

THE STATE OF dAC



disABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Fall 2016

Published around and each Jamboree year

dAC Chair's Message

I'm honored to have been selected to continue to lead the evolution of the dAC into BSA's second century and at the second National Jamboree at the new home for National Jamborees at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. I have already welcomed each of you, albeit sort of incognito, when you received your assigned position with "Disabilities Awareness" (more commonly called the dAC as noted above.) I look forward to meeting those of you who are new to the dAC and welcoming back our veterans! At this writing we have a staff of 29, and are approved for up to 75 staff members. I encourage each of you, if you know of another Scouter who has a passion for disAbilities Awareness (or could develop one), PLEASE invite them to sign up for our fantastic team!



Tony Mei,
Chair, dAC

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NATIONAL JAMBOREE, BSA DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE



Staffing dAC at the Summit

Welcome to the dAC staff for Jamboree 2017, an event that promises to be the best National Scout Jamboree (and dAC) yet! This Jamboree will showcase a number of new features at the Summit and will be the precursor for the North American World Scout Jamboree in 2019. Staffing in 2017 will give you a clear taste for what 2019 has in store for us! Did we say that there will be a dAC in 2019? (We have it on good authority that there will be a dAC at the WSJ in 2019, so fasten your seat belts!)

Meet Archer Hadley, an Eagle Scout with a voice for change and empowerment

...reprinted with permission



Above: Archer Hadley, a dAC staff member 2013, 2017 Jamboree

In 1996, Archer Hadley was born prematurely, at just 26 weeks. After spending the first few months of his young life in the ICU, he was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a neurological condition that affects body movement, muscle coordination and balance. Since the age of five he has used a wheelchair for mobility.

But while cerebral palsy has constrained his body, it has not constrained his spirit. Archer has used his disability as a platform for empowering others – of all abilities – serving as a motivational speaker, encourager and change agent.

Archer found his passion while he was a student at Stephen F. Austin High School in the heart of Austin, Texas. An active and engaged student, Archer coached football and participated in a variety of student activities. His welcoming manner, friendly style and approachable personality made him a popular student,



Continued on page 7

Message. . Continued from page 1

As in the past, this dAC will be one of the premier venues at the Jamboree, and this year we will continue in our prime location immediately adjacent to most of the popular high adventure activities in the Summit Center. I fully expect the dAC to be completely busy whenever we are open, and very likely will eclipse past attendance levels, perhaps even to 15,000 plus visitors, over the course of the Jamboree!

In addition to the 19 activities (16 noted in description on page 4 and 18 shown on site plan, plus the merit badge booth) there will be a staff opportunity to work the Dis-abilities Access Services activity, which is planned to assist participants who have been identified as having disAbilities in accessing and scheduling their individual Jamboree program. Also, the ADHD activity will be called the “Invisible disAbilities” and will enable participants to experience the autism spectrum, as well as ADHD.

My intent is to have each of you work most of the activities (of the 19 noted) on a rotational basis. Since our goal

is to impart a solid first-hand experience in what it’s like for a person who has a disAbility to perform specific tasks, sports or activities, it is extremely important for our staff to have a good understanding of their activity and be comfortable presenting and demonstrating that activity. To that end we will be sending out a survey to each of you, asking what dAC activities you feel most comfortable running. I encourage you to review the description of the individual activities and (in most cases) observe the pictures of that activity from the 2010 dAC (*PowerPoint on the wwwswd.org website.*) You will also be asked in the survey to identify those activities that you feel least comfortable with. The key staff and I will then use your preferences to develop your individual dAC schedule for the Jamboree.

Over the next few months we will be contacting you via this newsletter with additional information and advice for being prepared for the dAC and the Jamboree. In the meantime, stay fit, stay well, (recruit a buddy), and be prepared to be at: “The 2017 Jamboree---POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS”.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE disABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE AT THE BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

The mission of the disAbilities Awareness Challenge is to instill in participants knowledge and sensitivity to various types of disabilities that impact the human race. The vehicle to instill that knowledge and sensitivity is a collection of experience based exercises designed to simulate, as closely as possible, some of the challenges to everyday living created by various disabilities. The simulations are presented in the form of activities typically encountered by Scouts in unit, school and community settings. Included is information and the opportunity for reflective reactions to the simulations. The success of the dAC is based on first hand experience in a group setting: That a Scout/Scouter learns, feels, is sensitized to, and leaves with a more tolerant attitude for those with disAbilities. This program also presents the opportunity to complete requirements 3b, 3c and 3d for the Disabilities Awareness Merit Badge.

