

2014 was an active year for Vulcan District, our units, and our participation within the council



Vulcan District logged over 15,000 hours of service, through Eagle Projects, Unit Service Projects, and the Vulcan Day of Service.

On January 4, 2014, over 180 Scouts and Scouters gathered at Lakeshore trail in Homewood, and Provided over 850 youth/man hours of work.



Vulcan hosted Cub Scout and Boy Scout Training that was attended not only by Vulcan Volunteer Leaders, but Scouters from every District in the Council.

Our offering of Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster Training at the Camporee had 45 attendees, many from units at the camporee, but also leaders who traveled from as far away as Decatur and Huntsville.

In the Fall, the Day of Training at Samford University hosted 11 training courses with over 20 trainers and 100 attendees.

The District also offered courses in Intro to Outdoor Leader Skills, BALOO, and multiple trainings at our Roundtables

Vulcan Scouters also supported University of Scouting with trainers and a large contingent of attendees.

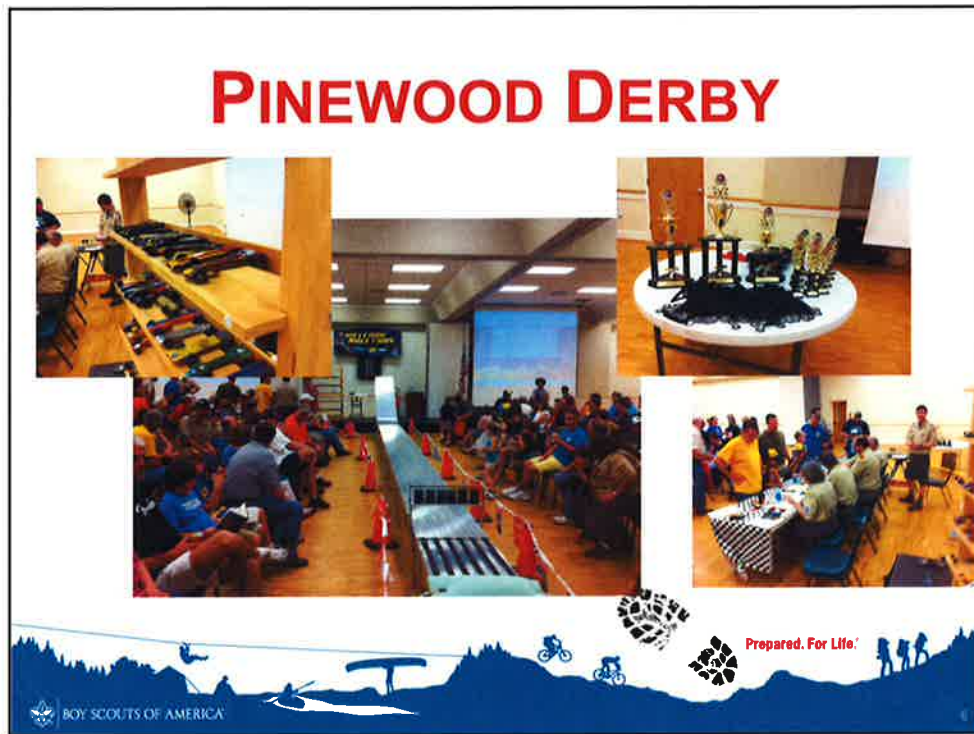
Through these efforts, the district was able to raise out Direct Contact Leaders Trained by over 6% on both the Cub Scout And Boy Scout level.



