New Jersey, where the Battleship New Jersey is docked. We rode the 6 minute 4D Flight Simulator of the Seahawk: Battle for Iwo Jima, prior going on board. The New Jersey is the most decorated battleship in US history. It participated in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam War.



Ready for boarding



Lined up for the 4D Flight Stimulator ride.

Around 5:30 PM we went on board and were assigned of the bunk beds. The ship was fully booked by other boy scouts troops because it was the long holiday weekend of Martin Luther King and Inauguration Days. Around 8:00 PM, they asked everyone to be on the ship deck for the flag ceremony. It was windy and cold on the deck. Fortunately, the ceremony was short. Then, we went straight to the dining area. It is because we were the largest group and they assigned us to dine in the office dining room. The menu consisted of chicken tenders, broccoli, macaroni and cheese, lemon juice, and chocolate chip cookies. There was not enough food for some scouts so they got seconds.



This room was used as a courtroom or as an operating room.



In the control and navigation room. Oh No! he hit a wrong button!

About 8:30 PM, they divided us into two groups. Each group had one tour guide. The tour lasted for nearly two hours. We saw the admiral's room, the navigation room, the strategy room, Tomahawk missiles, the crew's gallery, etc. The tour ended at about 10:30 PM. and everyone went back to the lounge to buy snacks, watch TV, and talk. All our scouts went to bed before midnight.



Feel like a sailor?



Yes. We all feel seasick. Can you find Eric Phan?



After the tour, everyone was hungry and tired...



Troop was lined up for the flag raising ceremony on the deck.

The next morning everyone got out of their beds by 7 AM. By 7:30 AM, we were asked to be on the ship deck for the flag opening ceremony, and lined up for the breakfast. The crew asked us for 4 volunteers to serve breakfast. Alan, Kevin Le, Tony Truong and Nam Ho had volunteered. After breakfast, we had an option to do a self-guided tour of the ship, but we decided to go home instead. We got back to Silver Spring around noon on Sunday. Overall, it was a fun and educational field trip.



FUNDRAISING AT TET FESTIVAL- JANUARY 27, 21013

Sunday January 27, the troop held a fundraiser at Tet Maryland Festival at Northwood High school. All scouts attended and helped sell soy milk, sushi, and cotton candy. Troop also helped with the flag opening ceremony. The scouts took turns brewing cotton candy and selling. The fundraising was successful, earning over \$500. Thank you cac Truong and parents for bringing the scouts to cho Tet and helping with the fundraiser. Especially, thanks to tr. Nghia for preparing the food and drink. Scouts did an outstanding job. They showed scout spirit and team work. Beside the money we made, it's great to see everyone had fun.



Where are the customers???



NO! I did not eat the candy. Yes! We made small candy for babies...



Scouts are lined up for the flag raising ceremony



Can you tell what is wrong with this photo?

SCOUT OF THE MONTH:

Athen Pham is selected Scout of the Month due to his perfect attendance, and his willingness to learn scouting skills. The most admiring thing about Athen is his independence and love for scouting. He always wants to help others scouts. Congratulations to Athen.

PARENT OF THE MONTH:

As one of the leaders, truong Nghia helped organize the Merit Badge in January, and was the primary person to prepare the food and drinks for the fundraiser. We are blessed to have tr. Nghia as a leader and parent. He is an important link between the parents and the leaders. Thank you and congratulations Tr. Nghia.

BACKPACKING IN SHENANDOAH NATINOAL PARK, MARCH 16-17

So far our troop has only done car camping. In order to experience the most challenging camping, one must do backpacking. Backpacking involves hiking to a camping location while carrying a pack which contains food and gear for the hikers. Troop will have a backpacking trip on March 16-17. For our troop, backpacking is a requirement for rank advancement for First Class and higher. Below are some photos of the Troop backpacking in the past.



In front of the cabin that belonged to President Hoover



Crossing a stream



Set up your own tent



Tr. Chieu taught the scouts how to cook the freeze dried meals

Here are the 'Must Have' backpacking items for each scout, in order of importance:

- 1 good pair of hiking shoes/boots, broken in and with good traction
- 2 pairs of wool socks for hiking
- 2 pairs of liner socks to prevent blisters
- 1 good sleeping bag for cold weather, mummy style
- 1 set of 'non-cotton' thermo underwear for the cold night
- 1 pair of nylon or synthetic pants for the hike
- 2 synthetic T shirts for the hike, long sleeve is better for the cold weather
- 1 fleece jacket or 'non-cotton' insulation layer
- 1 rain jacket/shell
- 1 wool hat to keep the head warm
- 1 pair of gloves
- 2 water bottles, 32 oz each
- other personal gear

- Headlight or flashlight
- whistle
- pocket knife
- compass
- 2 extra trash bags for emergency
- 1 backpack to carry all the items above

Tr. Chiêu, an expert in backpacking, will have a discussion with the parent this Saturday from 10:30 to 11:00 AM. Parents should attend this meeting.

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MERIT BADGE DAY FEBRUARY 18- St. Bernadette School. 80 E. University Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20901.

Scout Name	Fire Safety	Public Health	Genealogy	Citizenship in the World	Energy	American Heritage	Coin Collecting	Law	Fire Safety	Citizenship in the World	Traffic Safety	Scouting Heritage	Crime Prevention	Bugling
Alan Dang					X								X	
Thane Le					X								X	
Clinton Huynh					X								X	
Jason Tran					X								X	
Timothy Le		X									X			
Vincent Trinh											X			
Zachary Chau											X			
Christopher Le											X			
Eric Phan											X			
Nam Ho	X													X
Bryan Chung				X				X						
Steven Tran				X				X						
Trieu Truong				X				X						
Jeffrey Tran				X				X						
Tony Truong					X					X				
Kevin Le					X					X				

Sign up for one red and one blue. Blue are a.m. sessions, red are afternoon sessions.

