

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

May 2013

*Tôi lấy danh dự hứa cố gắng hết sức: Làm bốn 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.*

April

- 3 Meeting
- 13-14 LD Spring Camp, Patapsco State Park, Ellicott City, MD
- 20 Meeting at Long Branch
- 27 Back packing (for older scouts)
Meeting or hiking (for younger scouts)

May

- 4 Meeting
- 11 Meeting
- 12 Mother Day
- 18 Climbing or Painball
- 25 Off

June

- 1 Meeting
- 8 Meeting
- 15 Meeting
- 21-22: Lua Viet Camp
- 29- July 6: Goshen Summer Camp, VA

July

- 6
- 13
- 29
- 27
- July 20: National Scout Jamboree, WV

Troop Leaders:

Nguyễn Kim Sơn (SM) 301-943-1111
Phạm Ngọc Lâm (ASM) 202-213-5461
Trần Nghĩa (CC /ASM) 301-515-1872
Phạm Thanh Tùng (ASM) 301-649-3049
Hồ Đức Hiếu(AMS) 240-751-7093
Trịnh Quốc Hưng (AMS) 240-271-3831(c)
Phạm Ngọc Chiêu (AMS)
Nguyễn Long Jimmy (ASM)
Nguyễn Hữu Uy (JASM) 301-681-3453
Nguyễn Anh Vũ; Nguyễn John Khải; Lê James Trục (JASM)
Chung Nam (Bryan) (SPL)
Trần Phát Steve (ASPL)

*Đội Ưng (Falcon Patrol)

Trương Triệu (PL)
Nguyễn Hữu Huy
Bryan Chung
Hoàng Nhật Anh Alan
Lê Thạch (APL)
Nguyễn Nam (IN)

*Đội Hồ (Tiger Patrol)

Huỳnh Clinton (PL)
Tony Trương
Trần Jason (APL)
Hồ Nam
Kevin Lê
Alan Đặng (TS)

*Đội Beo (Cheetah Patrol) (PT & APL are alternative)

Athen Phạm
Vincent Trinh
Eric Phan
Zachary Chau
Timothy Le
Christopher Le
Jeffrey Trần (TG)
Kevin Đỗ (IN)

Position Code: **SPL:** Senior Patrol Leader; **ASPL:** Assistant SPL der; **PL:** Patrol Leader; **APL:** Assistant

LIEN DOAN CAMP OUT PATAPCO STATE PARK, ELLICOTE CITY, MARYLAND – April 13-14

On the weekend April 13-14, Lien Doan Potomac and Gia Dinh had a joint camp out with more than 100 girls and boy scouts. After the opening ceremony conducted by Troop 1794, the older girls and boy scouts were divided into 6 teams. Each team was named after a famous Vietnamese general who participated in the most famous historic Dong Da Battle. After a hiking to Cascade Falls about 3 miles from the camp site, the scouts came back for the big game. The theme of the big game is Dong Da Battle. Each team had to go to a station such as an obstacle course, transportation, making fire and cooking, setting up shelter. The most challenging and fun station is making the fire and cooking in which the scouts learned to start a fire using wood. Only 2 scouts from our Lien Doan were able to make the fire.

This is was the most well liked camp because the scouts did not have to cook dinner. The dinner was prepared by the parents and there were plenty of food. Also, the parents had to help with the cleaning up too.

After dinner, there was the Arrow of Light ceremony for some webelos, and then the camp fire. Troop had a retreat (tinh tam) for 5 scouts who wanted to “tuyen hua”. The tinh tam was interesting and ended just before midnight.

Before dawn of Sunday, the 4 scouts did the le tuyen hua. They can now proudly wear the Potomac neckerchief now. The boys cooked breakfast and participated in the interfaith service. Afterwards, there was a break the record contest. The scouts packed up and left camp before noon. Overall, the camp was a fun experience and the scouts learned some vietnamese history.

Troop Participants: Athen, Christopher, Eric, Nam Ho, Tony, Kevin Le, Bryan, Tam, Thach, Phat, Trieu, Huu Uy, Jason, Alan D, Vincent, Zach.

Adults: Mr. & Mrs. Thong- Van, Mr. & Mrs. Son-Truyen, Ms. Linh, Ms. Chau, Mr. Phuoi, Mr. Phuong, Jimmy, tr. Tung, tr. Hieu, Tr. Hung, Tr. Nghia, and Tr. Son.





Congratulations to Nolan and Madison. They'll join the Troop in September



Don't they look like prisoner who are going to be executed!!!!



Always look better with LD neckerchief! Congratulations!!!