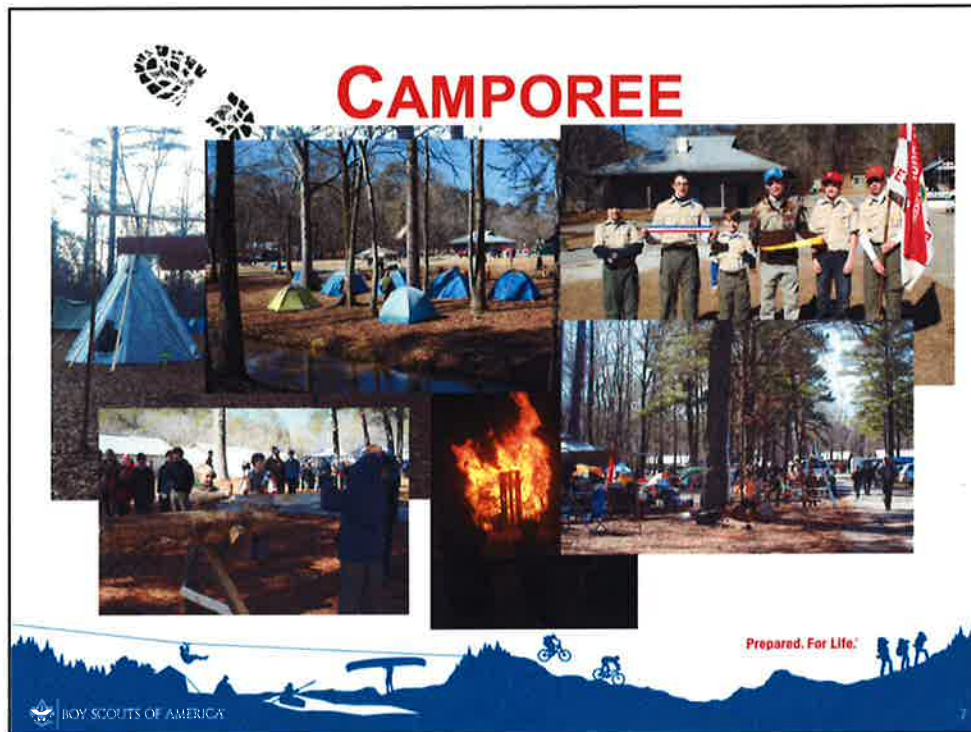
In 2014, Vulcan district had 76 Eagle Scouts awarded, and 13 Palms earned. Additionally, a total of 606 Ranks were earned in the District. and a total of 3,232 Merit Badges were earned.



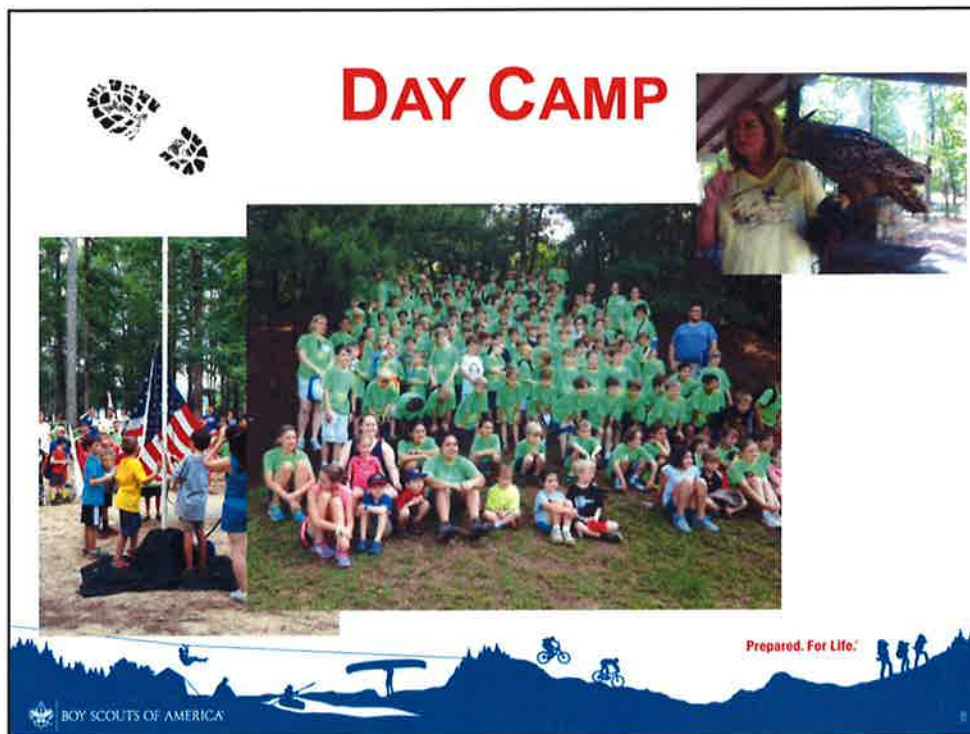
998 Cub Scouts earned a rank advancement in 2014.



In the last year, Vulcan District hosted both a District Pinewood Derby, and the Council Pinewood Derby, as well as having a large part of the Team that put on the Pinewood Derby Activity at Scoutfest.