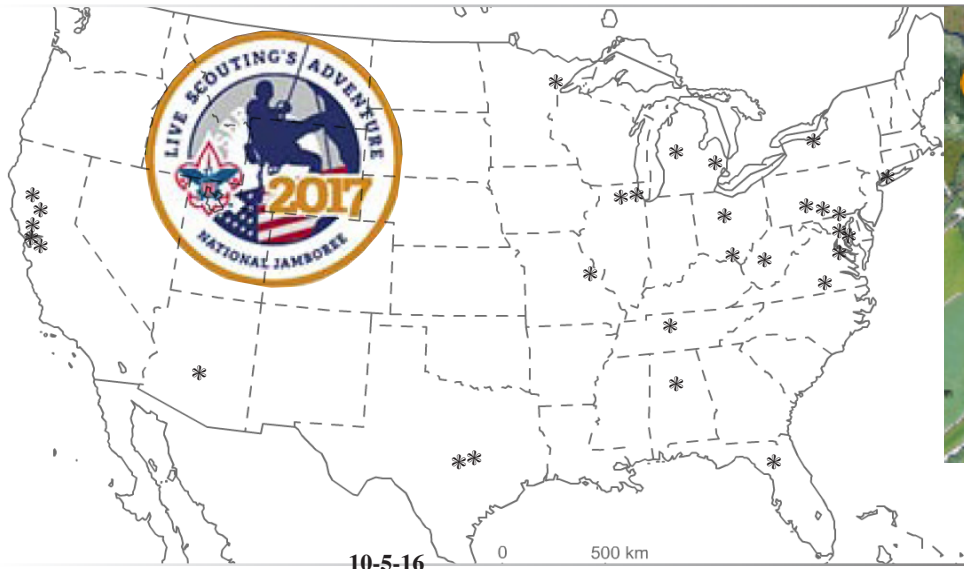
The nature of the program is a series of event stations, each comprised of a specific disAbility challenge. Each participant receives a program card or paper sheet listing all events. He can choose to complete any number of the challenges. The event presenter will hole punch out that challenge on the scout’s card upon successful completion of that particular task. Scouts do love competition and this tactile record has proven effective time and again.

First introduced as the Handicapped Awareness Trail at the 1977 Boy Scout Jamboree held at Moraine State Park, Pa. the basis for dAC was a program developed Dr. Jack C. Dinger, a professor of Special

Education at Slippery Rock State College in Slippery Rock, Pa. From his initial 6 trek event, dAC has grown to a 20+ station event at the Jamboree level. Credit for most of this program belongs to two gentlemen who, in 1989, introduced the redesigned disAbilities Awareness Challenge to the National Jamboree. Their staff of 12 attracted just over 4000 participants. Through the persistent efforts of David Davies (d. 2009) Professional Scouter of Virginia Beach, Va. and volunteer Fred “Chief” Hampton of Albuquerque, NM, the Challenge has grown to be one of the premier events of the National Jamboree. In 2005, chair Fred Hampton supervised the staff of 47 who introduced the 16 station disAbilities Awareness Challenge to just over 14,000 participants. Jamboree 2010, chaired by Sonya Whitehead, had an assigned staff of 50 but continued to deliver dAC to Scouters from all over with an on-site staff of 39. More than 15,300 visits averaging 6-7 events yielded 99,450 scout events. At the Summit in 2013 the disAbilities Awareness Challenge, chaired by Tony Mei, became one of the “must-do venues” of the Jamboree. Never turning away any of its participants, the Challenge earned its reputation as one of the top program choices. Tony Mei will continue as chair of dAC at the 2017 National Jamboree and is soliciting staff (up to 100) for that event. It is in that spirit that this program is recommended at the Council and local levels. It is true that the possibilities are endless and it is up to individuals to make the difference.



