

The Scouter

The official newsletter of the Connecticut Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America | Winter 2006

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**A NEW YEAR TO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Council-wide Good Turn April Food Collection

Hunger is no big deal when there is food in the refrigerator. It becomes a bone crushing, all encompassing obsession when there isn't.

We in the Boy Scouts of America always need to be aware there are people all around us who need a hand to avoid the trauma for hunger.

On April 29, the Council will conduct its Second Annual Good Turn For America Food Drive. The drive is being conducted in collaboration with the Connecticut Food Bank which provides assistance to people monthly throughout the New Haven and Fairfield Counties.

Last year's food drive resulted in about 12 tons of food being collected for the Connecticut Food Bank and much more for other local food distribution centers. Our goal is 100% participation from the Council's units and to better last year's effort.



Please plan to join the fight against hunger by signing up for the April 29th food drive. Look for information at your Roundtable or call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 to sign up.

Units will receive a recognition banner for their flag staff. This is one food drive you do not want to miss.

Plan on doing your Good Turn.

Council Annual Meeting & Recognition Dinner, 1/26

Come join fellow Scouters as we celebrate our achievements and recognize volunteers and youth who have performed extraordinary service to Scouting and the community at the annual Council Recognition Dinner and Annual Meeting on Thursday, Jan. 26 at the Amber Room Colonnade in Danbury.

This year's dinner is hosted by Scatacook District. Please see Page 12 for a flyer.

The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the Silver Beaver Award. All Scout volunteers, family and friends are welcome to attend.

The Council will also host its annual Business Meeting on the same evening. Formal notice has been sent to all voting members of the Council.

COUNCIL CHARGE

Lou Salute, Scout Executive

Character Education

It's What We're All About

Character education has been the subject of much discussion in recent years, dating back to Vice President Dan Quayle's needling of Murphy Brown about family values. When first introduced, many viewed character education as a veiled attempt to teach a specific religion or ideology.

Lately, as more and more public schools have adopted character-education programs, the promotion of a universal set of values, which transcend religious and political differences, has become not only accepted, but essential to the healthy development of America's youth.

Studies have shown that 90 percent of adults in our country believe the ethical and moral values of our youth have declined in recent years. The nightly news tells us on a regular basis about increased school violence, teen pregnancy, and drug use. A majority of adults in America believe these problems have reached a "crisis" stage. And for good reason:

In a recent survey cited by the Boston Globe, more than half of the ninth-graders in an affluent suburb said they saw nothing wrong with stealing a compact disc or keeping money found in a lost wallet.

A report on character found that 37 percent of high school students had used illegal drugs in the past year.

In a national study of eighth-graders, half of those surveyed had tried alcohol in the past year, and more than one-quarter revealed they had been drunk.

Young people lacking direction and focus often display destructive behaviors such as violence, theft, drug and alcohol use, and promiscuity. They are often isolated from their parents and community, disconnected from the guideposts designed to help them through the difficult years of adolescence. Scouting has the answers to reach these youth.

For my generation, rebelling meant staying out an hour past curfew. Today, the rebellion is much more serious and can sometimes be life threatening. Fortunately, there is little disagreement about how to solve many of these problems. Studies have shown that one of the best solutions is early and consistent education about commonly held values like honesty, compassion, fairness, integrity, and respect.

Youth who learn and practice these common values have a better chance of avoiding negative outcomes and succeeding in life.

See **CHARGE**, Page 27



Congratulations to the following Scouts who will Soar with Eagles

David M. Balls	Troop 196	West Haven	Stephen L. Lutterman	Troop 116	Ridgefield
Matthew W. Bansak	Troop 15	Redding	Paul A. Makai	Troop 135	Brookfield
Stephen A. Bespuda, Jr.	Troop 925	Orange	Hugh B. McBride	Troop 53	Darien
Nicholas J. Bongartz	Troop 15	West Redding	Michael D. McDermott	Troop 925	Orange
James S. Branson	Troop 135	Brookfield	Daniel A. Merriam	Troop 401	North Haven
David D. Brown	Troop 32	Southington	Joseph M. Palmucci, Jr.	Troop 800	North Haven
Davis G. Brown	Troop 11	Stamford	Stephen P. Philbrick	Troop 163	Monroe
Peter J. Chapman	Troop 31	New Canaan	Matthew A. Prober	Troop 41	New Haven
Brian K. Donnelly	Troop 90	Trumbull	Matthew S. Roberts	Troop 71	Bethel
James K. Donovan	Troop 66	Easton	Michael J. Roche	Troop 76	Ridgefield
David W. Eichorn, Jr.	Troop 401	New Haven	Kevin M. Rocheleau	Troop 4	Wallingford
Phillip M. Elkodsi	Troop 65	Trumbull	Rahul Samanta	Troop 925	Orange
Justin R. Fritz	Troop 36	Westport	Scott T. Santa	Troop 15	Redding
Joseph B. Guida	Troop 428	Branford	John R. Scallion	Troop 610	Hamden
Kevin J. Guthormsen	Troop 431	Ridgefield	Paul F. Shanley, Jr.	Troop 54	Bethel
Anthony J. Izzo	Troop 810	North Haven	Nicholas T. S. Simpson	Troop 41	Hamden
Jason D. Labrozzi	Troop 71	Bethel	Scott A. Sloat	Troop 76	Ridgefield
Marc S. Lambert	Troop 88	Fairfield	Christopher J. Stevens	Troop 52	Danbury
Thomas S. Lambert	Troop 88	Fairfield	Stephen H. Wolff	Troop 116	Ridgefield
Keane M. Levy	Troop 20	Wilton	Douglas K. Wright	Troop 53	Darien
Kyle R. Lewis	Troop 811	North Haven			
Matthew J. Lucia	Troop 45	Southington			



Hal Wibling, Neil Marcus, Anthony Pajk, and Cub Scout speaker Fernando Cruz.

Greater Danbury 'Good Scout' Luncheon

Two distinguished Danbury community leaders were honored by the Council with the 'Good Scout' award at a luncheon in their honor on September 20, 2005.

Anthony E. Pajk, President of Branson Ultrasonics, and Harold C. Wibling, President & Chief Executive Officer for Savings Bank of Danbury, with the "Good Scout" Award. Neil R. Marcus, Esq, Partner of Cohen & Wolf, P.C., served as this year's Luncheon Chairman. The event raised over \$68,000.

Donna Ramey with Savings Bank of Danbury served as this year's Luncheon Vice-Chair.

Major Donors to this Event at the Benefactor Level included Branson Ultrasonics and Savings Bank of Danbury. Luncheon Sponsors included Newtown Savings Bank, Union Savings Bank, Ridgefield Bank, Del-Tron Precision, Inc., Berkshire Corporate Park, Danbury Hospital, Hawley Construction Corporation, and Powers Industries. Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton offered welcome remarks. Cub Scout Fernando Cruz from Cub Scout Pack 33 in Danbury was this year's Cub Scout Speaker. Louis D. Salute, Scout Executive offered Council remarks.



Keynote Speaker Webelos Scout DeMarte Daley poses with event chairman Dr. Reginald Mayo and Award recipients Dr. Julia McNamara and Robert Lyons Jr.

Greater New Haven 'Good Scout' Dinner

Two distinguished members of the New Haven community were recognized by the Council with the "Good Scout" award at a dinner in their honor on October 20, 2005.

Dr. Julia McNamara, President of Albertus Magnus College and Robert Lyons, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bilco Company received the "Good Scout" Award. Held at the 500 Blake Street Café in New Haven, the dinner attracted over

200 local business and community leaders turned out to help raise awareness of Scouting, honor two outstanding individuals and raise over \$65,000 to support the Scouting and Learning for Life programs of the Council.

The Keynote Speaker for the evening was DeMarte Daley, a second year Webelos with Cub Scout Pack 4229 chartered to the Lincoln Bassett Community School in New Haven.



From L to R - Walter Hushak, Kevin Curry, Ellen Mandes, Keynote Speaker Edward Carafeno, First Selectman Kevin Kopetz and William DellaVecchia.

Central Conn 'Good Scout' Luncheon

Four distinguished central Connecticut community leaders were recognized by the Council with the "Good Scout" award at a luncheon in their honor on November 2, 2005 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

Walter Hushak of Southington, retired Senior Vice President with Janazzo Services, Kevin Curry from Meriden, the co-owner of the Danby's Service Station, Kevin Kopetz, First Selectman of the town of North Haven and Ellen Mandes from Wallingford,

owner of Creations at Work were the honorees for the luncheon. The luncheon attracted over 100 local business and community leaders turned out to help raise awareness of Scouting, honor two outstanding individuals and raise funds to support the Scouting and Learning for Life programs of the Council.

The Keynote Speaker for the luncheon was Edward Carafeno, a Webelos with Cub Scout Pack 810 chartered to the St. Therese Church in North Haven.



Front row - Cub Scout speaker Marcel Brown. L to R - Peter Hurst, Jr., Wiley Mullins, Dianne Auger, M. Walter Levins, and Neil Salonen.

Bridgeport 'Good Scout' Luncheon

Over 165 individuals gathered at the Bridgeport Holiday Inn on November 16, 2005 to recognize three Bridgeport community leaders with the 'Good Scout' award.

Honorees this year were Dianne J. Auger, Executive Director for the Southeastern Fairfield County Chapter of the American Red Cross, M. Walter Levine, Motivational Speaker, and Wiley Mullins, President of Uncle Wiley's Specialty Foods, Inc. and a member of the Council

Executive Board. The luncheon in their honor raised more than \$35,000 to benefit the Council.

General Chairs for the Luncheon included Peter F. Hurst, Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Community's Bank, and Neil A. Salonen, President of the University of Bridgeport.

Webelos Cub Scout Marcel Brown of St. Peter's School Pack 4188 in Bridgeport was the Cub Scout Speaker.



MEMORIAL TRIBUTE FUND

Words too often inadequately express the sentiment we feel at the death of a friend or the joy felt when a friend is honored with a special recognition. No finer tribute can be paid than to encourage some boy to live the life of a Scout and thus perpetuate the high principles you admire in your friend. A contribution to the Boy Scout Memorial Tribute Fund in any amount is the perfect tribute.

In Memory Of Marion (Johnson) Prichard

From
Donna & Stan Hersh, Jane Smiley, Ms. Barbara Sherman, Marilyn Terry.

In Memory Of Ed Hine

From Jonathan Glassman

In Memory Of William F. Stone

From John & Patricia Zane

In Memory Of Bernard Godfrey

From Stephen Berman,
The Pellegrin Law Firm,
Leslie Greenstein, Lenny Myers,
Edward Silver,
Mr. & Mrs. Blunberg.

In Memory Of Margaret Fromm

From
Susan McGuire,
Claudette Husar.

Gifts to the Memorial Tribute Fund should be sent to
Connecticut Yankee Council |
Memorial Tribute Fund
60 Wellington Road,
Milford, CT. 06460

Leave a legacy. Put Scouting in your will.

First Class Requirement Change Effective Jan. 1

Effective January 1, 2006, an additional requirement will be added to the requirements for First Class rank in Boy Scouting. Scouts beginning their First Class requirement work after this date must complete the new requirement. Scouts working on First Class requirements prior to this date will have until June 30, 2006, to complete First Class rank without completing the new requirement.

The new requirement tests the candidate's persuasive communication skills and can help make Scouting available to more boys. It reads as follows:

"Tell someone who is eligible to join Boy Scouts, or an inactive Boy Scout, about your troop's activities. Invite him to a troop outing, activity, service project, or meeting. Tell him how to join, or encourage this inactive Boy Scout to become active."

The Boy Scout Handbook and



2006 Requirements book will be updated with this new detail.

All Scoutmasters were sent a DVD containing tools that young Scouts can use to assist them in completing this requirement, including a video that trains them how to speak to their friends about joining, and a video of Scout activity images they can share with someone interested in joining. Also, Scouts can find support for the completion of this requirement on the Boy Scout membership website, www.thescoutzone.org.

'Thrifty' Friends of Scouting Campaign Begins

Another great year of Scouting is upon us. Time to kickoff the 2006 Friends of Scouting Campaign. The theme for this year's campaign is "Thrifty."

Each year the Connecticut Yankee Council conducts this annual giving campaign to raise 30 percent of the budget. During the campaign, families, friends, businesses and foundations are asked for a contribution to support our Scouting program. Your support helps provide for our four outstanding camps, adult leader training, and scouting opportunities for the less fortunate.



The cost to support one scout in the program for a year is \$175. Contributions at this level will receive a special edition blue border Council strip. Donors at the \$350 two scout level will receive both a blue and white border Council strip. Those who can underwrite the \$525 cost of three scouts will receive a black, white, and blue border Council strip. A

special border Council strip is available for those individuals who work on the campaign.

During the 2006 campaign we hope to raise \$383,000 from families and other community groups. Each unit kickoffs their campaign with a special presentation at one of its meetings in January or February, followed by individual solicitations for those who have not responded. You can be assured that 99 percent of your donations are used locally with the Connecticut Yankee Council. Please take the time to make a gift in support of scouting!

- COMING SOON - 'Net Advancement

Soon, Internet Advancement will be available to unit leaders of active units at any time throughout the year, this service will allow units to record youth advancement to their member records.

Ranks and earned awards will be added to the youth member records and submitted to ScoutNET. This will update the member record and the unit advancement statistics. Only the Eagle Scout rank cannot be awarded by this process. Merit badges and other earned youth recognitions will also be recorded.

The Council will provide each unit with a unit ID, and the unit will assign an adult to record advancements. Ranks must be recorded based on program identification. (Cub Scout ranks recorded for Cub Scouts, for example, or Boy Scout ranks for Boy Scouts.

Additionally, ranks must be entered in the correct rank and date sequence. Not included are nominated awards, which require Council or BSA approval, or awards that are not directly granted by the BSA, even though approved for uniform wear.

Additional information will be provided prior to implementation.

CORRECTION -

The article "Baden-Who?" in the October 2005 edition was unattributed. It was written by Powahay Advancement Chairman Chester Wickett.

Happy 96th Birthday, BSA!

The Boy Scouts of America was chartered on February 8, 1910. Annually since then, the anniversary of Scouting in America is celebrated during the second week of February.

This year we celebrate our 96th Anniversary from February 5-11.

Our volunteer leaders have selflessly developed and conducted endless programs all of which have helped develop men of character who will safeguard and govern our citizens and lead our industries and organization into the future. Any time spent with a Scout is evidence enough to believe in what Scouting brings to all of us.

This February, celebrate our anniversary. Do something to celebrate the movement's beginning and your efforts in support of the movement. There are people out there who need to be reminded that Scouting is alive, well, and getting stronger every day. Celebrate! You deserve it.

Popcorn Sale Wrap

Thank you to all the Packs, Troops and Crews in the Council who participated in our annual popcorn sale last year. Together, we sold over \$650,000 worth of popcorn and put over \$210,000 into unit accounts.

If you have any feedback as to how we can make the sale better, please send it to Peter Nystrom at nystrom@ctyankee.org.