Even though we had a scheduling error, with the 2014 Camporee first night being Valentine's Day, we still had a great turnout, a lot of activities, adventure, Webelos joining for the day and overnight, and a lot of fun. We need to thank Steve Wolbach and his team for hosting this event.



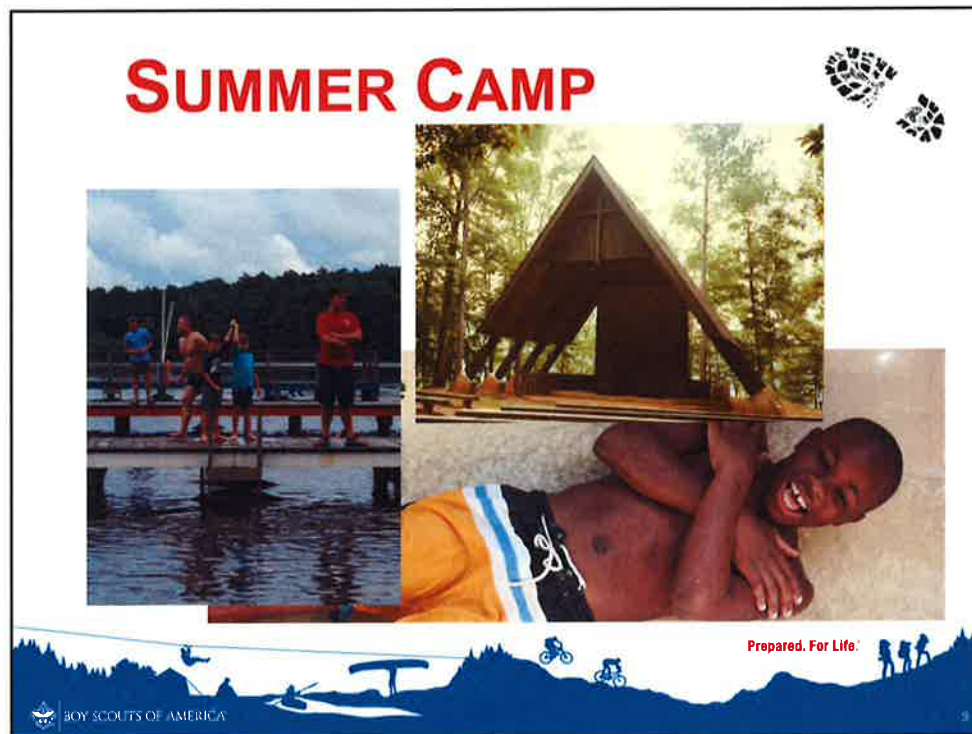
A great staff headed by Elizabeth Abts, Sarah Layfield Smith, and Shannon Curlings put on a great Day camp at Oak Mountain. The Theme was Mad Scientists, and included presentations by the McWane Center, Predatory Birds, and a great Science Program.

Additional activities included the popular Archery, BB Guns, and Slingshots, and a Water Activity day with a large slip and slide and water bottle rockets.

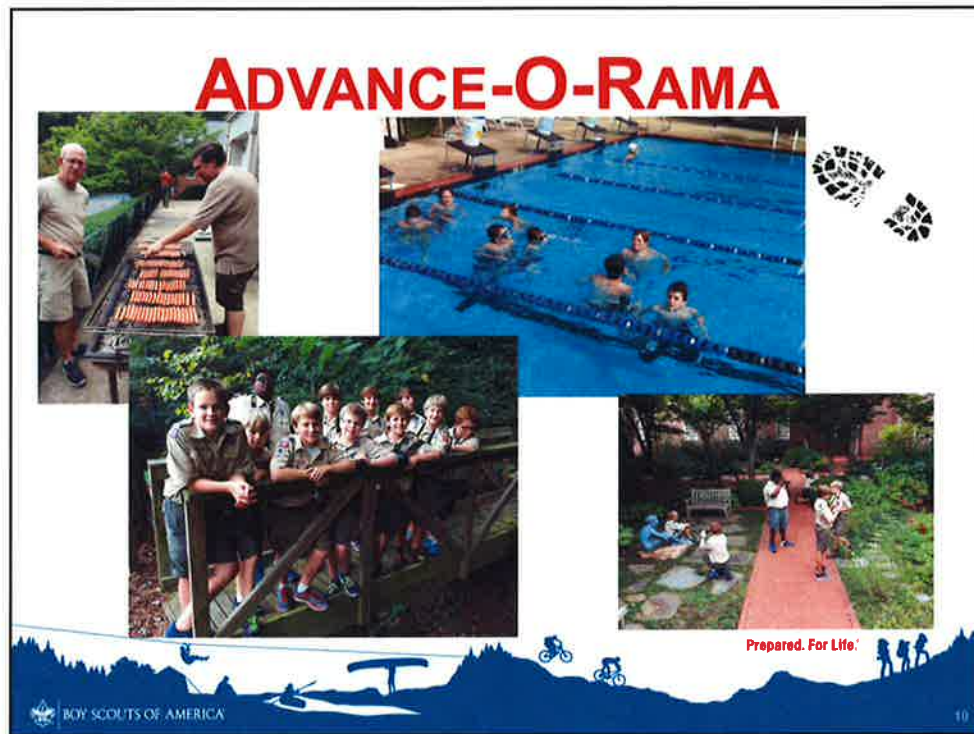
We also had an entirely new crafts program, coordinated by Julia McNair of Do it Yourself Crafts in Homewood.