2017 *disAbilities Awareness Challenge Staff*



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• DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE FIELD EVENTS •

BEEP BASEBALL - Participants will each take a turn at hitting an electronic beeping softball while blindfolded. They will also run blindfolded to an electronic beeping base.

BOWLING - Scouts and leaders will be seated in a chair and attempt to knock down bowling pins using standard size and weighted bowling balls.

ADHD- Each participant will have the opportunity to experience the issues facing those with brain disorders through visual and auditory stimulation in our "Attention Deficit Disorder" tent; Autism will be discussed and demonstrated.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL - Using either half-court or full court, eight scouts and their leaders will have the opportunity to play basketball in wheelchairs.

VOLLEYBALL - With one arm affixed behind him, each participant will join a team and play regulation volleyball. Having limited use of limbs and being "OFF BALANCE" will be a new challenge for the scouts and their leaders.

SIGNING - Each group will be divided in half. Using sign language posters, each group will "send" a message to the other group and comprehend the message. Using a series of large letters, each person will be expected to read the instructor's lips and spell out the word that has been conveyed to them in silence.

OBSTACLE COURSE - With a leg incapacitated, each member will: Negotiate over barrels, tires, and balance plank using crutches; Go up and down stairs using crutches.

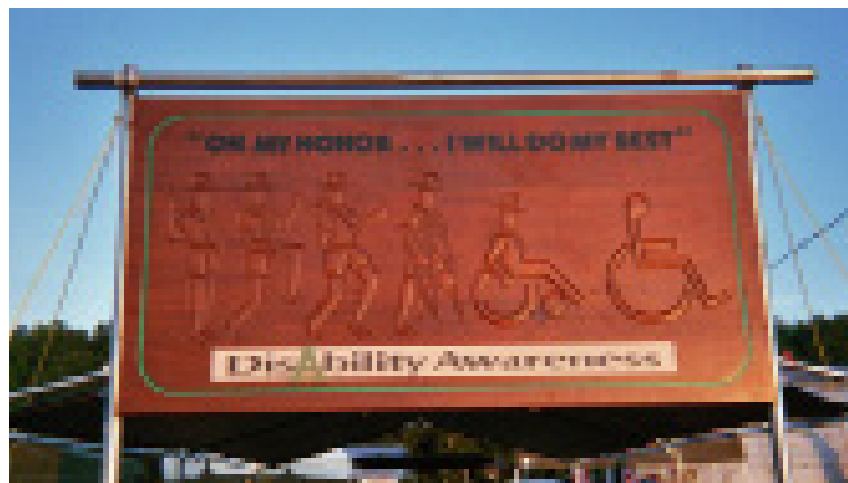
MIND BENDER - Each participant will attempt to trace a shape using a mirror for reverse tracing, and write their name, in a simple attempt to replicate dysgraphia. Each participant will read paragraphs designed to replicate dyslexia.

COMPASS - All participants will learn how to use a Braille compass, understanding where the major points of the compass are as well as identifying specific degree locations; Drive a tent stake into the ground while blindfolded assuring that the tent cord is taut, using 'mind's eye' compass.

TRUST RUN - Two poles, 90' apart, connected by stranded cable will enable a blindfolded participant, suspended from the cable using a harness, to run at his top speed while experiencing a blind environment.

CANE MAZE - Using a white cane, scouts and their leaders will have the opportunity of walking a course blindfolded. A series of plastic pipe "curbs" will define the course negotiated by swinging the cane in a slow curved motion to "hear" the defined space.

HOME FRONT CHALLENGE - Participants will mimic daily living conditions through a series of problems challenging different senses including out of reach items, gloves to mimic numb hands to unwrap candy or writing, using a gripper for too high shelving, button oversized clothing with one hand, problems in mini kitchen, cabinet doors, pouring a liquid in bowl, etc.



ARCHERY - Using a specifically constructed platform and bow holding device, participants will shoot an arrow and attempt to hit a bulls eye while sitting in a wheelchair.

MEET "THE VOICE" - Participants will have chance to meet with Archer Hadley, a college-aged student with cerebral palsy. His disability has caused him to challenge city governments to improve the wheelchair accessibilities within their jurisdiction. He is a young man recognized by state, national, and international agencies for changes and awareness challenges that he has initiated.