To learn more about Scouting's history, please visit <http://www.scouting.org/media/anniversary/>

Scout Sunday / Scout Sabbath Observances

The Sunday before February 8 is designed Scout Sunday, the primary date to recognize contributions of young people and adults in Scouting. Each chartering organization can use either Sunday or Scout Sabbath to celebrate.

When planning a worship service for Scout Sunday, strive to involve Scouts who are church members. Youth members should be used to sing, usher, greet, pray, and read. Occasionally a youth is allowed to prepare the sermon for this service.

At the very least, have the worship committee and the pastor select a date and announce that

See **SCOUT SUNDAY**, Page 31

Make Money - Sell Ads

All units are invited to participate in a low-key sale of ads for our Council's annual Program Calendar. Make 33 percent commission on all ads sold for your unit.

For more details on this simple fundraiser, please call Peter Nystrom @ 203-876-6868 x.241. Also, preview the ad on Page 8 of this edition.

scoutstuff.org

fill all your Scouting needs & wants online.

Milford Scout Shop

Open Mon. - Wed. & Fri. 9-6; Thurs., 9-8 and Sat., 10-2.
60 Wellington Road, Milford or online at scoutstuff.org.
Call 876.0013 | fax 876.0021

Nine selected for Silver Beaver

Nine Council volunteers were selected for the Silver Beaver Award for their exceptional support of youth services in the Council area. The Silver Beaver is the highest Boy Scouts of America National Award which can be presented at the Council level.

- The Scouters selected are:
- * **David Adler**, Wepawaug Valley
 - * **William Amidon**, Pomperaug
 - * **Wade Anderson**, Scatacook
 - * **Roy Cannon**, Sleeping Giant
 - * **John Davenport**, Sleeping Giant
 - * **Robert Kral**, Pomperaug
 - * **Robert O'Neil**, Scatacook
 - * **John Pasnau**, Wepawaug Valley
 - * **Edward Schwartz**, Powahay

The awards will be presented at the Council's Recognition Dinner at the Amber Room in Danbury on January 26. A reservation form is available on Page 12.



Greater Stamford Area Tribute Dinner

Two distinguished community leaders were recognized with the "Good Scout" Award at a dinner in their honor on December 7. Harold McGraw III, the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the McGraw-Hill Companies and Christopher McLeod, President and Chief Executive Officer of 454 Life Sciences Corporation received the "Good Scout" Award. The dinner, held at the Italian Center in Stamford, attracted over 150 local business and community leaders turned out to help raise awareness

of Scouting, honor two outstanding individuals and raise over \$150,000 to support the Scouting and Learning for Life programs of the Connecticut Yankee Council.

Martha & Todd Robbins of Darien served as co-Chairs of the Dinner which set a record for dollars raised at a council fundraising event.

The Keynote Speaker for the evening was Bobby Erickson, a second year Webelos with Cub Scout Pack 7 chartered to the United Methodist Church of New Canaan.

Honorees Harold W. McGraw III and Christopher McLeod stand with Webelos Keynote Speaker Bobby Erickson.

Thomas Gillespie Joins 1910 Society

We are pleased to share with you that Thomas H. Gillespie, Jr. of New Canaan has become the eleventh 1910 Society member. This recognition level recognizes individuals or organizations that make a commitment of \$25,000 or more over a five-year period to our Council's Endowment Fund.

Gillespie became an Eagle Scout in 1947 growing up in the Midwest near Chicago. After graduating college he secured his first job with the help of noting on his resume that he had earned the Eagle Badge. He continues his strong interest in helping youth through investing in our annual Friends of Scouting Campaign as well as making a generous gift to our Council's Endowment Fund.

Interest income from this Fund helps our Council in perpetuity. Gillespie is currently the Principal of Gillespie, Robinson & Grimm, Inc. He became the 27th member of our Council "Scouting Heritage



Council President John Andres presents a Csatari print to Thomas Gillespie.

Society" Endowment Fund.

If you would like to find out more about how you can make a current or deferred gift to our Council Endowment Fund, please contact Dave Myers at 1.800.333.7905, Ext. 259.

EARN COLD HARD CASH!

Trying to figure out how to pay for summer camp? Pinewood Derby cars wipe you out? Want some extra cash to upgrade your next ceremony?

We've got an exciting opportunity to raise money for your unit, gain positive exposure for local businesses and programs, and support Scouting at the same time.

The Connecticut Yankee Council Scouter's Directory and Program Calendar

is filled with useful information including an 18-month calendar, pages of Scouting facts, program details, and other useful stuff and a unique directory of area business supporting Scouting.

5,000 Directories will be published this year and distributed to volunteer Scouters and Scouting families.

Earn 33% commission for every ad you sell in the Scouter's Directory.

INCREDIBLE UNIT COMMISSIONS (33%)		
Ad Size	Price	Commission
Full Page / Premium Page (inside cover)	\$750	\$250
Full Page / Inside Page	\$525	\$175
Half Page	\$300	\$100
Quarter Page	\$150	\$50
Business Card	\$75	\$25
Individual or Business name only	\$30	\$10

Commission checks will be mailed to units in mid-June.

Visit <http://www.ctyankee.org> & download your complete Sales Packet today. All orders are due by April 1, 2006.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT EXECUTIVE AT 203.876.6868!



Catholic Committee

<http://catholic.ctyankee.org>

Staff Adviser
 Bob Wargo
 203.876.6868, Ext. 246
wargo@ctyankee.org

Catholic Scouting Course at Philmont

Scouter Ray Laluna has returned from attending the Scouting in the Catholic Church course at the Philmont Training Center in Cimarron, NM. The course is offered under the National Catholic Committee on Scouting.

This course helps equip participants to administer programs, activities, and promotion of Scouting's resources as a youth ministry through diocesan committees in support of parishes.

"The course journey lead participants to explore the trail of Scouter development, Catechism, renewing the vision, religious emblems, religious activities, membership, youth protection and much more as well as help all to be of more service to the youth and adults we are called to serve," says Laluna.

"I invite all to come to reflect, refresh and renew as we sing to the mountains of Philmont next year!"

Religious Award Emblems Program

A Scout is reverent. In support of that, the Boy Scouts of America and a non-denominational group called PRAY (Programs of Religious Activities with Youth) have created religious awards for just about every faith. Although the awards are not considered official awards, they are allowed to be worn on the Scout's uniform.

Information on Catholic religious awards can be found at the National Catholic Committee on Scouting website at <http://www.nccs-bsa.org>.

Hartford Deadlines for 2006 Religious Emblems

The final date to receive religious award applications and workbooks for the Hartford Archdiocese is Monday, March 20 at the Council Resource Center in Milford. Cub Scouts need only to turn in their materials and application by the deadline. Boy Scouts should come dressed in full uniform for a Board of Review. Scouts also need to bring their application and materials. All applications must have all appropriate signatures.

Please send all materials to the attention of Bob Wargo. All application fees should be made payable to the Archdiocese of Hartford, Office of Religious Education. For the price list of workbooks and application fees, please visit the Catholic Committee website and follow the link for the Hartford Catholic Committee.

Bridgeport Deadlines for 2006 Religious Emblems

The deadline for Bridgeport Archdiocesan Award Emblem Counselors to receive the applications and workbooks is April 15. The Council will not accept any applications or workbooks from Scouts within the Diocese of Bridgeport. Fully completed Applications and workbooks should be submitted directly to a Religious Award Emblem Counselor. Please contact Council Chaplain Fr. Balint at 203.876.6868, Ext. 261 to find the nearest counselor. Counselors need to verify that the work.



Clockwise from top — Robert Wargo, staff adviser to the Hartford Catholic Committee on Scouting; Kathleen LaLuna, Saint George Emblem Recipient; Donna Wesolowski; Bronze Pelican Award Recipient; Anthony LaLuna, Bronze Pelican Award Recipient.

Catholic Scouters Recognized with Awards

Outstanding Scouters in the Archdiocese of Hartford were recognized for their service to Catholic youth at the 69th annual Archdiocesan Scouters Dinner on November 6, 2005.

Four volunteers were presented the Bronze Pelican Award which honors adults who have made a significant contribution to scouting: David Farrell of Assumption Church in Bethany; Cosette Heimann of St. George Church in Guilford; Anthony LaLuna of St. Lawrence Church in West Haven; and Donna Wesolowski of Holy Infant Church in Orange.

The Saint George Emblem was presented to Kathleen LaLuna of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Trumbull. The Saint George

Emblem is a national recognition approved by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting and is presented to an adult who has made a significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationships.

To date, the Saint George Medal has been presented to 238 individuals and the Bronze Pelican Medal to 1,128 individuals.

Congratulations to this year's recipients as well as all who continue to affect the lives of boys and their families through Scouting.

In addition, the Council also recognizes the honored Scouters with their embodiment of what it means to be reverent as well as their application of the Scout Law with serving others.

Good Turn for America

Meeting the challenges of the 21st Century.

Change, homelessness, and obesity are a few of the biggest challenges facing our nation. To overcome these challenges, the Boy Scouts of America and community organizations nationwide are conducting food drives, helping build repair lessons, and promoting healthy lifestyles. Scouting for Food, Scouting for Shelter, and Scouting for Healthy Living—making a difference in America.

Are you one who will make a difference? Get involved.

www.goodturnforamerica.org

Visit anytime.
www.bsamuseum.org



Protestant Committee

<http://protestant.ctyankee.org>

Staff Adviser
 John Rochette
 203.876.6868, Ext. 275
rochette@ctyankee.org

Scouter's Event?

The Protestant Scouting Committee is planning a Protestant Scouter's Event Interested? Please contact John Rochette with your input. Your response will determine the date, location, and type of the event.

The Protestant Committee meets the fourth Monday of every month at Council Resource Center in Milford. All are welcome to attend.



Owaneco Lodge Order of the Arrow

<http://www.owaneco.org>

Lodge Chief

Charles A. Johnson
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Lodge Adviser

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Staff Adviser

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OA Troop Representative A Leadership Position

The Troop Representative program was begun in 1999, and is a program of the Order of the Arrow and officially adopted by the BSA. The OA Troop Representative is now an official leadership position within the troop or team, and boys can earn time towards their leadership rank requirements.

Each troop should appoint a scout as OA Troop Representative. Please forward this information along to your district executive.

Alpine Indian Seminar a Total Success

The Quinnipiac Dancers of Owaneco Lodge 313 attended the 5th annual Shu-Shu-Gah Indian Seminar in Alpine, NJ. There were seminars on building regalia, the Q Dancers put on Fancy Dance Outfit classes, and a trade-o-ree full of scouting memorabilia. Wrapping up the afternoon before dinner and dancing, there was a Craft Show and Competition where Shane O'Brien won 1st Place in the Intermediate Class and People's Choice Award for his traditional turkey wing feather bustle and his hair roach Meriam turkey tail feather visor.

Dan Valazquez took 2nd Place in the Intermediate Class for his fancy hair roach and rocker. Kyle Placko took 3rd place in the



Clockwise from top left – Matt Murray and his turkey tail feather bustle, Shane O'Brien for traditional turkey wing feather bustle and hair roach, Dan Valazquez with his fancy hair roach and rocker, group photo of Quinnipiac Dancers, Kyle Placko and his beaded fan and hair roach.



Intermediate Class for his beaded fan and hair roach.

Matt Murray took 1st place in the Beginners Class for his traditional turkey tail feather bustle. Congratulations to all for your

hard work.

The day was concluded with a Pow Wow featuring many fancy and traditional dancers and 4 drum groups from around the region. A special memorial was held for

Christopher Olson, a fallen brother on the one year anniversary of his passing.

His family and friends remembered him with a dance in his honor.



Jewish Committee

<http://jewish.ctyankee.org>

Committee Chairman

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Staff Adviser

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Israeli Scouts Return

The committee is working to again bring the Israel Scout caravan to Camp Sequassen this summer. Stay tuned for more details!

Emblems Workshop

The Jewish Committee is looking forward to our annual Jewish Scout Emblems Workshop, scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 8, at Congregation Or Shalom in Orange, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Tigers, Cubs and Webelos will work on earning the Maccabee (grades 1-3) or Aleph (grades 3-5) Awards. New this year, we'll have adult counselors available to help older scouts-Boy Scouts, Venturers and Sea Scouts work on the Ner

Tamid (grades 6-9) or Etz Chaim (grades 9-12) awards. A flyer is available from the website.

Scout Shabbat Services

Scout Shabbat services will be held this year on Friday, Feb. 10. All Scouts and Scouters who have received their religious awards during the previous year will be recognized, as well as those Scouts who have attained the Eagle rank. Check the website for location and time.

JCOS Training at Philmont in 2006

The Philmont Training Center will be offering it's annual course, Scouting in the Jewish Community,

August 6-12. This course introduces and shares proven methods of increasing the use of the Scouting program by Jewish organizations and strengthening Jewish committees and task forces in support of councils. It's an opportunity to review the status of Jewish committees, suggest goals and priorities for local committees and to review concerns of Jewish institutions. For more information, please contact a member of the JCOS, or the Philmont website.

New Duty To God Patches

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) has introduced a new series of patches with the theme of Duty to God promotion. Designed as a series of 4

patches, only one patch is available each year. These patches are available to both youths and adults, to encourage learning about and promoting the religious emblems programs for all faiths. There are only 2 requirements: 1) attending or making a presentation on religious emblems, and 2) making a commitment to the Duty to God program. For more information, please visit www.praypub.org.

JCOS Meetings

The JCOS meets the fourth Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Council Resource Center in Milford. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to attend. Please contact David Elkodsi for more information.

Tips and tricks to streamline paperwork

By **Kathy Znosko**

COUNCIL REGISTRAR

Charter renewal paperwork is behind us and I'm sure you're all anxious to have it all processed and returned to you with new membership cards, certificate, etc. Please have patience. Every unit in our Council renews at the same time. Our commitment is to have every completed renewal available to you by March (hopefully sooner).

Many of our units took advantage of renewing online which makes the whole process so much easier. It also makes all the other paperwork like additional registrations, advancement reports and training rosters processed sooner too. You can help us speed the process by following a few simple tips:

- 1. Type or print legibly.** Remember that someone has to decipher your form off a fax machine or carbon copy and enter that into the computer. Don't use nicknames for Scouts — use the name printed on the roster.
- 2. Cross all the "t's" and dot all the "i's."** Fill out all forms completely and correctly. Double check before you submit so we don't have to track you down.
- 3. Don't forget the signatures.** Lack of signatures and/or necessary information is one of the biggest causes for delay, especially with applications. Don't forget: Every Cub Scout and Boy Scout application needs the parent

and unit leader's signature. All adult applications need to be signed by the Chartered Organization Representative and/or Unit Committee Chairman.

- 4. Turn in registrations.** A boy can't earn advancements until he's registered. Make sure the application precedes the advancement report.
- 5. Avoid duplication.** Don't submit more than one advancement report for the same achievement for any youth. If you are submitting a report to correct or update missing advancements, clearly mark it as such.