Over 180 youth and 60 adult volunteers came together for a great week.





Over 480 youth from the district attended Summer Camp at either Comer or Sequoyah. Additionally, another 140+ went to Summer Camp in neighboring councils, and over 160 youth from the Vulcan District attended one of the 4 National High adventure camps, or Grimes Canoe Base.



Moving Advance-O-Rama to the fall allowed the opportunity for Swimming to be offered this year. With courses at the main facility of Canterbury United Methodist Church, as well as the Southern Museum of Flight and the Birmingham Art Museum, over 400 scouts worked on meritbadges ranging from Scouting Heritage to Photography to Fire Safety.



The Second Annual Cast Iron Chef Challenge hosted by Troop 97 was another great success. Dishes served this year include a Cobbler, Breakfast Casserole, Cajun Chicken Corn Chowder, Cowboy Stew, and Crème Brûlée.



Vulcan District was very active at Scoutfest this year. Over 400 Scouts and Scouters camped for the weekend from Vulcan district, with over 120 more attending for the day.

David Dowd Chaired the Activities Program, that included Spar Pole Climbing, Portaging, Catapults, Crime Scene Investigations, BB Guns and Archery, Pinewood Derby which included Start finish, make the car race the car, and many other activities. We also had staff in the camping area, wood badge reunion and the Popcorn VIP area.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and to our District Scoutfest Chair, Joe Finkel for his work.



A special thanks to Roger Etherington, Loring Jones, and several other Vulcan Leaders who assisted in organizing the Boys who lead the parade with the 50 State Flags, as well as the GAC Contingent of over 800 participants.

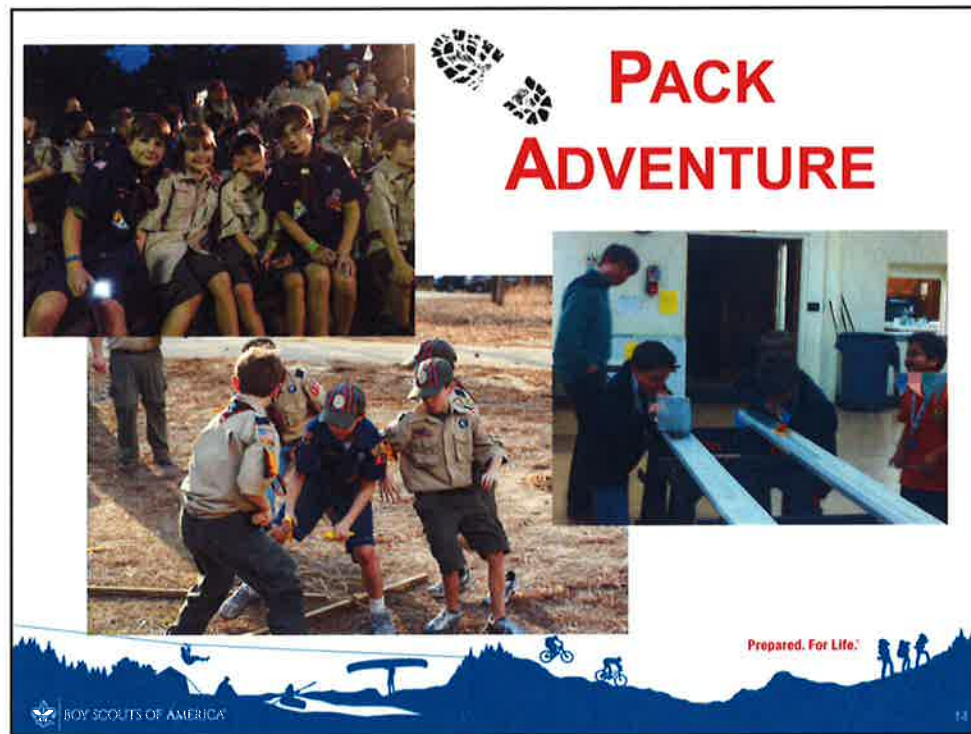
Jon Ryan sent this email:

“Congratulations and well done to you and your volunteers on your coordination of the Veterans’ Day Parade. The chaos became organized and the mission was accomplished.

You demonstrated that cats can be herded and Jell-O can be nailed.”

Kudos

Jon Ryan



In addition to all the Council and District Activities, Vulcan District Packs run an active program, most of them camping at least 3 times a year, often at places such as aboard the USS Alabama, Tennessee Aquarium, Huntsville Space Center, McWane Center, and Sharks tooth Creek. They also Participate in Popcorn Sales, Scout Card Sales, and host Pinewood Derbies, Raingutter Regattas, and Blue and Gold Banquets.



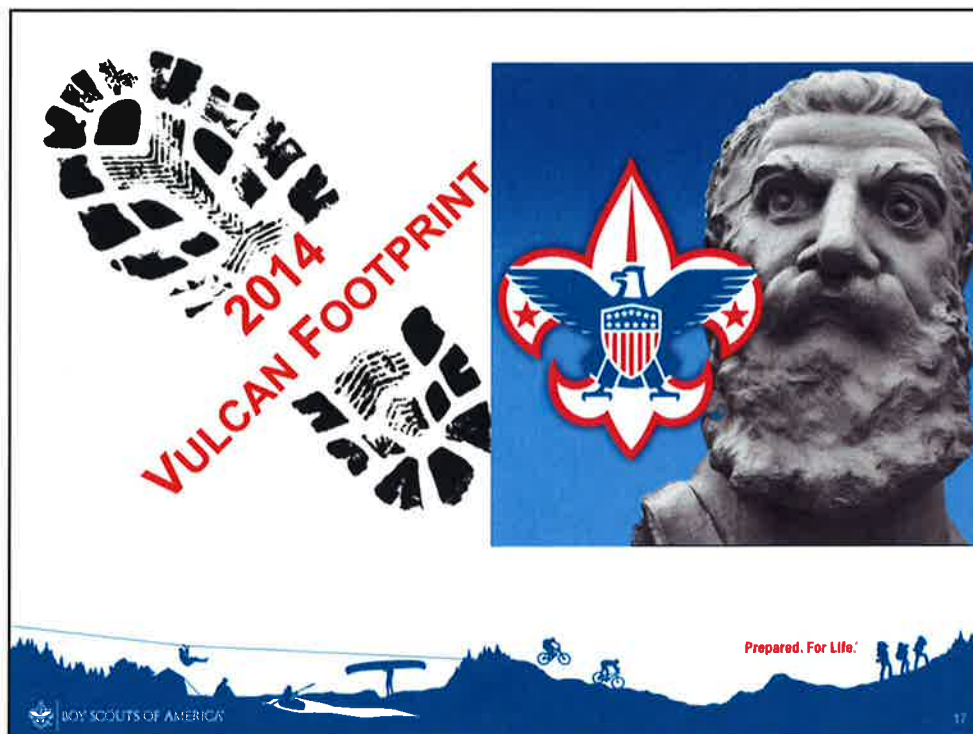
Vulcan District Troops are outdoors and active beyond the activities of the council. Troops have programs that include Skiing (Snow and Water), Hiking trails in Alabama as well Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, on trails including the Penhote, the AT, Philmont, and anywhere else they can blasé a trail, including underground Spelunking and topping out rock climbing.



In 2014, in addition to the Council Contingents, Units sent crews to Philmont, Seabase, Northern Teir, Summit, and Grimes Canoe base.

Troop 28 should be recognized for sending crews to Philmont, Seabase, and Summit last summer, why they didn't go to the Northern Teir is still a question.





Thank you all for a great 2014.

Now we face new challenges and opportunities to bring the great program of scouting to more youth in 2015.