BOY SCOUTS LEARNED CARPENTER April 20 meeting

A Scout is handy. In order to experience on how to use carpenter tools, scouts learned how to build a wooden bird house. Tr. Hieu prepared the wood and tools and offered a nice back yard for the scouts do some carpenter works. A big THANKS to Tr. Hieu.

The scouts enjoyed the hands on learning experience. Each patrol completed its bird house. They were supposed to build their own bird house, and will show it to the Leader at the next meeting.

Scout Participants: Vincent, Zach, Athen, Christopher, Tam, Nam Ho, Eric, Phat, Bryan, Thach, Jason, Alan D, Trieu

Adults: Mr. Mrs Thong Nghia, Mr. & Mrs. B Son-Truyen, Mr. Nghiep, Mr. Phuong, Mr. Minh, Mr. Phong, Tr. Hung, tr. Hieu, tr. Nghia & tr. Son.



Tr. Hieu used power saw to cut wood for scouts



Tr. Nghia signed up scouts for Goshen online



This is the best way to hold the wood down



HIKING ON APALACHIAN TRAIL Saturday April 27, 2013

We arrived to Gathand State Park around 9:00 AM by 2 cars. One drove from Silver Spring by Tr. Hieu, and the other from Germantown area by Tr. Hung. After dropping off the scouts at Gathand, we have to drive both cars to Weverton and leave one car there. We started hiking around 10 AM. The trail was had many rocks in its path, but it did not bother the scouts. They walked very fast, and were always ahead of the adults. They were smart enough to stop and wait for the leader at the 3 way intersection. They walked so fast that they forgot to

stop at Steve Garvey Shelter as being told earlier. They went straight to Weverton Cliff. However, we were unable to contact them. Then, tr.Hieu had to walk an extra mile to get them back to Garvey Shelter. At Garvey Shelter, they learned how to use portable white gas stove, and how to use backpack water filter. We also met 2 boy scout troops. One from Eastern Shore Maryland, and one from Frederick area. The Eastern Shore Troop camped over night at the shelter area. After we spent an hour eating lunch at the Shelter, we hiked another mile to Everton Cliff. The view from Everton was spectacular, but from the Cliff we had to walk 750 feet to the parking lot. The down trailing was stiff and rocky. It took about 45 minutes to get to the parking lot. They boys rested and sun bathed while waiting for the ride. Overall, it was a good hike. The boys did a great job and we can proudly said we had hike the famous Appalachian Trail.

Participants: Jeffrey, Nam Ho, Jason Tran, Alan D, Vincent, Athen, Eric, Tr. Hung, Tr. Hieu, Tr. Nghia & Tr. Son.



In front of the Memorial Arch



I found a big rock in my shoe.



Vincent, Eric and Athen love to pump water



Climbing up the Shelter.



Scouts wrote in the log book



Scouts cooked noodles for lunch



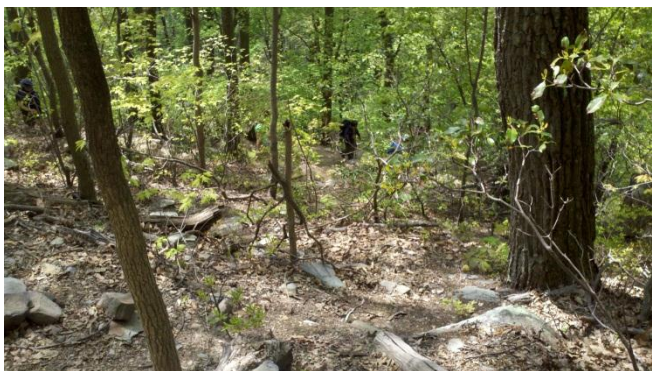
ITroop in front of Garvey Shelter



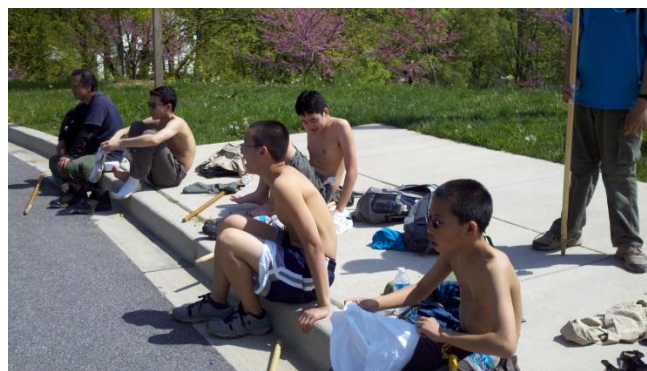
At Weverton Cliff.