6. Clearly label. If you submit Troopmaster or Packmaster Advancement Reports, be sure the District copy is clearly labeled.

7. Keep a copy. All applications have at least two copies. The one marked "Council copy" is the only one we need. Keep the other for your records.

8. Review carefully the new roster that you will receive with your Charter and membership cards. Call us immediately to correct any mistakes and notify us of changes in your address and phone number.

These tips may seem to be matters of common sense, but incomplete, illegible, or duplicated paperwork can be a major waste of time and slow down our service to you.

Council Registrar Kathy Znosko can be reached at 203.876.6868, Ext. 266 or znosko@ctyankee.org.

Scoutmaster Award of Merit

The Scoutmaster Award of Merit recognizes Scoutmaster's who are performing their duties well, and is the only award for which an adult is nominated by a youth.

This award can be earned by all Scoutmasters even though it is sponsored by the National Eagle Scout Association.

First, the Troop Committee Chairman nominates the Scoutmaster on behalf of the

Patrol Leader's Council. The nomination is certified by the district and submitted to Council for approval. It is then forwarded to National Eagle Scout Association at the National office. Applications for the Scoutmaster's Award of Merit are received year round. Presentation of the Scoutmaster Award of Merit is made at the District Recognition Dinner in the beginning of June.

RECRUITMENT KEYS

Chris Guarniere, Sr. District Executive

Peer to Peer Recruiting Scouting's Best Recruiters Are The Scouts

Recruitment is a Year Round Effort!

A steady flow of youth into a Pack, Troop or Crew is essential to maintaining the unit's health. New Scouts bring energy and enthusiasm to the unit program.

To avoid the pitfall of shrinking membership, a pack should add 30 new Scouts every year and a troop and crew should add at least 10 new Scouts every year. Having a year-round growth plan in place will help attract new Scouts.

The first step for any recruitment effort is to appoint a troop committee member to serve as the troop membership chair. This person will develop and implement a year-round growth plan that incorporates all methods of recruitment, working closely with other units in the community, the district membership committee, and the unit commissioner. However have no fear, each issue of the Scouter will hold the key to unit recruiting success. In the District section we will highlight one proven method of recruiting that you can use within your unit.

Peer to Peer Recruiting

The most effective recruiter in Scouting is a Scout who is enthusiastic about his troop. To make recruiting a year-round plan, consider having a fall and a spring recruitment campaign within the troop. Offer incentives for each Scout who recruits one of his friends to join the troop, as well as an overall prize for the top recruiter. End the campaign after a few months so there is a definite starting and ending point to the emphasis.

Follow the Boy-to-Boy Recruitment calendar below for specific suggestions for this recruitment plan.

January – September

1. Announce a recruitment drive in the troop. Display awards and incentives for the top recruiters.
2. Ask Scouts to list non-Scout friends they would like to invite to the next troop meeting as part of their recruitment drive.
3. Announce either a trip, activity, hike, outing, party, pinewood derby, campout...something engaging and active that Scouts can invite their friends to. Plan something fun!

February – October

1. Monitor the troop's recruitment efforts and present incentive awards to those who have recruited a new Scout.
2. Hold the a fun and active event with Scouts and their invited guests. Sign them up for Scouting at the event!

March – November

1. End the recruitment drive and recognize the new Scouts and top recruiters.

In the next issue we will talk about how to host a unit open house. If you have any question or thoughts on this process, or have ideas of your own that you use for peer to peer recruiting let me know! Remember, year round recruiting is vital to the health of your unit! Good luck and enjoy Scouting!

Council Tour Permit Policy

A tour permit must be filed if your unit's activity is in one or both of the following situations:

Your unit is attending an event not conducted by the council or district or your unit is attending an event outside your local area. Local area is defined as a 15 mile radius from where your unit meets.

When your unit is providing transportation and/or participating in a high risk activity that requires special certification to conduct such as: swimming, boating, climbing, rappelling, flying or shooting.

Learn more about tour permits at the Council website.

Commonly Missed Items on Tour Permits

Cub Scout Activities

Cub Scouts may only camp in the winter as a family camping activity in a heated building-no tent or lean to's.

Cub Scouts may boulder no higher than their own height and may only climb at an indoor climbing facility. Cub Scouts may not rappel or belay other climbers.

Cub Scouts may not participate in canoeing, rowing or rafting unless it is at a council or district sponsored event and is on flat water. Cub Scouts may not white-water raft.

Boy Scout and Venturing Activities

Boating activities must be supervised by an adult 21 or over

with current Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat certifications. For every 10 boys, there must be an additional adult, who can be 18 or over, with Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat.

Climbing activities must be supervised by an adult 21 or over who has a current Climb On Safely certification.

Itinerary

Itineraries are necessary to process tour permits. They should have a description of where the unit is leaving from, where they are going and when they will be back. Too much is better than a line that says "camping"

See **TOUR PERMIT**, Page 10



Venturing & Sea Scouting

<http://seascouts.ctyankee.org>

Venturing Chairman

Mark Carpenter
203.371.4468
mncbsa1@attglobal.net

Commodore

Robert Kral
203.255.5169
robertkral@mac.com

Staff Adviser

Jonathan Pleva
203.876.6868, Ext. 286
pleva@ctyankee.org

Sea Scout Wardroom

The Sea Scouting Wardroom meets on the second Monday at the Trinity Episcopal Church Library, 651 Pequot Avenue in Southport. The wardroom is composed of Council members and ship skippers, officers and committee members.

All others interested in the Sea Scouting program are welcome. Contact Council Commodore Bob Kral at 203.255.5169 for more information.

Venturing/Sea Scouting Email Group

A group email server has been established by the Council Venturing committee to better enable communications within our Venturing/Sea Scouting community and to promote activities, trainings and other programs.

This list has been set-up on Yahoo! Groups. To receive an invitation to join the group, go to groups.yahoo.com/group/CTYankeeVenturing and click on "Join This Group!" or email the group owner, Bill Amidon, at wamidon@snet.net. In your request include your name, position in Scouting and reason for wanting to join the group.

Venturing & Sea Scout Leader Training

New Leader Essentials, Venturing Leader Specific and Sea Scout Leader Specialized Training is available for new Venturing or Sea Scout leaders on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Monday, Jan. 30 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Council Resource Center in Milford. Crew advisers only need to attend the first section to be fully trained, but Sea Scout leaders must attend both. Completion of the course fulfills requirements for the Leader Training Awards and is a pre-requisite for Seabadge and Wood Badge advanced training. It's also a requirement for the Quality Unit award. Registration forms and additional information is available on the Council website. Please contact Jonathan Pleva..

Cruise the Virgin Islands

Cruise the British Virgin Islands in Summer 2006 as part of the Council flotilla on July 8-15. Enjoy the beautiful islands while sailing, swimming, snorkeling, and exploring various ports of call. The cruise will cost approximately \$1,200 per participant which includes airfare and transportation, food, and the boat charter. Information is available on the Council website. Please contact Bob Kral for more information.

Carolyn Cruson Completes Sea Badge

Carolyn Cruson, a committee member with Bridgeport Ship 110 successfully completed Seabadge training held at United States Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay in Baltimore on October 7-9. Seabadge is the official advanced leader training program of Sea Scouting in the Boy Scouts of America. The course is an intensely participatory experience designed to provide program specific management techniques that improve the quality of ship and squadron operations. Jonathan Glassman, Council Vice Commodore and Skipper of New Haven Ship 1 served on the faculty as boatswain. Congratulations to Carolyn!

Glassman & Alesevich To Receive Venturing Leadership Award

Jonathan Glassman and Richard Alesevich will receive the Venturing Leadership Award at the Council's annual Recognition Dinner on January 26 at the Amber Room Colonnade in Danbury. The award is presented to Venturers, Sea Scouts, and adults who have made exceptional contributions to the program and who exemplify the Venturing Code and Oath. Please join us in congratulating these dedicated volunteers.

Earn Your Powder Horn

Powder Horn, a unique training which introduces Venturing and Troop leaders to Scouting's high adventure offerings, is being held May 6-7, June 3-4, and June 17-18 at Deer Lake Scout Reservation. It's an action-packed, hand-on outdoor course to expose leaders to activities and resources necessary to operate a successful Ranger Award program and is also open to those who are looking to enhance their high adventure programs.

The Powder Horn is \$250 per participant. Information is available at the Council website. Please contact Course Director Michael Golrick at 203.334.2042 or michael.golrick.75@alumni.brown.edu for more information.

SEAL Training

Sea Scout Advanced Leadership (SEAL) Training is a petty officer



Carolyn Cruson and Jonathan Glassman at United States Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay for the Seabadge training conference.



Sea Scouts from New Haven Ship 1 participate in a Scouting for Food Drive on November 13, collecting 1,100 items for the Connecticut Food Bank.



Okemo Ski Trip

Sea Scouts and Venturers are invited to shush down the slopes of Vermont's premier ski resort on January 21, 2006. \$65 includes a full day, all mountain pass, and a luxury coach bus to the mountain. Each unit attending must be accompanied by at least one adult leader. Solos may be accommodated with advance notice by January 6. The bus leaves the Council Resource Center at 6:30 a.m. and returns by 8:30 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased at the Council Resource Center by January 15. A current BSA medical form and permission slip is required for each participant. Please contact Barbara King at 203.454.3566 or bkingbsa@optonline.net to attend.

(youth) leadership training course offered by the National Sea Scouting Committee. This is a 7-10 day, hard core leadership course that is conducted at sea. Participants who successfully complete the course you will be awarded the SEAL Training Award, a silver pin with twin dolphins, to be worn on the uniform.

SEAL is a leadership course, not a seamanship course. Topics covered include preparing, goal setting, organizing, supervising, commanding, communicating, training, motivating, and other skills that will help the participant in functioning as a leader in your Ship and in life.

To attend a SEAL class a participant must be registered Sea Scout and have earned Ordinary rank prior to the course. He/she must have a thorough, working knowledge of chapter four of the Sea Scout Manual.

SEAL classes for summer 2006 are scheduled for Miami, Florida (June 17-25), San Francisco, California (June 24-July 2), Annapolis, Maryland (July 7-15), Houston, Texas (July 8-15) and Southport, Connecticut (July 21-30). Course information and applications are available on the Sea Scouting page of the council website. For additional information contact Jonathan Glassman.

Venturing Roundtables

Venturing and Sea Scouting Roundtables are held presented the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Council Resource Center in Milford. Roundtables introduce leaders to new program ideas and allow a forum to share best practices. January's topic will be scuba diving and February's topic will be snow boarding. Each Crew and Ship should have at least one leader attend or you're *missing the boat*. For more information, please contact Roundtable Commissioner Blaine Boxwell at 203.877.7009 or bboxwell@aol.com.



COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Doug Machin, Council Commissioner

Commissioner Staff Meetings

A plan for Commissioner Accountability

Staff Meetings

These monthly meetings are held to fulfill the districts' delegated tasks of providing ongoing training to unit commissioners, review of current and future assignments that impact the health of the units in your districts, and update about coming activities of interest to the units.

Ask Your Units

Periodically, do a brief survey of unit leaders: What have commissioners done well? What are we doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we should do differently? You will pick up ideas to improve unit service.

The very fact that you are asking will be appreciated by the unit leaders.

Commissioner Registration

Be sure each of your commissioners is registered as soon as they are appointed and agree to serve. Registering as a Unit Commissioner will ensure that he/she will receive a Scouting magazine customized for Commissioner Service. NO UNIT LEADERS should be recruited as commissioners.

Commissioner Points to Ponder

Quote From a Prominent American

"The real question is not how can busy people afford the time to become

involved in Scouting, but how can anyone concerned about the future of our society afford not to take an active role in a program with so successful a record of preparing future generations for the challenges and opportunities of life."

—Norm Augustine, chairman, Lockheed Martin Corporation; Eagle Scout; and past president, BSA

A message from Carlton Kline, Assistant Council Commissioner, Venturing.

I bid you welcome to an opportunity of service, that is greatly needed in Venturing. The support of a Venturing Commissioner is to identify unit problems

and give helpful service. There is no other member of any Commissioner staff that has a more important job than the Commissioner that calls upon units within his or her district.

Venturing is made up of Crews and Ships organized by existing chartered partners, or the introduction to new partners in establishing a youth program

that is interesting to co-ed participants from the age of 14 to 20. Adult leadership assists in developing the youth membership in making their own decisions and running their own program.

Our job as Commissioners, will call the unit periodically as a friend and counselor, to offer assistance where needed. Our mission is no different than

those that service traditional units, keeping units operating efficiently. An active and good program will attract new members and retain existing members.

Your help is needed in establishing a dedicated Venturing Commissioner Staff, in support of the leadership of the unit. Please email Carlton Kline at Commish151@sbcglobal.net or phone him at 203-790-1848, your acceptance to this new approach in servicing Venturing units. If you have questions, please do not hesitate in contacting him.

Upon your reply, he will advise the next step in training, which includes Commissioner Basic Training, and a Fast Start for Venturing.



Training Committee

<http://www.ctyankee.org/training>

Committee Chairman
Jay Huggins
203.268.9141
jayhuggins@charter.net

Staff Adviser
Peter Nystrom
203.876.6868, Ext. 241
nystrom@ctyankee.org

Are You Trained?

Every Boy Deserves a Trained Leader. 95 years of experience dictates that a Quality Program is run by a trained leader and nothing short of that. Are You Trained?

If not, please check your districts page in this Scouter for Cub Leader Specific Training

The spring Boy Scout Leader Specific Training will be held on April 8 and 28–29. The next Venturing Leader Specific Training is on January 14.

For questions or registration, please call the Council Resource Center at 203.876.6868 and ask for your District Executive to point you in the right direction.

Online Training Center

Coming soon from National will be one site where all online Training modules will be hosted and accessible to volunteers. You'll be able to log in, set up your own account and complete it with a click of a mouse.

The following trainings are currently offered online and are accessible from our the Training tab of our Council website:

- Youth Protection Training
- Cub Scout Leader Fast Start
- Boy Scout Leader Fast Start
- Venturing Leader Fast Start
- Safe Swim Defense
- Safety Afloat

COMPUTER CAMP

National Computer Camp at Fairfield U

Formerly at Sacred Heart University

Residential & Day programs

www.NCCamp.com (203) 795-9667

Computer merit badge certification

Tour Permit

Continued from Page 7

Lengthy trips should include description of the routes the unit will be taking.

Transportation

If the unit regularly transports Scouts in their vehicles, they should keep a master list of vehicles.

The back of the tour permit should have a notated master list of vehicles that will be transporting for that particular trip. On file is not an acceptable answer as we do not have a file of drivers.

If parents are driving their own children, and only their own children, the back of the tour permit must state that the parents are driving and the unit is not responsible for transportation.

Vehicles cannot transport more people than there are seat belts.

Trainings

Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat are two year certifications. They are available on

the council website at www.ctyankee.org. They are listed under trainings. They can be completed on the computer. Once the course is completed, they must send in a copy of the printable certificate so their training can be recorded in our system.

