

The Scouter

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A Scouter's Trek Up Kilimanjaro

■ See Page 10.



The Official Newsletter of the Connecticut Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America | SPRING 2007

Council Calendar / Index

- May**
 1 - Early Bird Camp Registration Due
 4-6 - OA Ordeal
 12 - Camp Sequassen Work Party
 13 - Mother's Day
 14 - Sea Scouting Committee Meeting
 15 - Camp Committee Meeting
 15 - District Chairmen /Commissioners Meeting
 16 - Advancement Committee Meeting
 16 - Venturing Committee Meeting
 17 - Training Committee Meeting
 21 - Jewish Committee Meeting
 21 - Hartford Catholic Committee Meeting
 21 - OA Executive Committee Meeting
 22 - Membership Committee Mtg
 24 - Executive Board Meeting
 28 - Resource Center & Scout Shop Closed - Memorial Day

- June**
 1 - Campership Due
 1 - Scout Night at the Cutters
 1-3 - Camp Sequassen Major Work Party
 8-10 - Hartford Catholic Spiritual Retreat
 8-10 - Order of the Arrow Ordeal
 9-10 - Sea Scout Gam
 11 - Sea Scouting Committee Mtg
 14 - Flag Day
 15-21 - Sequassen Staff Week
 16 - Father's Day
 18 - OA Executive Committee Mtg
 19 - Camp Committee Meeting
 19 - District Chairmen /Commissioners Meeting
 19 - Council Program Kick Off
 20 - Advancement Committee Mtg
 20 - Venturing Committee Meeting
 21 - Training Committee Meeting
 22 - Scout Night at the Bluefish
 24-30 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 1
 25 - Jewish Committee Meeting
 25 - Protestant Committee Mtg
 26 - Membership Committee Mtg
 27 - Council Budget Review
 28 - Executive Committee Mtg
 28 - Popcorn Committee Meeting
 30 - Children's Museum Camp-In

- July**
 1-7 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 2
 4 - Resource Center & Scout Shop Closed - Independence Day
 8-14 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 3
 9-13 - CS Day Camp - Week 1
 14 - Philmont Contingent Departs
 15 - Sea Base Contingent Departs
 15-21 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 4
 16-20 - CS Day Camp - Week 2
 17 - Camp Committee Meeting
 17 - Membership Committee Mtg
 18 - Advancement Committee Mtg
 18 - Venturing Committee Meeting
 19 - Training Committee Meeting
 21 - Cub Scout Fun Fest
 22 - Sea Base Contingent Returns
 22-28 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 5
 23-27 - CS Day Camp - Week 3
 23 - Jewish Committee Meeting
 23 - Protestant Committee Mtg
 25 - Combined Program Meeting
 26 - Executive Board Meeting
 27 - World Jamboree Opening
 28 - Philmont Contingent Returns
 29- Aug. 4 - Boy Scout Resident Camp - Week 6
 30-Aug. 3 - CS Day Camp - Week 4

- August**
 6-10 - Cub Scout Day Camp - Week 5
 9-12 - Cub Scout Resident Camp - Session 1
 12-19 - Youth Leader Training
 13 - Sea Scouting Committee Meeting
 13-17 - Cub Scout Day Camp - Week 6
 13-15 - Webelos Camp
 15 - Popcorn Leaders Kickoff
 16 - Training Committee Meeting
 16-19 - Cub Scout Resident Camp - Session 2
 20 - OA Executive Committee Meeting
 21 - Camp Committee Meeting
 21 - District Chairmen/Commissioners Meeting
 23 - Popcorn Committee Meeting
 24-26 - Wood Badge
 24-26 - Venturing Rendezvous
 27 - Jewish Committee Meeting
 27 - Protestant Committee Mtg
 28 - Membership Committee Mtg
 30 - Executive Committee Mtg
 31 - Popcorn Show & Sell Orders Due
 31 - Scout Night at the Bluefish

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Up to date updates and changes to the Council and district calendars can be found by visiting the Council website and clicking on "News & Events."

CONNECTICUT YANKEE COUNCIL INFORMATION BOX

The staff directory below lists extensions that can be reached by dialing 1.203.876.6868 (or) 1.800.333.7905

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HOW TO REACH US?

We want to hear from you, our volunteers and members. If you have a question, suggestion, request, reservation, comment or criticism please don't hesitate to contact us.



TELEPHONE

Call 1.800.333.7905 (within Connecticut) or 1.203.876.6868. Dial the appropriate extension or dial "0" for the front desk.



ON-LINE

E-mail us at info@ctyankee.org or visit us on-line at <http://www.ctyankee.org>.



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The Scouter

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TELL US ABOUT IT — If you have an article or photo you'd like to submit, please e-mail it to Tony Vogl at the address below. Your comments are always welcome.

Editor: **Tony Vogl**, 203.876.6868, Ext. 238, vogl@ctyankee.org

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Scouts Can! ... Help Build a Home

The Council's 450 units are engaged in collecting 300,000 cans and bottles to raise \$15,000 for Habitat for Humanity. The collection campaign is scheduled to run through April 21st, culminating on National Earth Day.

