

Scouting For Food

More than 20 million Americans go hungry at some time each month. Children suffer when the limited family income must be used for other necessities and a well-balanced nutritional diet cannot be provided. These families rely on charities to provide them with a variety of food. On February 3rd and 10th, 2007 Lincoln Trails Council will be conducting a Good Turn for America project to help stock food shelves in our local community food banks.

Most food banks receive lots of food donations during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. By February the shelves begin to get empty and need to be replenished. For that reason, Lincoln Trails Council's Scouting program is planning to come to the need of our communities.

Scouts will deliver bags to homes on February 3rd that will have instructions and information about the Scouting for Food drive. On February 10th Scouts will collect the bags dropped off and take the non perishable food to local food banks for distribution to needy individuals and families. Bags will be provided to units in January. Plan now for your unit to participate in this Good Turn for America project.

Hunger is a problem we can do something about by working together. Scouting for Food is a starting point. It is an example of our long-standing commitment to community service and that the Boy Scouts, as an organization, is concerned about hunger and providing food to the needy.

Any unit that participates in the Scouting for Food drive, or any service project that benefits our communities, should log their service hours at www.goodturnforamerica.org. Each unit should have a log in number that will allow you to enter your service hours. This will enable National to track service hours nationwide. All you have to do is visit the website and follow the simple instructions. Every unit that does so is eligible to purchase the Good Turn for America patch at the Council Service Center. There are also year segments for each year the unit earns the patch. If you need your log in number please contact Janet Barker at the Council Service Center.

Cub Scout Pack 104 of Decatur has completed a Good Turn for America Service project in two areas, Personal Care Collection for a retirement center and Personal Care Collection with a local homeless shelter. A total of 52 youth and 20 adults participated in these two events. Pack 104 is chartered by Trinity Lutheran Church and School Association in Decatur. Their Cubmaster is Doug Gerhardt.



LTC to Host Wood Badge Training

Lincoln Trails Council will be hosting a Wood Badge for the 21st Century course in 2007. Course dates of September 21st - 23rd and October 12th - 14th have been set. The course is available to those leaders in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing who have completed New Leader Essentials, Job Specific, and Outdoor Training for their position. The course is an advanced training course originated by Lord Baden-Powell in 1919. It is conducted in an outdoors setting which provides a unique opportunity to live Scouting as Baden-Powell trained leaders. Wood Badge offers learners an opportunity to develop and enhance their leadership skills. The participant will understand the attributes of good leaders by practicing leadership. Application of these skills will then improve the Scouting program. Wood Badge is the highest level of training in which an adult Scout leader can participate.

Participants in Wood Badge will know how to:

- Encourage the personal growth of Scouts.
- Establish good working relationships with Scouts and Leaders.
- Plan and carry out exciting programs and events to meet the needs of Scouts.
- Use Scoutcraft skills to train Scouts to fulfill the aims of Scouting.
- Include fun and adventure in unit and district events.
- Provide a quality program for the youth.

Ron Ingram will be the Scoutmaster for the course. This program will be held at Rhodes France Scout Reservation and is open to all Scout leaders. Applications will be available at the Council Service Center. The cost is \$215.00. An application and the down payment (non-refundable) of \$65.00 should be sent to the Council Service Center as soon as possible. The remainder of the fee (\$150.00) must be paid on or before June 30th, 2007. If this deadline is not met the total fee for Wood Badge is \$255.00. If you have any questions please contact Course Director Ron Ingram at 217-864-0788 or bigfoot654@insightbb.com

Railsplitter District Collecting for Dove, Inc.

Attention Railsplitter District Scouters! We are taking donations of motel or travel sized soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc... to be given to Dove, Inc. in Decatur. A collection box will be available at the Council Service Center and at the Railsplitter Roundtable meetings. For more information please contact Nelda Foster at 217-429-2326 or nfoster@bsaemail.org.