Each course takes approximately 45 minutes. If an online course will not work for people, they can contact Andrea Ulery for further information.

Youth Protection training is also a two year certification. This course is also available online at www.ctyankee.org, but is recommended for leaders who have previously taken the training.

If the course is completed and the proper steps taken at the completion of the online course, a certificate will be sent to both the adult leader and the council office.

Climb On Safely is a two-year certification. It is currently unavailable online, but is available by contacting Andrea Ulery at the Council Resource Center.



Connecticut Yankee Council

2006 Recognition Dinner & Annual Meeting

Hosted by Scatacook District

Thursday, January 26, 2006

Amber Room Colonnade, 1 Stacey Road, Danbury

\$35 per person

Snow date: Thursday, February 2, 2006 (Groundhog Day)

6:00 to 6:45 p.m. - Gather the Clan

6:45 to 9:30 p.m. - Dinner, Annual Business Meeting, and Program



Highlight of the Evening: Award of the Silver Beaver

Please join us for this special event, combining good fellowship, superb food, and an Awards Ceremony, recognizing Scouts and Scouters who have rendered outstanding service to Scouting and our Communities. We will also conduct the Annual Business Meeting (including election of Council Officers). Topping off the evening will be the presentation of the prestigious Silver Beaver Award.

And...join **Scatacook District** in our traditional Service Project - Shh!!!

Help Scatacook Help the Hungry (Shh!!!)

Please bring a can of soup or a box of pasta with you to dinner; we'll collect your donations and contribute them to a local food bank.

With your help, maybe we can make a difference.

Please, please, please RSVP by January 12, 2006 (Sorry - No Walk-ins)

Call Karen at 1-800-333-7905 x 223 with your reservation or with questions

Please visit the Council website for any last minute schedule changes or postponements due to bad weather.

Please register me for the 2006 Council Recognition Dinner.

Name _____ Phone Number _____
 Address / City / Zip _____
 Unit & Number _____ District _____ E-Mail _____
 Number Attending _____ @ \$35.00 = Total \$ _____ Check Number _____ (Please make checks payable to BSA)
 Credit Card Visa / MasterCard / AMEX _____ Credit Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Please clip & mail to Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA
 60 Wellington Road, PO Box 32, Milford, CT. 06460



MOUNTAIN BIKING, BOULDERING WALL, ISLAND OVER NIGHTS, ORIENTEERING, SLINGSHOT, AX THROWING, PAINTBALL SHOOTING, MOUNTAIN BOARDING, GEOCACHING, BOARD SAILING, RACING SHELLS, BOATING, SCUBA BSA, SAILING, BLACKSMITHING, SCUBA CERTIFICATION, KNIFE THROWING, CAMPFIRES, BUG WALL, HERMIT PILGRIMAGE, OWANECO TRAIL AWARD, BIKE TOURING, BOUNDARY HIKES, BRANDING, POLAR BEAR SWIM, LEAD BALL CASTING, SHOTGUN SHELL RELOADING, SHOTGUN SHOOTING, BLACK POWDER RIFLES, CLIMBING TOWER, FIELD SPORTS, ARCHERY, .22 CAL RIFLE SHOOTING, ROW BOATING, CANOEING, KILLER TRADING POST, KAYAKING, JOUSTING, ACTION ARCHERY, ULTIMATE FRISBEE, FRISBEE GOLF, HAM RADIO BROADCASTING, FUNYAKS, SPECIAL FIRST YEAR CAMPER PROGRAM, WAR CANOE TOURING, SNORKELING, PROVISIONAL CAMPING, EAGLE WEEK, FISHING, FLY FISHING, 10 REQUIRED MERIT BADGES, CHOICE OF MANY MERIT BADGES, CIT PROGRAM.

program highlights

You tell us. Find any activity not available at SEQ and win a free slushie. Only one entry per Scout. Winners will be notified at check in.

boy scout camp

SEQUASSEN

2006
adventure guide

GREAT FOOD
CLOSE TO HOME
EXCELLENT STAFF
SO MANY MERIT BADGES
LOTS OF ADVENTURE PROGRAMS
GOOD, CLEAN FUN WITH OLD & NEW FRIENDS

boy scout camp
SEQUASSEN
 2006
 adventure guide



many merit badges to choose

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Archery | Science | Orienteering |
| Art | Finger Printing | Personal Fitness |
| Athletics | Fire Safety | Photography |
| Backpacking | First Aid | Pioneering |
| Camping | Fish & Wildlife | Rifle Shooting |
| Canoeing | Fishing | Rowing |
| Cinematography | Forestry | Sculpture |
| Citizenship in the Nation | Geology | ShotGun Shooting |
| Citizenship in the World | Graphic Arts | Small Boat Sailing |
| Climbing | Indian Lore | Soil & Water |
| Communications | Leatherwork | Sports |
| Cooking | Lifesaving | Swimming |
| Energy | Mammal Study | Wilderness Survival |
| Environmental | Metalwork | Woodcarving |
| | Motor Boating | |
| | Nature | |

Eagle Required Merit Badges highlighted in Orange.

2006 schedule

- Week 1.....July 2-8
- Week 2.....July 9-15
- Week 3.....July 16-22
- Week 4.....July 23-29
- Week 5.....July 30-Aug. 5
- Week 6.....Aug. 6-12

2006 camper fees

Regular	\$270	Early Bird	\$250
		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Provisional	\$280	Early Bird	\$260
<i>Or Out-of-Council troops</i>		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Second Week	\$245	Early Bird	\$225
<i>Or second family member</i>		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
If attending	\$225	Adult Fee	\$60
<i>Council Phillmont Contingent</i>			

You are part of a bigger, better Camp Sequassen. \$10 of your registration fee will be deposited in the Camp Sequassen Capital Improvement Fund.



SIGN UP TODAY - Call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 or visit www.ctyankee.org



I've been camping at Sequassen for 72 consecutive years! It's the place to go for good program, great food and great staff! If you can find a better camp, go there. Otherwise, call Anna today.

boy scout camp
sequassen
 2006
 adventure guide

immediate answers to FAQ*

FAMILY DAY – Family members are invited to share Saturday brunch and attend closing ceremonies with their Scouts. A \$7 adult - \$4 youth (8 & under) fee may be paid with your registration or at check in on Sunday.

MEDICAL INFO – Boy Scouts and leaders must have a completed camp physical form signed by a physician within three years of the last day of camp. Adults over 40 must have a completed camp physical within 12 months of the last day of camp. Our camp medical form is available on the website at www.ctyankee.org

CHECK IN / DEPARTURE – Be sure to arrive at camp with a parent or guardian no earlier than 2:00 pm on Sunday of your week of camp. Have any medication ready to hand over to the Health Officer during the quick medical re-check. Have a copy of your medical form, your merit badge selection form, (on our website) and any outstanding payments. Departure from camp will be 11:00 am Saturday

CAMPERSHIPS – Every Scout deserves a week at summer camp. Assistance is available from the Council by sending in a campership application with a \$50 non-refundable deposit and camp reservation form. If a full campership is approved – the deposit will be refunded. If a partial campership is approved, notification will be made as soon as possible of any remaining balance.

REFUNDS – Each week required a \$50 non-refundable deposit. 100% of the remainder is refundable if requested before June 30, 2006. No refund if withdrawal is made after July 1, 2006. Refund requests must be made in writing to the Scout Resource Center. No refund requests will be accepted after August 30. Please contact your unit leader or the Scout Resource center for a Refund Request Form.

TRADING POST – The average camper spends approximately \$40 per week while at summer camp for merit badge books, project kits and other essentials such as T-shirts, hats, slushies, ice cream, candy and soda.

SIGN UP TODAY - Call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 or visit www.ctyankee.org

serve on staff

Serving as a Camp Staff member is the adventure you'll remember for the rest of your life. Be a positive role model, build a highly impressive resume, live on site and collect a paycheck while having the time of your life. But the real reason to join camp staff is to make a positive change in a Scout's life. Pick up a staff application at the Council Resource Center or visit the Council website and start your career.

* - Frequently Asked Questions

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what
are you
waiting 4?
drop this PAGE and call Anna NOW!
1.800.333.7905

special programs

CIT – 15-year old Scouts are eligible to participate in a two-week CIT program for the regular price of one week at camp. Scouts receive two weeks of leadership development training as well as hands on experience working in camp program areas.

EAGLE WEEK – 13- year old Star and Life Scouts who want to prepare themselves for the next step along the trail of Eagle Scout can take advantage of this great program offered week 5 and 6 only.

SCUBA CERTIFICATION – Scouts 14-years old or more may want to earn a PADI Openwater SCUBA Certification during week five at camp. Classes are limited to eight Scouts and requires you to be at the waterfront from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. This special program has a \$425 fee which is all-inclusive.

SCUBA BSA – Groups of five Scouts will be given a quick course in SCUBA diving and taken to the bottom of the lake for an up-close encounter with whatever lives there. There is a \$35 fee for this feature which includes everything you need to get down. You must be 14 years old or older to participate in this program. (Not available during week 5).

KAYAKING CERTIFICATION – Only offered during week 2. Scouts will be oriented and trained on techniques of sea kayaking by a skilled enthusiast. Two kayaking sessions will be conducted daily from 9-11 am and 2-4 pm daily. Limited to eight Scouts each session.

PROVISIONAL CAMPING – If you cannot come to camp with your troop, or perhaps you want to come back for a second or third week, come as a provisional camper. We provide the adult leadership, you provide the fun.

WILDERNESS PATROL – Designed for Scouts attending Boy Scout resident camp for the first time. Scouts will learn and master outdoor living skills like fire building, cooking, map and compass reading, first aid, campsite set up and much more. Most Scouts complete all but a few requirements for the Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class ranks and earn at least one merit badge. A highly qualified and really cool staff member works to ensure you have the best week of your life.

register now
All forms necessary
to register for
Camp Sequassen
are available at
www.ctyankee.org.



SIGN UP TODAY - Call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 or visit www.ctyankee.org





cub scout camp
sequassen
 2006
 world of fantasy

Hang out in the middle of your favorite fantasy at the 2006 Cub Scout / Webelos Scout Summer Camp at Camp Sequassen. Whether it's Snow White, Wizard of Oz, Peter Pan, Star Wars, Harry Potter, or any of the Walt Disney, Walt Lance or Brothers Grim fables – just show up dressed for action.

We'll do the rest.

We'll stretch your imagination through hoops and tight spots – this way, that way, forward and back – to reality at sunny, happy Camp Sequassen. 11 days each year, Sequassen is converted into a fun and fantasy center to entertain our Cub Scouts.

It's all about you.

So, get dressed and go camping at Camp Sequassen. To register, pick up an application at the Council Resource Center at www.ctyankee.org.

what do I do at cub resident camp?

Have fun, go swimming, shoot BB guns, be amazed, shoot archery, go fishing, build crafts, go boating, be enlightened, sing songs, attend campfires, go star-gazing, go on adventures, have more fun, and eat great camp food. It's better than eating at home, guaranteed! Learn new skills, have fun with friends and meet your parents at a new level.

when are the camp sessions?

- Session 1** August 17-20 Thursday - Sunday
- Session 2** August 24-27 Thursday - Sunday
- Webelos Camp** August 21-23 Monday - Wednesday

what's the camp fee?

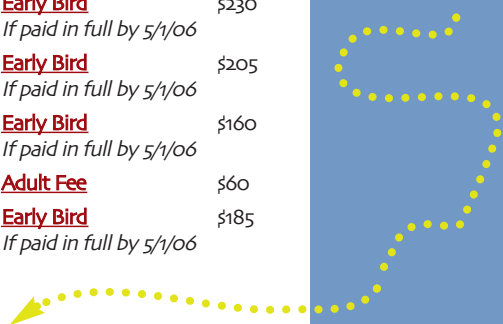
CS Resident Camp	\$245	Early Bird	\$230
<i>Fee is for one adult & one Scout</i>		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Attending Both Sessions	\$220	Early Bird	\$205
		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Additional Cub Scout (without adult)	\$180	Early Bird	\$160
		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Additional adult or Den Chief	\$225	Adult Fee	\$60
Webelos Camp	\$195	Early Bird	\$185
<i>Fee is for one adult & one Scout</i>		<i>If paid in full by 5/1/06</i>	
Additional Webelos	\$150		
Additional Adult or Den Chief	\$60		

SIGN UP TODAY - Call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 or visit www.ctyankee.org

World of
Fantasy
 2006

Stretch your
IMAGINATION
 get ready for
ADVENTURE

sign up for
FUN!!!



cub scout camp
sequassen
2006
world of fantasy

Special note for inquisitive parents — Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Summer Camp is designed for one boy and his parent (s) to be involved in all-day, age-appropriate activities. No special knowledge or skills are required. All you need is the desire to have fun and share your Scout's joy!

This will be the best four days of Scouting you could imagine.

It's time to make your reservation. Space is limited and reservations are made in order of receipt.

Our camp Health Lodge is staffed 24-hours a day by a RN. Sequassen meets or exceeds BSA National Resident Camp Standards and complies with all Connecticut laws for youth camps.

what do I do at webelos camp?

Webelos camp is the place to go, grow and have fun! It introduces growing Webelos Scouts to adventure programs and Boy Scout resident camp activities like the climbing tower, rifle range and waterfront activities. Emphasis is on having fun combined with lots of physical activity. Scouts may attend as unit/den campers or with a family member. Attendance is limited to the first 100 Scouts. Deadline is August 1. Don't delay!

is there a refund policy?

Each session requires a \$50 non-refundable deposit. The balance is refundable if requested prior to June 30, and 50% is refundable if requested prior to July 1. No refund if withdrawal is made after August 1. Requests must be made in writing to the Council Resource Center. No requests will be accepted after Sept. 15. Please contact your unit leader or visit the Council website for a Refund Request form.

are camperships available?

The Council is committed to the principal that every Scout deserves a summer camp experience. Campership assistance is available to all. Applications must be submitted by April 29 along with a registration form and a \$50 non-refundable deposit. If a full campership is approved, the deposit will be refunded. Contact your unit leader or visit our Council website for an application.

do i need a camp physical?

Yes. A current physical evaluation is required for all Scouts and adults who attend resident camp. Proper medical forms are as follows. All youth and adults under 40 must complete a Camp Medical Form, signed by a physician, within 36 months prior to end of camp. Adults 40 and over must complete a Camp Medical Form, signed by a physician, within 12 months of the end date of camp. Medical forms are available at the Council Resource Center or on the Council website.



SIGN UP TODAY - Call Anna at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273 or visit www.ctyankee.org

2006 CUB SCOUT EGYPTIAN DAY CAMP

**COMPLETE
REGISTRATION
MATERIALS WILL
BE MAILED
TO FAMILIES
IN JANUARY.**

CALL JANE CHICK • 800.333.7905, EXT. 266



Fill up your water bag and don your fedora — Cub Scouts will explore the sands at the 2006 Egyptian Day Camp! Boys will brave the Scorpion King's Obstacle Challenge, decode hieroglyphics, search for treasure in King Tut's pyramid and visit the Luxor bazaar, and learn to shoot like Ramses' archers, build a pyramid and much more.