LASER BB GUN SHOOTING - Using a laser beam, teams of scouts will shoot at a target; one scout being blindfolded and his partner directing him where to aim using the laser dot.

TENT OF POSSIBILITIES- Many devices are displayed for the disabled, to show scouts potential projects that they can build for rank advancement, and eagle scout attainment.

DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE

NAME: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> The Voice <input type="checkbox"/> ADHD/ASD <input type="checkbox"/> Archery <input type="checkbox"/> Laser BB Gun <input type="checkbox"/> Beep BaseBall <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelchair BB <input type="checkbox"/> Signing <input type="checkbox"/> Tent of Possibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball <input type="checkbox"/> Trust Run <input type="checkbox"/> Obstacle Course <input type="checkbox"/> Mind Bender <input type="checkbox"/> Cane Maze <input type="checkbox"/> Home Challenge <input type="checkbox"/> Compass <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Badge
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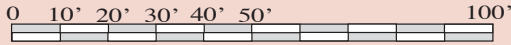
Participant: Attempt the challenge of all tasks. You need a minimum of 15 events completed to brag that **"to finish is to win"**^{DD}

the National Jamboree 2017
Summit Bechtel Reserve, West Virginia

10-1-16

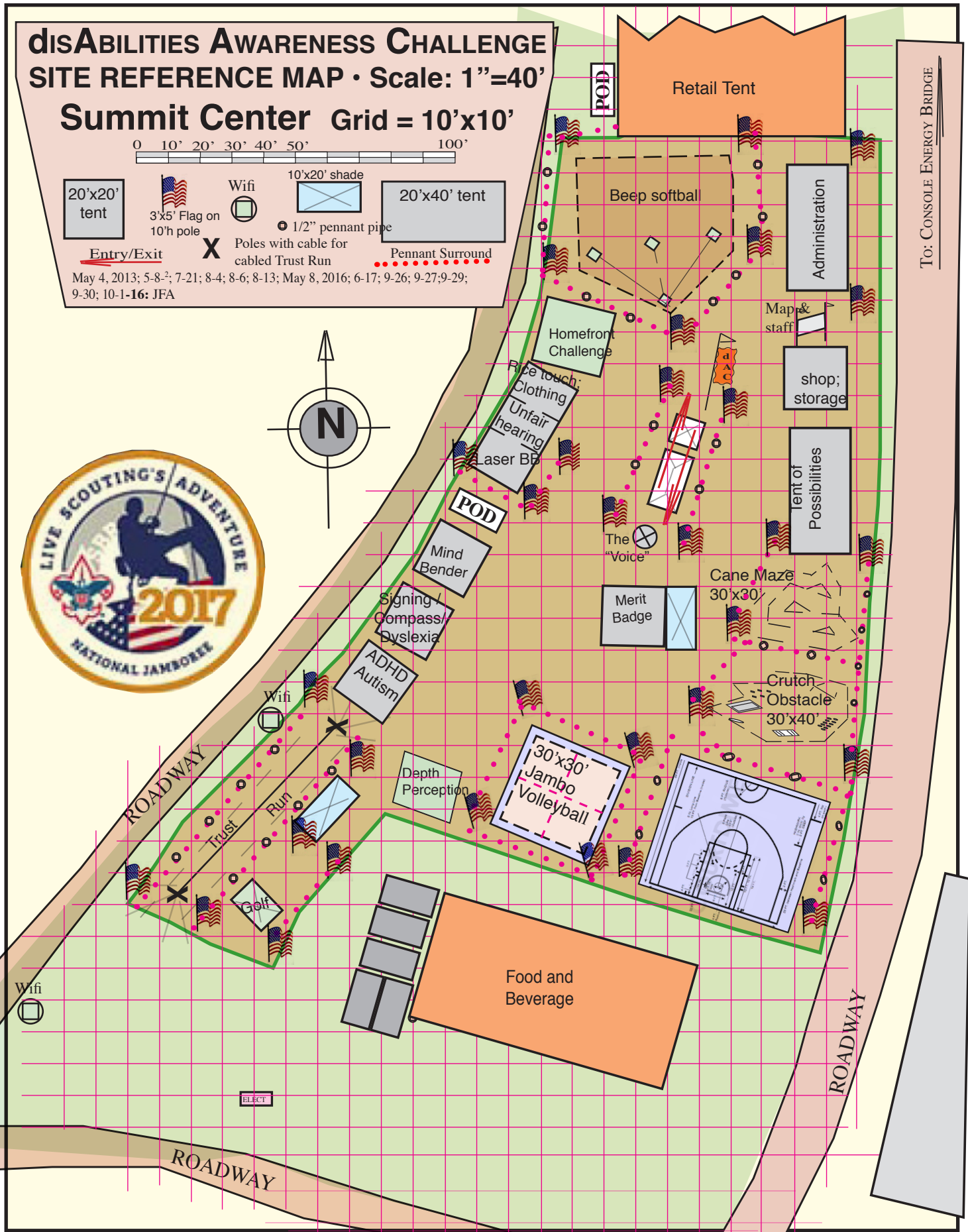
disABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE SITE REFERENCE MAP • Scale: 1"=40'