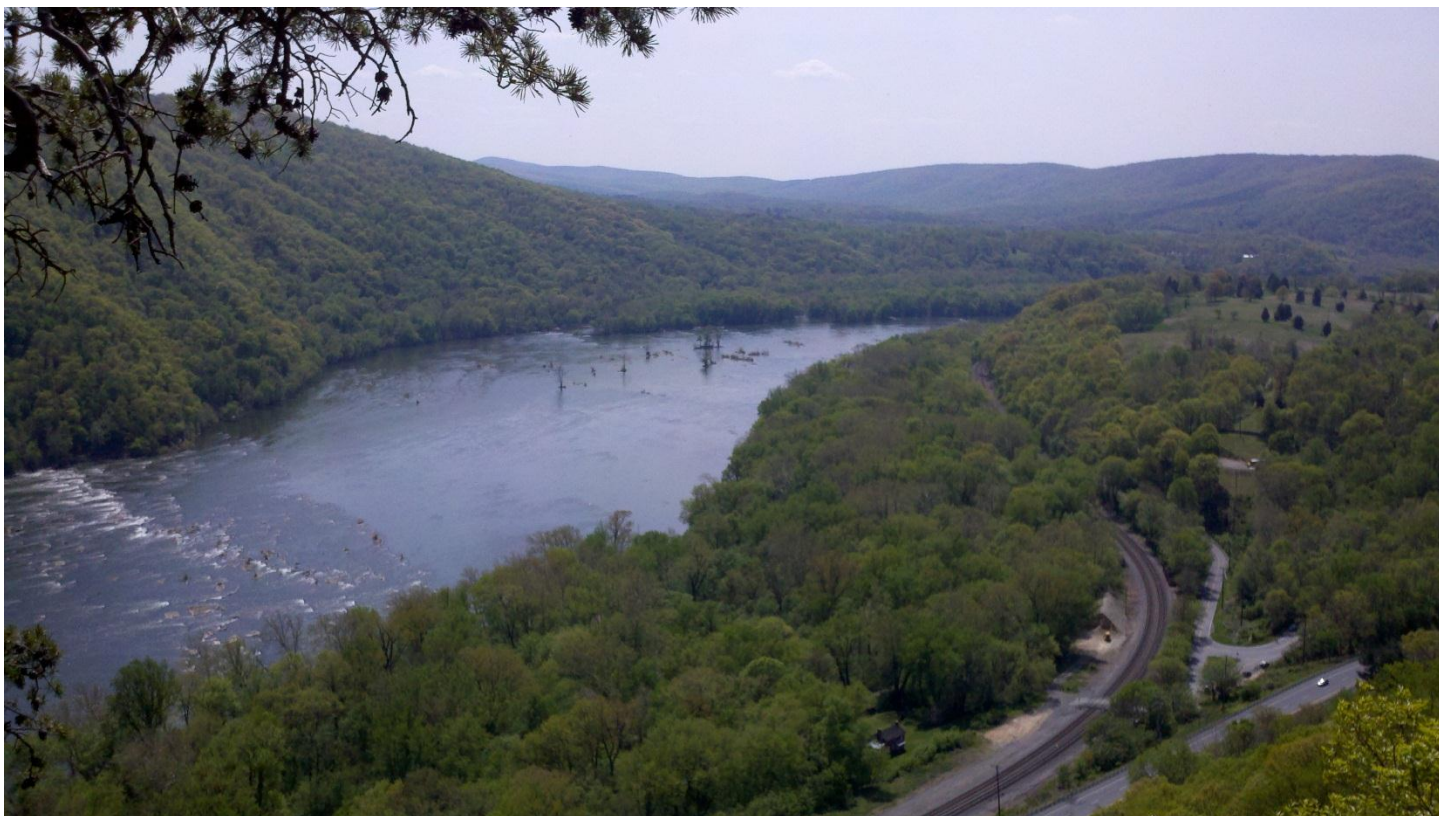
Taking a break after 6 mile hike



The trail down to the parking is stiff and rocky



Arrived at the parking around 3:10 pm. The scouts sunbathed while waiting for the ride home.