Earn the Cub Scout Activities Award and learn new cultural traditions all in the spirit of fun!

The Day Camp fee is \$165 or only \$150 if paid in full by May 1, 2006 and \$85 for each additional week. Parent and teen volunteers are needed. Your son can attend free if you volunteer as a Sand Guide for the week. Camper scholarships are available based on need.

DAY CAMP KICKOFF: THURSDAY, FEB. 9
SNOW DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15



E-MAIL DAYCAMP@CTYANKEE.ORG

2006 SCHEDULE - MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

PNA Park, Wallingford
July 10-14

Eisenhower Park, Milford
July 24-28

Hoyt Scout Camp, Redding
August 7-11

Albertus Magnus College,
New Haven
July 17-21*

Old Mine Park, Trumbull
July 31-August 4

Camp Seton, Greenwich
August 14-18

* - Space limited to
50 participants



Connecticut Yankee Council | Boy Scouts of America

EXTRAVAGANZA



SAVE THE DATE

MAY 19-21, 2006

Third Semi-Annual

CONNECTICUT YANKEE COUNCIL EXTRAVAGANZA

A huge camporee involving the Council's entire youth membership — Packs, Troops, Crews, Ships and Posts!

The Extravaganza program consists of all-day demonstrations, fun things to do, challenges, feats of skill, live entertainment, and a celebration of youth achievements. There will be activities for youth of all ages and opportunities to demonstrate your unit's special interests and capabilities.

Troops, Ships, Posts and Crews can expand their weekend program by including camping on Friday and Saturday nights.



**VOLUNTEERS
ARE NEEDED!**

Contact Event Chairman Doug Heim
for details at 203.374.8484 or
dcnwmk@optonline.net

AGGANZA

2006 Council Programs & Activities Calendar

January
26 – Council Recognition Dinner

February
5-11 – Scout Week Celebration
9 – Camp Kickoff (15 Snowdate)

April
1 & 8 – Fishing Derby
22 – Earth Day
29 – Good Turn For America

May
19-21 – Extravaganza

July / August
7/2 - 8/12 – Boy Scout Summer Camp
8/5 - Camp Leader's Open House
8/17-27 – Cub Scout Summer Camp
7/21-8/4 – Philmont
7/22 – Cub Summer Fest
8/12 – BB Gun Derby
8/15 – Council Program Kickoff

September
TBD – Camp Sikorsky

October
21 – Scout Family Day at Lime Rock (Tentative)
28 – Cub Fright Night

Event flyers are available at your district roundtables, on the Council website or at the Council Resource Center.

Summer Camp Kickoff

The Camp Kickoff is scheduled for February 9. Snow date is February 15. It will be at the Grace Methodist Church in Fairfield.

Save the date and plan to attend the kickoff to collect information on the 2006 camp season. There will be presentations on summer resident camp for Cub Scouts, Webelos and Boy Scouts, Cub Day Camp and the 2006 Philmont Contingent. Packets required to prepare and register for camp will be handed out at this meeting.

Refreshments will be served for those who pre-register. Please inform Anna at matusz@ctyankee.org if you plan to attend. Watch the website for a registration form and additional information.

Camp Fee Increase Explained

Resident camp fees will increase \$15 for 2006 according to the Camp Committee. No one likes cost increases but all of us share in the increase of costs.

\$10 of the increase goes directly into a capital improvement fund to update, repair or build new camp facilities. The remaining \$5 helps defray rising costs.

Every Scout attending camp in 2006 will be making a small donation towards the capital fund. The Camp Committee will maintain a

list of jobs needing to be completed, assign a priority and work them off in turn. Sequassen campers are accustomed to finding new/upgraded facilities at the camp each year.

Their investment in the capital fund will enable the Camp Committee to more quickly complete projects and make the camp better for all of us. For each project completed, you can be proud of the part you played in getting it done.

Common Views of Sequassen

Sequassen is a camp rich in tradition, where life skills are learned, and life long memories and friendships are made.

Another View of Sequassen — Sequassen is a camp of about 600 acres with many bridges, roads and trails, over 120 buildings and roofs, water systems, electrical systems, sanitary systems, camp sites, program facilities, activity fields, waterfront, dining facilities and a whole lot more ... all requiring a great deal of care and attention.

It's the Sequassen Maintenance Committee's job to take the latter view. A view which describes a never-ending task, a task which includes having enough committed people to help us do it.

We need skilled people of course, but anyone willing to learn, to join the effort, is welcome.

We offer camaraderie, plenty of hard work, a sense of accomplishment and the knowledge that you are helping to make your camp the best it can be for today and the future.

Want to help but don't have a lot of time?

Add your e-mail address to our list. We are looking for able-bodied people, 18 years and older to pull up their sleeves and join us at the Major Work Parties held each year in June, the first (Saturday) weekend and in October, the second (Saturday) weekend. We are waiting to hear from you. Thank you.

The Camp Sequassen Maintenance Committee

Tom Young – Chairman,
thomas.young@att.net,
203.288.9898

Patrick Maxim – Vice Chairman,
phm@snet.net,
203.389.5470



– HELP WANTED –

Sequassen Staff Needed for 2006

Imagine spending your summer doing what you love best ... cooking over fires, boating, metalwork, creating movies, singing crazy camp songs, playing frisbee ... all while working on the best Boy Scout camp staff in the Northeast!

Sequassen is a great place for your summer job! We have openings for all positions including Outdoor Skills, Aquatics, Handicrafts, Sports, Climbing, Ecology, Shooting Sports and kitchen. If you are at least 16 years of age and interested in a position, please fill out an application located on our Council website.



Outdoor Programs Key to Retention

Recent statistics show that Boy Scout retention is exceptionally high at 76 percent, with Cub Scouting and Venturing close behind at 62 and 56 percent, respectively.

Much of this retention rate is attributable to meaningful outdoor program experiences.

Enduring units are those that plan and carry out an outdoor activity every month throughout the year. Outdoor activities may include day hikes, conservation and service projects, overnight camping, camporees, day camps, resident camps, special outdoor events, snow and cold weather camping, and unit, council, or national high adventure events. Not every outdoor experience has to be overnight.

Daytime activities are easier to plan and may result in higher participation because of the smaller time commitment.

By offering meaningful outdoor programs, youth grow mentally, emotionally, and physically, and the number of active youth in Scouting will increase.

We have a greater impact on the lives of youth when they remain in our programs over a period of years, resulting in a lifetime of achievement through Scouting.



Charlie Edgerton of Edgerton Heating & Air Conditioning of Monroe takes a quick break while installing a new high efficiency Trane Heat Pump at Camp Sequassen's Ranger's House.


Catch the big one.

20th Annual Fishing Derby at Deer Lake April 1 & 8, 2006

Check the Council website or your district Roundtable for a registration flyer.

Nation-wide, Connecticut-wide, Council-wide

National Earth Day April 22, 2006

Get involved. Participate in this Council-wide conservation project. Download a form from the Council website.

Philmont 2006

Early Bird Special for Council Trek

This summer, 90 Scouts and Scouters will trek through miles of trails at Philmont. Our Council is sending a contingent the week of July 23-August 4 and you could be one of them. Hike the trails, fish the streams or simply gaze on the vast, beautiful hills and plains that are Philmont.

Scouts who pay their deposit prior to January 30, 2006 qualify for a \$100 Early Bird Discount. The regular rate is \$1,475. If the \$200 deposit is received on or before January 30, 2006 the discounted fee would be \$1,375.

Don't delay. Grab a friend or two and get on board for the best two weeks of your life at the Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM. Learn more about Philmont at www.scouting.org/philmont or visit our Council website for your application.

Winter & Spring Programs Available

Philmont offers programs during the offseason to allow young Scouts to experience the ranch outside of the summer. KANIK which operates from December 28 to March 31 teaches and reinforces the skills needed to enjoy a cold weather camping experience. The program provides a chance to camp in Philmont's backcountry safely, "enjoying" snowy conditions and below freezing temperatures. Crews will cross-country ski, snowshoe, build and sleep in snow huts and witness the breathtaking beauty of winter.

PHILBREAK operates March 10-17 and brings young people ages 18 to 25, together for a Spring break week of service, fellowship and a day of downhill skiing at nearby Anger Fire Resort.

For more information, please call Dan Cooley at 800.333.7905, Ext. 230.



Battle of the Bands at Extravaganza

Do you want to feature your band at the Scouting Extravaganza in our famous "Battle of the Bands." You will get a 25 minute slot to play at the gazebo on the midway during the day, and then six bands will be selected to play in the main arena show on Saturday night.

We are looking for Scouts who want to showcase their musical talents. All you need to participate is to have one member of the band be an active Scout.

We will provide professional sound, lighting and staging and a video recording of your performance. Sign up early and send us a demo. We have a maximum of ten bands we can accommodate.

To participate, please contact Jack Berry at berryj@us.ibm.com.

PRIVACY – It's an issue

Ensuring appropriate privacy while on overnight trips can be an issue especially when using open bay style camp facilities. Adult leaders are responsible for ensuring privacy between youth-adult and male-female especially in regards to bathroom and sleeping accommodations. It's the adult leader's job to meet privacy requirements by whatever means is possible at the site, i.e. dividers, tarps, separate rooms, etc.

For more important health and safety guidelines, please review the Guide to Safe Scouting available as a link from our Council website.

Complete Youth Protection Training is available for all of Scouting's programs on the Internet. Please visit the Council website, click on the Training tab and then Youth Protection. Enter in the personal information so your completion is logged and take the course.



2006 Connecticut Yankee Council N.R.A. Instructor Classes Rifle • Shotgun • Muzzleloading Rifle



The Connecticut Yankee Council will be conducting NRA Certified Instructor classes to train interested scouters to be shooting instructors for merit badges and Camp Sequassen support staff. The following information is complete as of 4/11/05 and is subject to change.

Who The NRA classes are open to all Connecticut Yankee Council Scout Leaders and interested volunteers, 21 years or older. It is expected that CT. Yankee Council scouts will be given training toward their Rifle and Shotgun merit badges. Also help will be needed with Camp Sequassen's summer camp program.

Where The classes will be held at the Wallingford Rod & Gun Club, 411 North Branford Road, Wallingford CT. 06492. The club phone number is 269-9444. The club is located off exit 15, I-91. Take exit 15 to Rt. 68 east (toward Durham); follow Rt. 68 for approximately 2 miles. North Branford Road is a right turn. If you pass the Tilcon plant on Rt. 68 you have gone too far. Follow North Branford Road for approximately 1.5 miles, the club is across the street from the Blue Trail Range.

Your Instructors Steve Szypulski and John Robinson are National Rifle Association, Appointed Training Counselors. Steve and John have been NRA Certified Rifle, Shotgun, Muzzleloading Rifle and Pistol Instructors from 5 to 9 years each.

When The classes will be held over 4 weekends. You can sign up for one, two or all three disciplines. The NRA Basic Instructor Training on February 18th must be attended by all disciplines. The following dates are scheduled.

Basic Instructor Training	Saturday, Feb. 18	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Shotgun	Friday, March 3	6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
	Saturday, March 4	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Muzzleloading Rifle	Friday, March 24	5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
	Saturday, March 25	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Rifle	Friday, April 7	5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
	Saturday, April 8	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Cost The cost for all 3 certifications is \$185.00. The Shotgun and Rifle certifications are \$75.00 each and the Muzzleloading certification cost is \$85.00, which includes all training material, shooting supplies, NRA materiel, books etc.... Brown bag lunch is on your own. There is a small fee payable to the NRA for your instructor fee; this is an annual fee, typically \$10-35 per year depending on membership status and disciplines held.

Further Information Please contact either Dan Cooley at the Council Service Center 1-800-333-7905 X230, or Steve Szypulski your instructor at 1-203-440-0288, e-mail szysteve@cox.net or by fax 1-203-440-0289.

Registration The class is strictly limited to 12 students per discipline. Your payment in full reserves your space in this limited class. Insure your catalogues will be here on time and register today. Payments should be made to **Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA** and mailed to Dan Cooley, Connecticut Yankee Council, P.O. Box 32, 60 Wellington Road, Milford Connecticut 06460-0032.

YES! Sign me up!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____
 Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Cost If not affiliated with the Connecticut Yankee Council, add \$20 per discipline or \$60 for all three.

Discipline	Connecticut Yankee Council	Non-Affiliated
Muzzleloading Rifle	\$85	\$105
Shotgun	\$75	\$95
Rifle	\$75	\$95
All 3 Disciplines	\$185	\$245

All of the above fees include the Basic Instructor Training on February 21st.

The above fees should be paid in full to Connecticut Yankee Council BSA by January 15, 2006 to insure your space in class! A \$25 per student fee will be assessed after this date.

My Black Bear Experiences

By Paul Bisset

ASM, STAMFORD TROOP 11

Hiking in bear country has created additional challenges to the backpacker. Bears have become more numerous and smarter at getting your food. This article discusses some of my black bear experiences and how to prevent them from ruining your hike.

About a month ago, I led a small family group on a backpacking trip along the northern section of the John Muir Trail (JMT) from Devils Postpile to Yosemite Valley in the California Sierra Nevada mountains. We had been warned that the closer you hiked towards Yosemite Valley, the more experienced the black bears were in stealing your food and the need for proper precautions.

To hike in the Sierras, you must obtain a backpacking permit from the Park Rangers and to get that permit, you are required to store all food in bear-resistant canisters, which look like mini-kegs made of black plastic with a hatch at the end. The Ranger Stations rent these canisters for \$6 each and we each carried one to store all our food and other scented items such as toiletries, sun lotion, lip balm, etc. I help teach Scouts the counterbalance method of "bearbagging," a technique of hanging equal weighted bags of food over a high wire or tree limb and at the Philmont Scout Ranch, they teach you a method of hanging your food over wires with multiple tie-offs.

Both techniques are only deterrents and the bear will eventually get your food if it is persistent, such as breaking the tree branches, leaping from the tree onto the hanging food bags or sending up their cubs to climb out onto smaller branches. In view of the increase in bear problems in the Sierras, the Rangers have required the use of bear-resistant canisters, which the bear is unable to open and saves the tired hiker the hassle of trying to hang the food at night.

However, we did learn in Yosemite Valley that there is now a bear in the wilderness that has figured out how to open the canisters by merely smashing them against a large rock.



Simple rules to remember about bears

- 🐾 Never feed a bear and use bear-resistant containers or, if not available, properly hang your food even during the day while camping.
- 🐾 Make sure all items with odor including clothing and bottles used for drink mixes are stored far away from your tent. It's crowded enough in your tent without having a furry visitor with claws join you!
- 🐾 Bears may "bluff charge" if threatened, cornered or surprised on the trail. Stand your ground and slowly back away.
- 🐾 Do not hike alone and never leave your backpack unattended.
- 🐾 Avoid getting close to a young bear or between a bear and its kill. Once the bear has your food, it owns it, so do not try to take it back.