Summit Center Grid = 10'x10'



20'x20' tent
 3'x5' Flag on 10'h pole
 Wifi
 10'x20' shade
 20'x40' tent
 1/2" pennant pipe
 Poles with cable for cabled Trust Run
 Pennant Surround
 Entry/Exit
 X

May 4, 2013; 5-8-2; 7-21; 8-4; 8-6; 8-13; May 8, 2016; 6-17; 9-26; 9-27; 9-29; 9-30; 10-1-16: JFA



To: CONSOLE ENERGY BRIDGE

DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE STAFF ID AND SCHEDULE - JULY 2017

STAFF

DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE



Summit Bechtel Reserve
New River Gorge, WV

Tony Mei

CHAIRPERSON, dAC

DISABILITIES AWARENESS CHALLENGE

SCHEDULE: TONY MEI

BREAKFAST: 6:00-7:15
LUNCH: DAILY FROM 12:30-1:30
FULL DAY: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
HALF DAY: 9:00-1:00 - 1:00-5:00



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
JULY - 2017				13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

STAFF SET-UP/PROGRAM

TIME OFF FROM EVENT

FULL WORKING DAY

Wed. 19th: 12-5pm Sun. 23rd: Closed
 Tues. 25th: 11-5pm Wed. 26th: 9-3 pm
 All other days 9-5 pm

“to finish is to win”



The dAC staff will have photo ID name tags. Each staff member will email a pdf face only picture of themselves.

This will take place under separate cover in a follow-up note to this document.

Each individual ID tag will reflect staff member’s schedule which will coincide with master schedule posted in the Administration tent.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Saturday July 15th: Arrivals: Tony Mei, administration staff;
 Sunday: Scheduled staff arrivals; Layout of site; Materials separation;
 Monday: All staff on site: set-up; signage; Equipment; Electricity;
 Tuesday: All staff: Training; Safety issues and procedures; Q/A;
 Wednesday: All staff: Office Procedures; Staff areas; Tent of Possibilities; Afternoon early shakedown: Assess Scout participant traffic patterns; Reference change areas;
 Thursday thru Friday: Follow established staff schedule; All members in site on Friday 28th to close down and store all materials;
 Saturday 29th: Final load-up; Leave for home;

Additional Staff Notes:

- All staff must be on site opening Wednesday and closing Friday.
- Each staff gets one full program day off with rest of schedule divided between full work days and several half days divided between morning and afternoon.
- Several staff per day will be assigned certain administrative duties.
- Staff will rotate their expertise through individual events during the jamboree

dAC T-shirt to align with Summit branding guidelines



The dAC team has had original staff shirts since '93, '97, '01, '05, and 2011. We are developing a dAC staff shirt for 2017 that is consistent with the Summit plan and recommend each staff member plan to purchase at least three since it is worn most Jamboree working days.

well-liked by students and faculty alike. But it wasn't until one rainy day that he experienced an incident that would set him on a path to his current purpose.

Running late for class, without his regular aide in site, Archer set out to get to class on his own, forgetting that getting to his third floor class required an elevator and a short trip across an uncovered patio – it also required opening a door he couldn't manage on his own.