What a beautiful view. Harper Ferry West Virginia is upstream, on the other side. See the car? the parking lot is nearby



Appalachian Trail or simply the **A.T.**, is a marked hiking trail in the eastern United States extending between Springer Mountain in Georgia and Mount Katahdin in Maine.^[1] The precise length of the trail changes over time as trails are modified or added. The total length is approximately 2,200 miles (3,500 km)^[a]. The trail passes through the states of Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine

TROOP 1794 SUMMER CAMP 2013 CAMP OLMSTED GOSHEN SCOUT RESERVATION

Troop 1794 has reservations for Camp Olmsted at the Goshen Scout Reservation for the week of 29 June – 6 July 2013. Camp Olmsted is a Boy Scout resident camp located around 450-acre Lake Merriweather. Thomas Jefferson once called this area the "Garden of Eden of the United States." Food is served at Olmsted's dining hall. Youth sleep in two-man tents with cots. Camp is accredited annually by the BSA and must meet the State of Virginia standards. Scouts attend with their unit or may attend our provisional camp during the first four weeks. Camp Olmsted offers a wide variety of merit badge programs. The Technology Center has up-to-date equipment in a climate controlled environment! More info can be found at:

<http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/goshen-scout-reservation/camps/camp-olmsted/15977>

You can earn 6 or 7 merit badges in a week, or you can attempt to break the Troop record of 11 merit badges earned by 9 scouts in Summer 2007.

Merit Badges Offered:

- **Aquatics:** Kayaking, Canoeing, Lifesaving, Rowing, Swimming, and Small Boat Sailing.
- **Scoutcraft:** Orienteering, Wilderness Survival, Camping, Fishing, Pioneering, Emergency Preparation, Orienteering, Backpacking, and Hiking.
- **Technology Center:** Electronics, Electricity, Computers, Scholarship, Energy, Aviations, Space Exploration, Journalism, and Astronomy.
- **Shooting Sports:** Rifle, Shotgun, and Archery.
- **Handicraft:** Leatherwork, Basketry, Textile and Woodcarving .
- **Ecology:** Bird Study, Mammals, Nature, Oceanography, Soil & Water, Geology, Weather, Environmental Science, Forestry, Insect Study, Fish and Wildlife Management, and Reptiles & Amphibians.
- **CultureCraft:** Art, Sculpture, Pulp & Paper, Music, Photography, Cinematography, Theater, Architecture, Archeology, Indian Lore, and American Heritage.
- **Admin Area:** First Aid and Communications

The fees for Camp Olmsted are:

Paid by 29 Apr \$290 (boys)/ \$230 (adults)

Paid by 31 May \$330 (boys)/\$270 (adults)

We will carpool to Goshen. For more registration and information:

Tr. Tran Q. Nghia (kimtran74@yahoo.com) 301-515-1872 (home);
240-476-0057 (cell)

Going to Goshen: *Nam Ho, Jason Tran, Clinton Huynh, Bryan*

Chung, Phat Tran, Alan Dang, Thach Le, Tam Le, Trieu Truong, Jeffrey Tran, Tr. Hieu and Tr. Nghia.



TRẠI LỬA VIỆT- LAKE FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA, JUNE 21-23, 2013

Persons who will be required to pay the **\$15** registration fee before April 14, **after April 4, the fee is \$20:**

- 1) all scouts and leaders
- 2) any parents staying overnight
- 3) anyone who wants the t-shirt and patch.

Parents who do come to camp during the daytime, but do not stay overnight are not required to pay.

Registered for Lửa Việt: Nam Ho, Bryan, Athen, Alan D, Clinton, Ms. Chau, Tr. Hieu, Jeffrey, Christopher, Tam, Thach, Phat, Mr. & Mrs. Phuong- Thanh, Mr. & Mrs. BSon-Truyen, Ms. Thong, Jason, Tony, Huu Uy, Mr. Tien, and Mr. Thang.

SCOUT OF THE MONTH:

Bryan Chung is selected as Scout of the Month. He is a SPL and did a good job running the Troop at the LD Spring Camp. Bryan is greatly improved in the communications and leadership skill. He has shown willingness to become a better scout. Last Saturday he rode bicycle 30 minutes from home to Long Branch to help with set up for the Unity community event. He is well deserved to be Scout of the month of May.

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.
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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.
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NEEDS HELP FOR THE NEWSLETTER- Editor: David Vũ Nguyễn; Stories: Sơn Nguyễn

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)

THANK YOU AND HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL SCOUTS' MOM OF TROOP 1794.

MOTHER

If I could give you diamonds
for each tear you cried for me.
if I could give you sapphires
for each truth you've helped me see.
If I could give you rubies
for the heartache that you've known
If I could give you pearls
for the wisdom that you've shown.

Then you'll have a treasure, mother,
that would mount up to the skies
That would almost match
the sparkle in your kind and loving eyes.

But I have no pearls, no diamonds,
As I'm sure you're well aware
So I'll give you gifts more precious
My devotion, love and care.

~Author Unknown~

www.2013-mothersday.blogspot.co