Throughout our backpacking trip, I had my group follow certain bear precautions I had learned at the Philmont Scout Ranch last year. In view of the bulky food packages that you pack in Philmont, bear-resistant canisters would not be practical there and hanging our food was a necessary chore at camp. We also learned to cook away from our tents, store our backpacks in a separate location under a tarp and sleep in clothes that we stored in our sleeping bag, which were not worn while cooking. These methods helped ensure that we did not have an unwanted visitor in our tents at night.

Black bears are the smallest type of bear typically ranging in size from 150-450 pounds, although they can grow as large as 800 pounds with the right diet. They have good hearing and incredible sense of smell, especially for your food. They apparently can run at speeds of up to 30 mph, so you can forget trying to outrun them.

Our first black bear encounter occurred in the early afternoon of our fifth hiking day at a campsite off the JMT just before reaching the trail junction to the side trail to Half Dome. While resting on our sleeping pads, a mother bear popped her head over a group of boulders scanning our campsite. Although she is of the black bear family, this mother bear was light brown in color with a tag affixed to her ear and a radio collar around her neck.


The Rangers keep track of the local bears through signals from these radio collars especially in Yosemite Valley, but this mother and her two cubs had wandered outside the signal range. After getting up on her hind legs, which they can easily do to get at things in trees such as your food bags, she scanned the area and decided she wanted no part of five large men.

See BEARS, Page 28


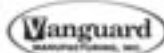



Battleship, Anyone?

Newtown Pack 570 recently made a trip to Battleship Cove in Fall River, Mass., to explore the world's largest collection of historical naval ships. The Scouts and their parents spent the night on the U.S.S. Massachusetts on October 8. Battleship Cove serves as the Commonwealth's official memorial for Massachusetts citizens of all military branches who lost their lives in World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars. Most recently, this memorial mission was expanded to include the Commonwealth's victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Battleship Cove is open all day, 362 days each year.



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Powahay District

Serving the communities of Stamford, Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk and Wilton.

<http://powahay.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

Robert Eason
203.966.3081
reason@cbiz.com

District Commissioner

Lou Pataki
203.866.0370
lpataki@aya.yale.edu

Senior District Executive

Tony Vogl
203.876.6868, Ext. 238
vogl@ctyankee.org

•••••

January

4 – District Committee Meeting
4 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
11 – Roundtable
11 – OA Chapter Meeting
27-29 – Klondike Derby

February

1 – District Committee Meeting
1 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
4 – Cub Scout Polar Bear
5-11 – Scouting Anniversary Week
8 – Roundtable
8 – OA Chapter Meeting

March

1 – District Committee Meeting
1 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
8 – Roundtable
8 – OA Chapter Meeting

April

5 – District Committee Meeting
5 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
12 – Roundtable
12 – OA Chapter Meeting
22/29 – Good Turn for America

Unless otherwise noted, all Powahay meetings and trainings are held at the Andrew Shaw Memorial Scout Cabin at 140 West Avenue in Darien.

We thank the Trust for their continued support.

New Scouting Year Brings New Leadership

Happy New Year! We enter 2006 a little bit leaner but stronger than ever in Powahay District. More than 300 youth joined our ranks last year and we were able to successfully open up lots of new opportunities to join.

At our district's Annual Business Meeting on Dec. 7, the new slate of officers selected by our district Nominating Committee were elected into office. Bob Eason, an Eagle Scout, Assistant Scoutmaster for New Canaan Troop 31 and recently Scoutmaster for Jamboree Troop 444 serves as our District Chairman and is the chief volunteer of our district. John Hanks returns for a second year as Vice-Chairman for Membership. We welcome Clayton Cole, Eagle Scout and formerly Scoutmaster of Wilton Troop 20, as Vice-Chairman for Program, and Lou Pataki remains as District Commissioner. We are still actively recruiting a Vice-Chairman for Finance to round out our Executive Committee.

To read more about the backgrounds of our district leaders and put faces to the names, please visit our district website and follow the link for *Faces of Powahay* on the left side.

Klondike Derby: Jan. 28 at Hoyt

Stamford Troop 9 is hosting this year's Klondike Derby and their programs are going to fresh and new. Scouts will be challenged to build on skills like patrol cooperation, lashing, morse code and measurement as they compete in activities like Pop Goes The Campfire, Pepsi Can stoves and Alaskan Snow Shoe Express. A complete registration packet including a brief description of the activities and a map is on our district website.

Polar Bear Changed to Jan. 28 at Hoyt

The ever-popular Cub Scout Polar Bear is Saturday, Jan. 28 at Hoyt Scout Camp in Redding. Do to feedback received at the Field Day and other activities, the program will last from noon to 4 p.m.

Families should eat lunch prior to coming as only an overflowing pot of hot chocolate and donuts will be available. Specific details on activities will be distributed at Roundtables and through our district website.

Friends of Scouting 2006: \$105,000 Goal

We enter 2006 with a goal of raising \$105,000 in Friends of Scouting contributions. FOS is what makes the Council and its services function, underwrites camp and most importantly, keeps Scouting affordable and accessible to all. Every family is encouraged to make a gift to the campaign at your unit's annual FOS appeal. Please join all of us in supporting this important effort.

Help Us Save A Scout

We lose about 30 percent of our Scouts every year when units complete their annual charter renewals. Maybe the unit just wasn't working out, or it met on a bad night ... a lot of those Scouts would return if asked. We'll be assembling a team of volunteers to call every dropped family and invite them back. If you'd like to help *Save a Scout*, please contact John Hanks. Stay tuned to our district newsletter for more details.

Extravaganza Planning

Each district has been asked to prepare a gateway and program for the Council Extravaganza. This our chance to showcase the incredible talent and creativity in our district. If you have an idea as to what we could do, revolving around the theme of Physical Fitness, please contact Malcolm Dickinson at malcolm@malcolm.cc.

Welcome New Units:

Powahay District welcomed five new units in December. Two Varsity Teams and 2 Venturing Crews were organized as part of the LDS Church units, and we also welcomed a new Venturing Crew in Wilton that had previously been an older Girl Scout troop. Please extend an open arm of welcome.

See POWAHAY, Page 31

District Chairman's Charge

I'm not quite sure how I ended up being recruited to serve as District Chairman, but here I am and looking ahead, we've got our work cut out for us, but we're also going to have lots of fun doing it. I am filling the shoes of Nathan Newhall, whose tireless efforts and many long days as a volunteer have helped build up strong units and district activities and helped Powahay establish a reputation for great programs and generous families.

Perhaps one of the reasons I accepted this job was because like many of you, I have been a volunteer Scout leader for some time now and have always wondered what this "district" thing was, and what if anything it had to do with me. My own troop certainly did fine on its own with the only contact being the FOS presentation and visits to Roundtable or camporees.

But I've come to recognize that there is a reason and purpose for having a strong district and that if properly implemented, it can provide value-added benefit in support of Troops and Packs. It serves to coordinate activities and host trainings, but more so, the district should be a resource to help coach, guide and help every since one of our units to have a strong quality program with the best possible trained leaders to serve our youth.

When you get right down to it, WE are all the district – some of us just have the fancy titles or patch on our shoulder. We have a great core group of talented district leaders with John, Clayton, Lou and the rest of our committee. I hope to widen this group to include representatives from every unit and help build a true Scouting community built on service and helpfulness.

My commitment to you is to work as hard as I can as your District Chairman to build up this district committee – one with the sole purpose of helping you deliver a top-quality program to our Scouts. I am rolling up my sleeves to work alongside you and I hope you will work with me, Tony and the rest of our team.

Together, we are the Powahay District. Thank you for your continued commitment to the program. Here's looking forward to 2006. *We're going to have lots of fun.*

— Bob Eason, District Chairman

Nathan's Notes

Dear Powahay Scouters,

As I now complete my three-year term as Powahay District Chairman, I want to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of the successes that we have had over the last three years! We've trained more leaders than ever before, created new opportunities like the Cub Scout Field Day overnighter as a chance for Cubs and Boy Scouts to interact, increased attendance at the Bluefish and Sound Tigers games, grown Roundtable attendance and have every year exceeded our Friends of Scouting goal. Plus we led the Council in planning for our recruitment efforts.

Don't miss the Council Extravaganza on May 19-21 as we showcase our district and its fine units. The event is open to all programs and Webelos will be able to camp out.

At our District Annual Meeting, we elected a new slate of officers and I know you will provide them with your full support.

While our District has not achieved "Quality District" recognition, I do believe that we have an exceptional district and we are truly blessed with people that are dedicated to the youth of our community!

See NEWHALL, Page 31

Scatacook District

Scatacook District

Serving the communities of Sherman, New Fairfield, Danbury, Ridgefield, Redding, Bethel, Brookfield and Newtown.

<http://www.scatacook.org>

District Chairman

Tom Maxwell
maxwelltm@charter.net

District Commissioner

Richard Barton
rhubarton167@yahoo.com

District Executive

Dominic Gualtieri
203.876.6868, Ext. 248
gualtieri@ctyankee.org

January

4 – District Committee Meeting
11 – Roundtable
11 – OA Chapter Meeting
26 – Council Dinner

February

1 – District Committee Meeting
3 & 4 – Klondike Derby (snow date 2/5)
8 – Roundtable
8 – OA Chapter Meeting

March

1 – District Committee Meeting
8 – Roundtable
8 – OA Chapter Meeting

April

5 – District Committee Meeting
12 – Roundtable
12 – OA Chapter Meeting

Klondike Derby

The Scatacook Klondike Derby is February 3 and 4, hosted by Georgetown, Redding, and Bethel. The theme is Team America – Always Prepared, and features stations such as white out, flood, wild fire, and volcano. If you are in a Troop or Webelos Den and are interested in attending, please contact Domenic Gualtieri.

Friends of Scouting

The 2006 Friends of Scouting campaign has begun. Please be sure your unit has scheduled a presentation. Your participation is critical to the success of the Scouting program in our area.

Thank You

I would like to personally thank Leona Eggleston and Jay Lubin. Over the past year and a half it has been a pleasure to work with them. They both worked hard and provided Scatacook district with leadership and a vision. I am looking forward to a great year working with our new district leadership.

—Dominic Gualtieri

Fall Camporee Wrap

All who attended the fall Camporee had a great time. Boy Scouts and Webelos showed up to learn about orienteering, "leave no trace", and rescue strategies. Cannon fire kicked everything off with a bang. The Boy Scouts attended a session on competitive orienteering. Both the Webelos and Boy Scouts came together participate in a demonstration about rescue dogs. In the after-

noon the Scouts attended two demonstrations; the first was water rescues put on by the Redding Volunteer Fire Department. The second was a lost hiker simulation. After a long day all the Scouts walked up the hill to join Order of the Arrow for a campfire. After many great skits and songs the Scouts settled down for the night, ending the days activities.

Looking Forward

As another year draws to a close, it's time for me to move on in Scouting. I'd like to thank all of the commissioners for their continued effort to keep this program running smoothly. It isn't always easy, but our district has some really great volunteers at all levels who give more than 100% to the program.

Rich Barton has been very active in our district and I'm happy to leave this position in such capable hands. Please make him feel welcome in his new role.

I'd like to leave every person reading this article with two questions:

1. Do you know who your Unit Commissioner is and what they can do for you? If not, you should find out! The Commissioner's job is to help your unit succeed.

2. Did my unit make Quality Unit this year? If not, find out what you can do to help them get there next year. Scouting isn't about just a few parents. Every parent needs to become involved at a level they are comfortable with.

I wish you all a joyous holiday season and hope to see you at Roundtable in 2006!

— Leona Eggleston

See **SCATACOOK**, Page 31



Members of Danbury Troop 52 present a check to Michael Malone, of the American Red Cross of Western Connecticut. The Scouts raised more than \$6,000 for the disaster relief fund to aid the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Chairman's Column

I want to thank the Nominating Committee of Scatacook District for selecting me to serve as your District Chairman for the ensuing year. I appreciate the confidence that they have voiced in me and I pledge an excellent year in maintaining and creating quality programs for our Scouts.

We have enjoyed three years of outstanding leadership as provided by Jay Lubin, our immediate Past District Chairman. We thank Jay for his enthusiasm, dedication and hard work. He has been an inspirational leader to all of us and we are most grateful for his cheerful service. Scatacook is truly blessed with a host of talented leaders. Our major committees in Scatacook District are well staffed for pursuing our objectives in 2006 and we always welcome those who would like to join our ranks. I will be introducing many new committee chairpersons to you at our Roundtable in January.

In 2006, we look forward to strengthening our Packs, Troops and Crews. We desperately want our Cub Scouts to continue their scouting experience by joining a Boy Scout Troop and for Boy Scouts to continue into Venturing. We welcome your ideas! Our new District Commissioner, Rich Barton, our District Executive, Dominic Gualtieri and I will be working hard with many adult leaders to see that this happens. Good communication at the council, district and unit level is absolutely essential if we want our ideas to blossom into action.

As your new District Chairman, I will be traveling more and will be meeting different people and making new friends. I welcome this opportunity and will always be ready and eager to listen to what others have to share. Please be regular with your attendance at our Roundtable meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. They are held at 7:30 P.M. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Bethel on Main Street.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your District Chairman in Scatacook District. I know that I will treasure this experience in my life journey and that I will learn more about Scouting and how we all can best Deliver the Promise to our most precious possessions, our Scouts.

— Tom Maxwell, District Chairman

Commissioner Charge

I have been selected as Scatacook District's new District Commissioner. Most of you know me as our district's former Advancement Chairperson. I will carry the same attitude as I did in the Advancement roll: Do It By The Book. All of our unit commissioners are the main line from the units to the district committee. Training is going to be an important part of my goals, ongoing training of the commissioners and training of the Troops, Packs and Venture Crews. Unit commissioners need to feedback information to the district commissioner, both the good information, and MOST important the concerns of the units.

I wish you ALL a happy and prosperous New Year.

— Richard H. Barton, District Commissioner

POMPERAUG DISTRICT

Serving the communities of Stratford, Bridgeport, Fairfield, Westport, Weston, Easton, Trumbull and Monroe.

<http://pomperaug.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

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councilr2000@yahoo.com

District Commissioner

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District Executive

Jeff Garrand
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Andrea Ulery
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January

- 3 – District Committee Meeting / Annual Meeting
- 10 – Roundtable
- 10 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 21 – Cub Scout Basic Leader Training I & II
- 20-22 – Klondike
- 30 – Save-A-Scout Telethon

February

- 7 – District Committee Meeting
- 14 – Roundtable
- 14 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 16 – District Dinner

March

- 7 – District Committee Meeting
- 14 – Roundtable
- 14 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 25 – Cub Scout Spring Hike

April

- 4 – District Committee Meeting
- 11 – Roundtable
- 11 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 22 – Good Turn For America Bag Drop Off
- 29 – Good Turn For America Bag Pick-up
- 29 – District Pinewood Derby

Friends of Scouting

The 2006 Friends of Scouting Campaign is in full swing. FOS is our district's annual campaign to raise money to support Scouting in our local area. Each unit should host an FOS presentation between now and the end of June. If your unit has yet to schedule a presentation date or has questions on how you can help, please contact us. All parents are encouraged to attend their unit's annual FOS meeting and support the campaign to the best of their ability.