Archer found himself sitting outside while rain poured down his back, unable to force his hands to open the door manually. He had to wait until someone came by and saw his predicament to let him in. It was that moment, when others might have given up or fired off a protest, that Archer decided to turn his frustration into action, and do something about the lack of electronic doors on his campus.

He conceived of an initiative called "Archer's Challenge," which would raise money to fund electronic doors at his high school by challenging students, teachers and administrators to spend the day in a wheelchair. The challenge had the stated goal of raising money by asking students, faculty and parents to pay \$20 to "challenge" someone to spend the day in a wheelchair. It had the more profound and lasting impact of forcing able-bodied people to begin to truly understand the challenges of navigating their normal routines while in a wheelchair.

The challenge was a resounding success, raising enough money to install five automatic doors at Austin High School.



It also funded a roof to cover the patio where Archer initially sat in the rain. Texas Governor Greg Abbott attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the new doors, and a short documentary he and a few fellow students made about the project won awards at

the White House Film Festival and SXSW Film Festival.

Archer eventually brought the challenge to



five Austin high schools, with more than 1,400 Austin ISD high school students and faculty participating. Archer, an Eagle Scout, also sought the help of the Boy Scouts, who had more than 300 participants in a separate event. The Challenge raised more than \$112,000 in donations and more than \$142,000 in in-kind donations. Eventually, 17 doors were installed in five Austin high schools.

In January 2016, Archer received the Kelly Davidson Memorial Outstanding Philanthropic Youth Award from the Austin Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). In August 2016, he received the International CARTER Award for Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy by the National AFP.

Now, as a sophomore on the UT Austin campus, Archer is taking his challenge to the next level, and creating a new nonprofit: The http://archerschallenge.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/archer_6.jpg Archer's Challenge Foundation. The Foundation will work to raise awareness of the mobility challenges many public places present to those in a wheelchair. Through the Foundation, Archer will work to support wheelchair challenges in communities across the country, raise funds to improve wheelchair access in public places, and empower and inspire those in the disability community – and beyond – to pursue their dreams.

**YOU can meet and talk to
Archer in person!
SIGN UP Now to staff the
disAbilities Awareness Challenge
at the 2017 National Jamboree**

dAC corporate sponsors

JULY - 2017 LIVE THE ADVENTURE AT THE SUMMIT BECHTEL RESERVE!

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Jambo news countdown dates

The creation of this newsletter is being used to welcome our staff and begin the countdown to Jamboree 2017. It can be reasonable to expect a two (2) pager in early December followed by one in mid March and again in late May with the hope that each one will generate the feeling of "family inclusion" as to what we've been planning these past two years.

Fall, 2016 - dAC Staff Recruitment pamphlet

Fall, 2016 - State of dAC National Newsletter

December, 2016 - dAC Staff Newsletter Addendum

March, 2017 - dAC Staff Newsletter Addendum

May, 2017 - dAC Staff Newsletter Addendum

REMINDERS

1. Follow the action to the Summit on the Jamboree Blog;
2. Jamboree staff payment due soon!
3. Get working on those medical forms! Begin the paperwork!

Meet the Summit Leadership!

**The Summit Bechtel Reserve -
Jamboree 2017 - Administration Team
Working with the dAC team for a
quality presentation.**

**RUSS HUNSAKER - Summit Center Director
BOB SCOTT - Deputy Director Summit Center
SCOTT BERGER - Exhibits & Displays Team Leader
MATT MONROE - Summit Center-Director of Program
JANICE DOWNEY - Summit Center Advisor**

**The Summit Bechtel Reserve - Jamboree
2017 - dAC Administration Team**

**CHAIRPERSON - Anthony Mei
DEPUTIES**

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES - Scott Hellen

SITE LAYOUT, STAFF SCHEDULING - Jim Africano

FIELD EVENTS COORDINATOR - Charlie Mann

POSSIBILITIES / INNOVATIONS -

ADVISOR - Sonya Whitehead, Chair Emeritus, '10

DEPUTY / ADVISOR -

FOUNDING DIRECTOR - David Davied, d.

FROM:

US POSTAGE

TO:

**Working With
Scouts With disabilities**

"Making a Difference in the Life of a Scout"

**Jim Africano, Editor
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