Note to Scouts and Leaders regarding prerequisites. To earn a merit badge at the Merit Badge Day all prerequisites listed for the merit badge you have registered for must be completed and evidence of completion must be shown to the counselor. If no evidence is provided to the counselor, you may not receive a signature for those prerequisites and therefore may not complete the requirements needed to earn the merit badge. For more information about the prerequisites, go to the links below:

- http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Merit_Badge_Worksheets
- http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/MeritBadge.Org_about

A BRIEF HISTORY OF VIETNAM SCOUTING

Scouting in Vietnam first started in the French schools for French children and upper-class Vietnamese children. In 1930, two Vietnamese athletes Trần Văn Khắc and Tạ Văn Rực, started a Scout movement name Đồng Tử

Quân. Trần Văn Khắc is generally accepted as the founder of Vietnamese Scouting. This first Vietnamese Scout Troop's activity program was heavily athletic.

From 1954 to 1975, Scouting in South Vietnam played an important role in Vietnamese society. The Scout Constitution was drawn up in 1952, with the approval of the Ministry of Youth Affairs, and international recognition was given at the beginning of 1957. In 1959, Vietnam had 3,100 scouts. In April 1975, South Vietnam was overrun by the Viet Cong, and the Vietnamese Scout Association was banned. Outside of Vietnam, Vietnamese Scouts formed an exile organization and continued their Scouting program.

SCOUT ADVANCEMENT PROCEDURE

If a scout has finished all his requirements for the next rank, it is mandatory that you:

- a. Contact the scoutmaster for the scoutmaster conference (must be at least 1 week before the Board of Review).
- b. If you "pass" the scoutmaster conference, you must contact Mr. Hiep Pham (Advancement Chair) at hpham111@yahoo.com, and tr. Nghia (Committee Chair) (kimtran74@yahoo.com) to schedule your Board of Review.

SCOUT SPIRIT

It is hard to evaluate Scout Spirit. We believe that prior to each rank advancement, participation in the following activities exemplifies the essences of Scout Spirit:

1. A minimum of 2 hours community service from Troop or Lien Doan
2. Participation in at least 1 fundraiser.
3. At least 4 troop outdoor activities per year.
4. Good deeds done outside of scouting.

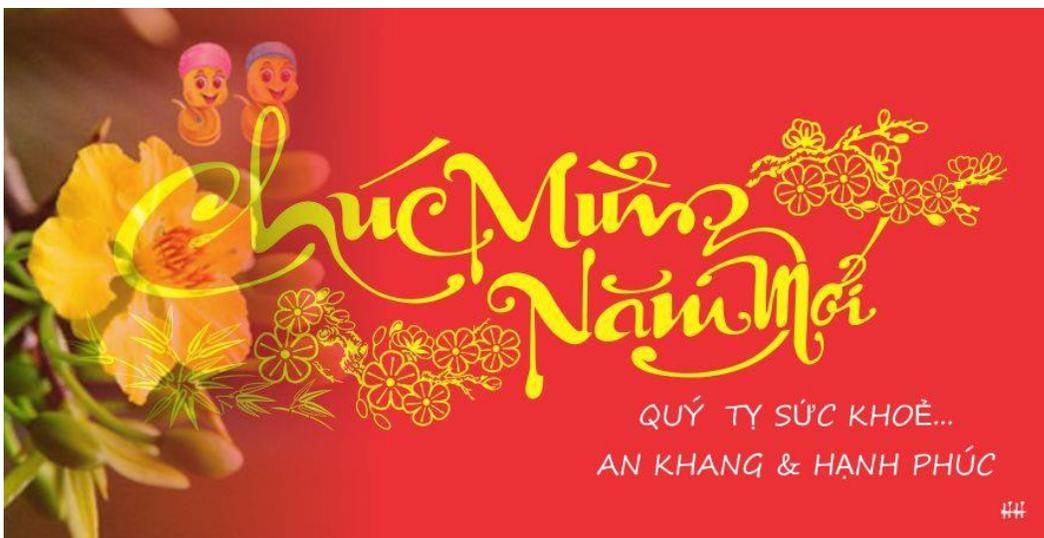
NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

We need your help for the name of the newsletter, or do you like the name TVSOP? If you want a new name, we would like a name that reflects something inspirational about Vietnamese American boys scout. Please send your ideas to: skn117@yahoo.com. The selecting winner will be awarded \$20 in cash and will go down in history as the person who named the newsletter. The deadline to submit the name is Feb 28, 2013.

NEEDS HELP FOR THE NEWSLETTER

We need stories from scouts or adults about their experience with Troop activities. Also, we need someone to help with the editing. If you are interested, or have any ideas to improve the newsletter, please contact Tr. Son (skn117@yahoo.com)

Editor: David Vũ Nguyễn; Photo and stories: Nghĩa Trần & Sơn Nguyễn



Kính chúc các anh chị Phụ Huynh, các Trưởng và các em Hướng Đạo Sinh cùng Gia Đình một cuối tuần Tết Quý Tỵ thật vui vẻ, và một năm mới sức khỏe tốt, an khang thịnh vượng và mọi sự như ý.