Klondike

The Klondike is a winter Camporee open to all Boy Scouts and Venturers. Ookpik, as the Klondike will be themed this winter, is being held January 20-22 at Hoyt Scout Reservation. Bridgeport Troop 38 will be hosting the Ookpik for the district.

Cub Scout Spring Hike

The second annual Cub Scout Spring Hike is Saturday, March 25 at the Audubon Center in Fairfield. The cost of the event is \$8 per person and includes a guided hike, "Signs of the Seasons" presentation, and a collectible patch. Please visit the district website for more information on how to register.

Good Turn For America

As we head into April, our second annual Good Turn For America event should be in the forefront of all units. We will be holding a district Food Drive in conjunction with the Connecticut Food Bank and will be conducted on two Saturdays. Bag drop off is April 22 and pick-up on April 29. Please keep track of any service hours that Scouts in your unit accumulate and report them to our Good Turn For America website.

Roundtable

Pomperaug Roundtables are for you. They're on the second Tuesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church of Fairfield as an opportunity for you to learn a new skill, meet other leaders and get the latest scoop on upcoming activities. Attend Roundtables.

Viva La Camporee

Our annual district Camporee was a success despite the blustery weather! The Camporee was held in October at Strang Scout Reservation and was hosted by Troop 88 of Fairfield. Troop 88 came up with some creative twists on familiar activities and kept everyone on their toes throughout the day. Thank you to Troop 88 for hosting a great event!

In place of our spring Camporee, our Council will be hosting an Extravaganza. This event is open to Scouts of all ages, though camping will only be available to Boy Scout and Venturing units. Cub Scouts will have an exciting day program. This event will be held on May 19-21, so be sure to save the date!

Annual Turkey Dinner

Troop 68 of Trumbull held their Annual Turkey Dinner Camp-Out in conjunction with the district's Webelos Outdoor Woods this November. All who attended had a good time. Thank you to the many volunteers from Pomperaug District and Troop 68 who made W.O.W. a successful event.



Good Times at Fall Camporee

Troops participate in crazy games of volleyball and Tug of War while the Camporee staff holds down the fort!



WEPAWAUG VALLEY DISTRICT

Serving the communities of Bethany, Milford, Orange, West Haven and Woodbridge.

<http://wepawaug.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

Tom Young
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thomas.young@att.net

District Commissioner

Donald Kaletsky
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District Executive

Ken Mard
203.876.6868, Ext. 276
mard@ctyankee.org

January

- 5 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 9 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 14 – Cub Scout Leader Training
- 14 – Den Chief Training
- 18 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 25 – District Committee Meeting

February

- 2 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 6 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 15 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 22 – District Committee Meeting

March

- 2 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 6 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 12 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 22 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 22 – District Committee Meeting
- 25 – Scout Show

April

- 4 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 7 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 9 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 26 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 26 – District Committee Meeting
- 28-30 – Fam-O-Ree

Scouting Wants You!

Wepawaug Valley is looking for some good volunteers like you! We are looking for some people who would like to help the Scouting program stay strong for years to come. You only need to put in a few hours a month and attend one meeting. There are positions open on the Commissioners staff in each Milford, West Haven, Orange, Woodbridge, and Bethany. Interested parties can contact Ken Mard at the Council Resource Center anytime.

Roundtable Toy Collection

In December's Cub Scout Roundtable everyone brought a toy for the Milford Fire department's Toys For Tots drive. Several large bags of toys were collected and given to needy families.



Milford Pack 17 Makes the front page

Milford Cub Scout Pack 17 made the front page of the Connecticut Post on November 6. The Pack was invited by the Tinto Knights of Columbus (council No. 47) to come to a rally in support of the Pledge of Allegiance not being changed. The rally featured speeches by Milford Mayor James L. Richetelli Jr. and Milford K of C Grand Knight Christopher Donnells. Toward the end of the rally, Donnells asked the Pack to lead the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.



Leaders pose with members of the Milford Fire Department as they donate toys collected at the Cub Scout Roundtable.



Cub Scout leaders work on the latest craft at Roundtable. It's a great place to learn new ideas and meet other leaders.

Charge

Continued from Page 3

And while building character is primarily the responsibility of parents and family, youth-development organizations and society must play a supporting role. Since 1910, the Boy Scouts of America has taught a universally recognized set of values and constants. The Boy Scouts of America believes and, through nearly a century of experience, knows that helping youth develop

a strong sense of character is key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society. In fact, 74 percent of Scouting youth feel the Scouting program helps them tell the difference between right and wrong.

As is the case with life's most important lessons, no one automatically develops good character; it can only be learned. Constant reinforcement and direction are necessary to make sure good character becomes embedded in a youth's everyday living. Only by actively testing and

applying these lessons in real-life situations will youth become aware of what these values mean. Beginning with the Scout Oath and Law, Scouting activities teach, reinforce, and give Scouts the chance to demonstrate what they've learned.

George Washington once said, "I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man."

Let's remember as we celebrate our 96th Anniversary, that at the

end of the day, character does count. And because the future of our country rests on the shoulders of America's youth, building strong character is one of the Boy Scouts of America's more important responsibilities and has been for 96 years.

The Scouter is made possible thanks to your gift to Friends of Scouting.

Thank you.

LIGHTHOUSE DISTRICT

Serving the communities of New Haven, East Haven, Branford, Guilford, North Branford, and Madison.

<http://lighthouse.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

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Joe Anderson
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District Executive

John Rochette
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rochette@ctyankee.org

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January

3-District Committee Meeting
3-Commissioner Staff Meeting
4-Unit Friends of Scouting Coordinator Meeting
7-District Strategic Planning Day
10-Roundtable
10-OA Chapter Meeting
21-Webelos Transition Coordinator Meeting
27-29-Klondike Derby

February

7-District Committee Meeting
7-Commissioner Staff Meeting
9-Spring Recruiting Coordination
14-Roundtable
14-OA Chapter Meeting

March

7-District Committee Meeting
7-Commissioner Staff Meeting
9-Save a Scout Telethon
14-Roundtable
14-OA Chapter Meeting

April

4-District Committee Meeting
4-Commissioner Staff Meeting
8-Pinewood Derby
11-Roundtable
11-OA Chapter Meeting
28-30-Webelos Woods

Serve on the District

Our district committee and commissioner staff has the important task of supporting all Lighthouse units and administering the Scouting program. We need your help to make that happen. No matter what your interest or expertise: unit service, activities, training, health and safety, communications, public relations, advancement, fundraising, membership recruitment, or something else. We have a place for you!

Lets Go To The Races!

All Cub Scouts in Lighthouse District will have a chance to race in the BIG District Pinewood Derby Race in 2006. As usual, all of the winners in the top three positions from each rank at your local Pinewood Derby races will race in the District's Pinewood Derby Race with all other top finishers from every pack in our district. There will be one difference and more reason for every Scout to participate in their local races this coming year, and that is.....It will be held on April 8th , 2006 at

Dave McDermott Chevrolet's Showroom. 655 Main St., East Haven. What a more appropriate place to hold this year's race with the sponsorship of Chevrolet, NASCAR and Jeff Gordon. Dave Stannard and volunteers from Pack 455 are organizing the event along with David Cassidy and his experienced pit crew, who will be running the race. McDermott Chevrolet will provide lunch.

Order of the Arrow

The Lodge's Fall Fellowship weekend was held for October 28-30, 2005. About 50 Scouts attended the great weekend of Fellowship. The OA elections begin in December 2005. Unit leaders will be contacted by Keewayden chapter Vice Chief of Inductions Joe Anderson Jr., or a member of the chapter's election team to schedule their unit elections. Elections must be completed before March 1.

Popcorn Sale Success!

Under the leadership of Popcorn Kernel Scott Caraway, our units now have over \$23,305 to spend

on programs this year. Congratulations to Pack 495, the top selling unit in Lighthouse District's popcorn sale! They raised over \$4,300 to support their 2005-2006 program. Pack 475 raised over \$2,700. Overall, our units have over \$23,305 to spend on program this year. Thank you for making popcorn a part of your program because your sales help your unit succeed and keeps the Council camps, program and services strong.

2006 FOS Kickoff

The 2006 Friends of Scouting campaign is already here and underway to support Scouting in our District and Council. Under the excellent Leadership of Russ Amato from North Branford, we will conclude our campaign March 31.

Volunteers from the District will conduct a 5-10 minute presentation for each of our units before March 31. When your volunteer presenter comes to your unit, please show them how much Scouting means to you and your family by making a contribution.

Bears

Continued from Page 23

She took off silently, a function of the black bear's retractable claws and small paws that enable her to walk or run very quietly. Right after she departed, one of her cubs popped its head up and then took off after her and the other cub. Contrary to grizzly bears, the black bear can climb limbless trees and we saw evidence of this at a campsite the night before where we found bear claw marks going up a tree trunk near our campsite.

The next evening, we stayed at the backpacker's campground in Yosemite Valley. Due to the constant bear problems in the Valley, the trash bins are fitted with special bear-resistant covers and each campsite has large heavy metal bear boxes. We stored all our bear canisters in our box, which has a special clamping system to seal it tight. After dinner, a Park Ranger stopped by our campsite on horseback and I reported our bear encounter the day before. The Ranger told us that the

Black bears are now a potential hazard when hiking with your Troop in the woods, so proper precautions are necessary to insure you have a safe experience.

bears in the area have been quite active at night and will also hide in the side of trails during the day waiting for a hiker to leave their pack unattended.

We were also told that there were some bears in the Valley that specialized in breaking into cars by smashing the windows, so the Park Service instructs you not to leave food in your vehicle.



Around 4 a.m., my brother and I were abruptly awakened by banging on the trash cans near the restroom building. A couple of minutes later, we heard the couple in the campsite next to ours yelling at a bear. It turned out that they failed to properly latch their bear box and a couple of bears got into their food consuming a bag of marshmallows and running off into the woods with the woman's pack.

About fifteen minutes later, the bears returned to the same campsite to see if they missed anything and we all turned our flashlights on them and made lots of noise to encourage them to leave the area. Shortly thereafter, we could hear a major ruckus in the main campground near us with a lot of yelling and barking dogs. It was obvious the bears moved on to new hunting grounds. The next

morning, we learned that three cars had also been broken into by bears.

If you think bear problems are only out West, think again. The black bear population in the Northeast has rebounded dramatically with an estimated 300 black bears residing in Connecticut alone according to an article in the September, 2005 issue of AMC Outdoors magazine. A camper's tent had been ripped open by a black bear in popular Sages Ravine campground on the border of CT and MA and you will now find metal bear boxes there to store your food. Black bears are now a potential hazard when hiking with your Troop in the woods, so proper precautions are necessary to insure you have a safe experience.

The Yosemite Park Ranger explained it quite simply that bears can consume up to 20,000 calories a day in the autumn and would much rather eat a bag of marshmallows than spend hours in the woods foraging for roots and berries.

SLEEPING GIANT DISTRICT

Serving the communities of Southington, Meriden, Wallingford, North Haven and Hamden.

<http://sleepinggiant.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

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District Commissioner

Janet Berry
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Senior District Executive

Christopher Guarniere
203.876.6868, Ext. 254
guarniere@ctyankee.org

January

- 10 – District Committee Meeting
- 14 – Den Chief Training
- 14 – Cub Scout Basic Leader Training
- 17 – Roundtable
- 20-22 – Winter Event
- 24 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 30 – OA Chapter Meeting

February

- 7 – District Committee Meeting
- 13 – Roundtable
- 28 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 28 – OA Chapter Meeting

March

- 4 – Blizzard Blast
- 7 – District Committee Meeting
- 13 – Roundtable
- 17 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 28 – Commissioner Staff Meeting

April

- 4 – District Committee Meeting
- 25 – Roundtable
- 25 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 29 – Pinewood Derby
- 30 – OA Chapter Meeting

Pack Summer Time Award (Last Chance)

Did your pack plan and conduct three activities during the summer months? If so, your pack probably qualifies for the National Summertime Pack Award! This award recognizes packs for running activities and programs through the summer. Each qualifying Scout can wear the award pin and dens with 50% or more of their Scouts participating can earn a ribbon. More details and specific requirements can be found on the form available at the Council Resource Center or the district website.

Wanted: Volunteers for District Committee

Sleeping Giant District carries out its mission of supporting units and administering the Scouting program through the great volunteers who serve on the district committee and commissioner staff. No matter your interest – unit service and coaching, activities, training, fundraising, and more – there's a place for you. For more information, please contact SrDE Chris Guarniere.

Popcorn Sale Success!

Our units and Council depend greatly on the success of the popcorn sale and our district came through with shining colors under the leadership of Kernel Peter Greenbacker. Peter worked diligently to make sure every unit had the opportunity to participate.

A big thank you to all the units who participated as it helps your unit succeed and keeps the Council camps, programs and services strong.

National Den Award

Cub Scouting happens in the den. The National Den Award recognizes year-round fun and quality programs. The award may be earned only once in a 12-month period. The period (charter year, calendar year, etc.) is to be determined by the pack committee. More information is available on our district website.

2005 FOS Campaign!

We've already launched our 2006 Friends of Scouting campaign with a goal of raising \$40,000. The campaign concludes on March 31. Caroline Griffin has accepted the challenge as our FOS Chairman. A volunteer will conduct a 5-10 minute presentation for each of our units by March 31. Only once a year do we ask families to make a personal contribution to support Scouting. When your presenter comes, please show them how much Scouting means to you and your family by making a contribution.

E-Mail Communication

Sleeping Giant District is using professionally managed mailing lists to communicate with members of all positions within our district. We currently have a general announcement list that all members should be subscribed to. We also have numerous optional subscription mailing lists

- Sleeping Giant Yahoo! Group is a general mailing list for unit leaders who wish to have public discussions on relevant Scouting topics, communicate with other unit leaders in the district, share ideas and lend support. Consider this an ongoing Roundtable where ideas can be discussed.

- "Announce" is a mailing list for leaders involved with the Scouting program to learn about new programs and hot off the press information about the Scouting program. All registered Scouters and families are encouraged to be a member of this mailing list.

Individuals will have the option to configure their subscription on the mailing list to receive a "digest" of e-mails from that day. This means that leaders will receive only ONE e-mail, from each list that they are subscribed to, with all of the e-mails from the day included in that message.

Good Turn for America

Scouts across the nation are answering the call to service. To tell the story of how your den, pack, patrol, troop, team, crew, or ship is contributing to this effort, please visit the website

Chairman's Corner

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and you are all keeping those New Year's resolutions!

The District Committee was elected at our December meeting and we are poised for another wonderful year of Scouting. There are a few new faces on our staff and some familiar volunteers have assumed new roles.

I want to take a moment to thank Janet Berry for her outstanding work as our District Commissioner these past three years. Janet stepped up when Mark Clark moved on to advise the OA and she brought a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the role. I do not think we could have maintained the Program without her help, support and advice. She is truly a District treasure. Janet will continue on the Commissioner staff and will be providing support to our new District Commissioner, Roger Poggio.

Blizzard Blast and the Good Turn for America event will busily occupy the winter schedule. Springtime events like Fishing Derby, Pinewood Derby and the Extravaganza will be planned to perfection. An exciting year is ahead of us and the excitement waits for us at every turn. Let's have some fun!

— John Davenport, District Chairman

<http://www.goodturnforamerica.org>.

It provides for collaborative service with other organizations and service agencies and a system for accounting for all service performed by members of the BSA.

Each unit leader received a login and password at Roundtable. If you no longer have this information, please contact Anna Matusz in the Camping Department at 203.876.6868, Ext. 273.

Bring a Buddy Nights

For years we have known the best way to get good adults is to recruit kids, and the best way to get new scouts is to get your current scouts to invite them to your meeting. To help continue to reach out and get the best leaders for your unit, we have put together this buddy night program packet.

The buddy night program works best in conjunction with a party or social style event. Invitation cards, flyers, posters and other support materials are available through our Council Resource Center. The program is designed to be simple and easy to implement into an existing event.

Den Leaders – This is a simple program that you can participate in to increase the number of boys in your den. If you have a den with less than four boys the

See **SLEEPING GIANT**, Page 31

OA Corner

Meetings for Achewon Chapter are held at 7:00 at Zion Lutheran Church on the Wallingford/North Haven town line. All OA members, especially Troop Representatives, are encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Meetings

- January 23
- February 27
- March 28
- April 24

If you have any questions about Chapter meetings or events, please contact any of our Chapter officers:

Chapter Chief
Christopher Gagné
203.265.4118
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Vice Chief of Programs
Allen Brinich
203.269.3698

Vice-Chief of Inductions
Daniel Miller
203.634.7926
miller@owaneco.org

Treasurer
Alex Paiva
203.269.3240

Secretary
Kyle Lewis
203.287.1177

LEARNING for LIFE & EXPLORING

Serving the youth and families of Fairfield and New Haven counties with career-development programs.

<http://exploring.ctyankee.org>
<http://www.learningforlife.org>

District Chairman

Christopher Lyddy, Post 279

District Commissioner

David Marks, Post 39

Exploring / LFL Director

John Ralbovsky
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Youth Services Executive

Robert Wargo
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wargo@ctyankee.org

October

18 - District Advisor and EOA Meeting
23 - Fire Muster at CT Fire Academy

November

15 - District Advisor and EOA Meeting

December

13 - District Advisor and EOA Meeting
16 - All Post Recharter Due.

2006 National LFL Conference

Get ready for Learning For Life's National Conference March 2-4 in Irving, TX. The conference is scheduling over 70 workshops, a Pre-Conference Workshop, awards, and recognitions. For more information, check the conference web site for details and a fact sheet. For updates to www.learningforlife.org/conf2006/index.html.

Using a Successful Outcome Study Survey

An outcome survey was done in the state of Florida in 2005. The study was conducted by Ulrich research using the outcomes survey from the Learning For Life website. You can view a power-point of the results, and possibly use the information locally to share with teachers and schools Learning For Life's school based character education programs and their effectiveness. Go to: www.learningforlife.org/lfl/new/FLSurvey.ppt. You will also find a link under "What's New" on the School Based LFL web page. Go to the home page of the public site and then click on the Blue LFL box at the top and then look for the "What's New" box.

Exciting News for Seekers and Builders

Learning for Life is excited to announce the Learning For Life Seekers Teacher's Lesson Plan Book and Workbooks have been available since October 1st, 2005. A new workbook for the 7th and 8th grade Builders will also be available. Look forward to these upcoming additions to enhance your already great program!

New DVD's Featured

Navigator Book One will now include a youth protection DVD, "Personal Safety Awareness", beginning January 2006.

The eighth grade Builders Program will now include a youth protection DVD, "It Happened to Me", beginning in the fall of 2006.

2004 Learning for Life Annual Report Released

The 2004 Annual Report is now available for viewing on the National website. It highlights:

- Highlights of National Learning for Life Activities
- Program Statistics
- Learning for Life Works
- National Learning for Life Committees
- National Harold "Spike" Yoh Awards
- Cedar Manor Intermediate Center, St. Louis Park, Minnesota
- Main School Administrative District 42 Fort Street Elementary School, Mars Hill, Maine
- William S. Maxey Elementary School, Winter Garden, Florida
- Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, Long Beach, California
- Law Explorer Post 893, Baker & Daniels, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Engineering Explorer Post 1010, Lockheed Martin, Gaithersburg, Maryland
- Law Enforcement Explorer post 152 Georgetown Police Department, Georgetown Texas
- Fire Service Explorer Post 1661 Orange County Fire Authority, Buena Park, California

To see the report go onto the public website www.learningforlife.org and click on the Annual Report icon on the right hand side of the page.

New DVD: A Time to Tell

This is a newly updated version of "A Time to Tell" is available for Learning For Life. This new video targets coed youth ages 10-14. It is a valuable tool in educating students on youth protection at a time when they are vulnerable. Teachers and Administrators will want to view this video and it can be beneficial to all schools. The new video "A Time to Tell" will be included in the 8th grade Builders curriculum books when they are reprinted in 2006. Audio for the DVD can be set in English or Spanish. In addition to the DVD there is a guidebook on the public website www.learningforlife.org/pubs/av/46-181.



Post 181 News

Above - Explorers provide First aid and training to Webelos at this years Webelos Woods at Deer lake
Right - Explorers from Both Southington Police and Hunter's Ambulance go through the International Police Mountain Bike Association Bike training course.
Below - Explorers help Durham Volunteer Ambulance Corp at this years Durham Fair.

On November 7th, EMS Explorers from Post 181 began their new journey during Emergency Medical Technician Training. Ten Explorers from the Post will continue class from November thru April, at which time they'll take their state exams. Good luck.



Scatacook

Continued from Page 25

Outgoing Words

It's been 1,099 days since I became District Chairman (but who's counting?). I want to thank every unit and district volunteer for making my job easy. Thank you for your dedication to your Scouting jobs, and thank you for supporting your units – our units – in the finest traditions of Scouting. Each one of you has made a difference.

I wish to give special thanks to the many members of the District Committee, past and present, for your dedication and inspiration; and to the superb Roundtable Commissioners and Staffs. Each of you earned your pay, and more, every month. I was fortunate to work with two great District Commissioners, Carlton and Leona, who always held up their end of the bargain. Finally, I was

privileged to work with two of the best District Executives in Scouting, Eric G. and Dominic G. (*are we destined to have all future DE's with last names beginning with the letter "G"?*).

As I turn the District Chairman's responsibilities over to Tom Maxwell, I ask you to give Tom the same level of support that you always gave me. I know Tom will do a superb job as your next Chairman. All of us working together will continue to make Scatacook District strong under Tom's leadership.

I'm pleased to continue as District Webmaster, among other things (and not because no one else wants the job). And with an extra hour or so a week on my hands, I'll try and make scatacook.org even better. Thank you again for three great years.

*Warmly in Scouting,
Jay Lubin, Past District Chairman*

Powahay

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Powahay Celebrates Scouting's Anniversary

As the Boy Scouts of America turns 95 this year, all Powahay units are invited to participate in this important benchmark. Set up a display in your community, complete and publicize a major service project – do something to gain some positive attention to Scouting. During and following Scout Week, we'll showcase the best examples of what units are doing, so be sure to send in photos or newspaper clippings to Tony.

Good Turn for America April Food Drive

The Connecticut Yankee Council will once again be coordinating a major, Council-wide Food Collection in April. We are currently seeking an individual to coordinate this food drive for our district and represent our district on the Council Good Turn committee. If you're interested in helping, please contact Bob Eason.

Popcorn Sales Soar

We had an incredible popcorn sale this past fall. Powahay units earned over \$44,000 in profits which is about \$2,000 more than 2004. Thank you to all the families and units who participated in this important sale which helps both your unit and the Council be strong.

Training = Quality

Every boy deserves a trained leader. If you are not trained for your Scouting role, how can you be expected deliver a quality program to the Scouts? We are seeking to organize a Cub Scout leader training for early in 2006. If you, or leaders in your unit are not trained, please contact Cub Scout Training Chairman Val Trowbridge at valbearie@aol.com. Boy Scout leaders should contact Tony Vogl.

District E-News

Stay current and in the know. Our district publishes a weekly e-mail newsletter every Monday with what's happening. To subscribe, e-mail vogl@ctyankee.org.

Sleeping Giant

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socialization aspect of the Scouting program is not able to take place. Dens require between eight to ten scouts of the same age in order for youth to develop advanced group dynamic skills. If your Pack is not taking part in this program, and the number of youth in your den is low...YOU should participate in this program. Take action today to ensure that your son and the Scouts in your den are receiving the best Scouting program possible.

Troop Leaders – Stop sitting around and waiting for the Pack to transition over new members. Troops have a responsibility to participate in proactive recruiting to ensure that all interested youth are being served. We know that flyers sent home at schools are not particularly effective for older boys BUT we also know that a friend asking a friend to attend a meeting IS EFFECTIVE. When your Scouts invite their friends to a meeting make sure that the meeting is awesome and eye catching and you will have success with this program.

Membership recruitment is not just a Cub Scout thing... it's a Scouting thing.

You don't have to go out of your way to plan a special meeting because ALL of your Pack and Troop meetings should be spectacular and eye catching and full of program.

Newhall

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We are truly lucky in having a Senior District Executive in Tony Vogl, and our Council has recently recognized his skills by making him the Council Marketing Executive in addition to being our District Executive. Tony brings a

Scout Sunday

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passion of marketing and publications to his work and I am confident that he will perform well. While my three-year term has now come to a close, I will still be here to assist in any capacity that will support the youth of our District. I want to say thank you to everyone that has stepped up in their own way to work with our

On-line @ <http://www.ctyankee.org>



Scouts in Wallingford overflow a truck provided by the Connecticut Food Bank with food collected from families in town.

Sleeping Giant Scouting for Food Drive

The preliminary report of the efforts of Scouts and Scouters for our Scouting for Food program is in. Last year's estimated total amount of food collected was about 28,500 pounds compared to this year's 33,441 pounds. Thank you to

everyone that was involved in this year's collection. Those people in our communities who are in need will have food on their tables thanks to your efforts. Special thanks to Gary Desjardins for his leadership and dedication to this effort.

Town	Hamden	North Haven	Meriden
# of Units	4	N/A	9
# of Scouts	45	N/A	116
# of Boxes @ 22.5 lbs	92	N/A	385
Total Weight (lbs)	2,070	2,721	8,662.5
# of Bags	180	290	771
	Wallingford	Southington	Totals
	13	8	34
	123	92	376
	N/A	355	832
	12,000	7,987.5	33,441
		1,705	2,946

passion of marketing and publications to his work and I am confident that he will perform well.

While my three-year term has now come to a close, I will still be here to assist in any capacity that will support the youth of our District. I want to say thank you to everyone that has stepped up in their own way to work with our

youth and also especially, I want to say thank you to the members of our District Committee who have supported me over these years.

Most importantly, I would like to say thank you to my family (Amy, Nathan and Daniel) for their love and support of my efforts.

— Nathan Newhall, Past-District Chairman

Most churches plan worship services in advance, so requesting consideration for a Scout Sunday observance far ahead of time might be more successful. If this is a first-time effort, start small and build from there. For those experienced in preparing Scout Sunday func-

tions, try to add something new (for example, using youth speakers or youth Sunday school teachers).

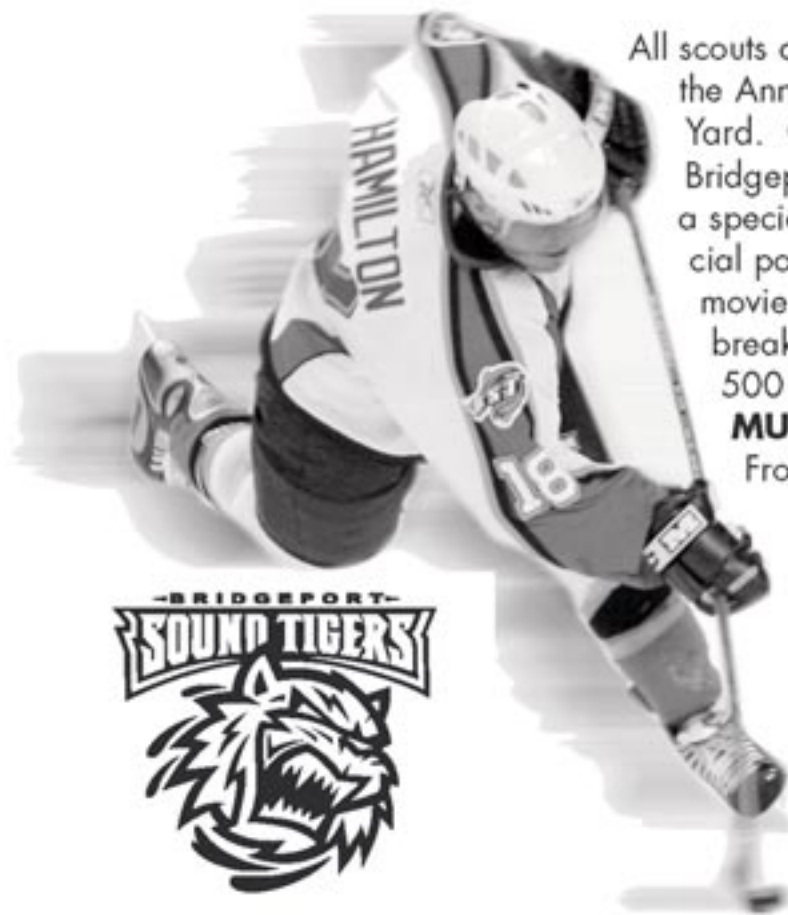
For more information about planning and conducting a Scout Sunday observance please visit: <http://www.scouting.org/relationships/05-961/index.html>



SCOUT SLEEPOVER AT THE SOUND TIGERS

MARCH 4TH, 2006

vs. the Springfield Falcons at 7:05 p.m.



All scouts and their families are invited to take part in the Annual Scout Sleepover at Arena at Harbor Yard. Come and enjoy an action packed Bridgeport Sound Tigers game. Scouts will receive a special Sound Tigers Patch. There will be a special post-game skate (bring your own skates) and a movie shown on the video board. In the morning, breakfast will be provided. Space is limited (1st 500 people) so order now! Advanced tickets **MUST** be purchased through the Sound Tigers Front Office.

\$27.50 PER PERSON

CALL 203-334-GOAL
SOUNDTIGERS.COM