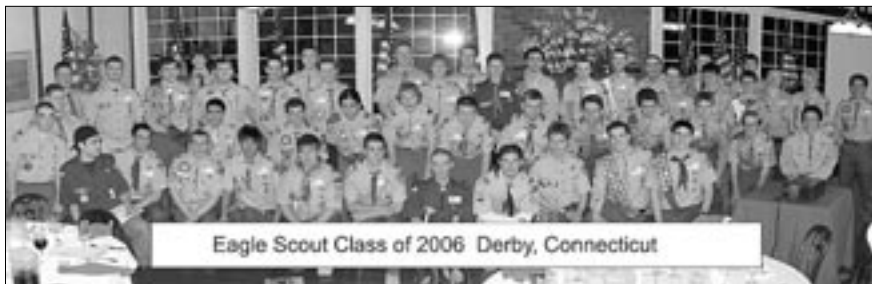
The goal represents a huge help for Habitat for Humanity in building a new home for a family in need but for the units the task of raising the \$15000 represents a very modest effort – about 100 cans per unit member.

The Council and district progress towards the \$15,000 goal is posted on the Council website as well as other details on the "Scouts Can!" campaign. Participants in the can and bottle drive will be given a segment for wear with their Good Turn for America patch. The form to request segments is available on the web site or from the Council Resource Center.

Units are encouraged to be as creative as possible in developing the "Scouts Can" campaign.

Individual units are responsible for collecting the bottles and cans, redeeming them, and then sending one check for the entire amount to the Council Resource Center. Be sure to note that the check is for "Scouts Can" so it gets credited to our overall goal. And be sure to log the service hours into your unit's Good Turn for America website.

See your district executive or district "Scouts Can!" coordinator for more information.



More than 50 Eagle Scouts and their families from the class of 2006 gathered at the Grassy Hill Lodge on March 15 for the annual Council Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner. Photo courtesy of Harvey Paulin



Congratulations to the following Scouts who will Soar with Eagles

Chad Cardillo	Troop 43	Meriden	Ross Clark	Troop 116	Ridgefield
Tyler Archer	Troop 8	Brookfield	Nicholas Johnson	Troop 53	Darien
Michael Barbour	Troop 70	Newtown	David Rowe	Troop 116	Ridgefield
Timothy Boncek	Troop 70	Newtown	Benjamin Strobel	Troop 926	Woodbridge
Michael Carney	Troop 19	Norwalk	Kevin Tanski	Troop 196	Milford
Gordon Bagley	Troop 31	New Canaan	Pablo Montero	Troop 42	Southington
Brian Dombroski	Troop 471	Guilford	Thomas Hewitt	Troop 428	Branford
David Ferguson	Crew 1	Wallingford	Jason Thompson	Troop 20	Wilton
Jeffrey Shuldman	Troop 76	Ridgefield	Robert Federici	Troop 474	Guilford
Tomas Schaaf	Troop 810	North Haven	Graham Page	Troop 4	Wallingford
Craig DiFulvio	Troop 70	New Canaan	David Chudy	Troop 68	Trumbull
Daniel Cahill	Troop 481	Madison	William Gamber	Troop 70	New Canaan
Christopher Carozza	Troop 52	Danbury	William Peter	Troop 70	New Canaan
Brian Stickle	Troop 41	Newtown	Stephen Wooten	Troop 90	Fairfield
Ryan Huebner	Troop 29	Meriden	James Wooten	Troop 90	Fairfield
Joseph Attanasio	Troop 54	Bethel	Evan Boccardi	Troop 45	Southington
Adam Dew	Troop 8	Brookfield	Andrew Lee	Troop 45	Southington
Keith Howard	Troop 54	Bethel	Peter Lubinsky	Troop 270	Newtown
Victor Nguyen	Troop 33	Danbury	Michele Masiello	Troop 49	Ridgefield
Jonathan Evensen	Troop 90	Southport	James Bissett	Troop 11	Stamford
Nicholas Lepanto	Troop 15	Redding	Eric Schwaber	Troop 63	Woodbridge
Philip Moore	Troop 68	Trumbull	Eric Frost	Troop 63	Woodbridge

COUNCIL CHARGE

Lou Salute, Scout Executive

Help Build Scouting By Starting a New Troop

Those of us who have seen our children grow up as Scouts know that there is no more better youth program for providing both what our young people like and what parents need and want. Our kids get fun, challenging activities, advancement and recognition, teamwork, friendship, and involvement with their own and their peers' parents. Parents get a program that not only occupies their children's time and interests, but also instills and develops goals, standards, values and leadership training.



Scouters in the Membership/Relationships Group led by Jack Berry feel both a sacred opportunity and a moral obligation to give every boy the chance to

be a Scout. They have spent much time and energy in recruitment campaigns and other membership promotions and have learned first hand the joy and legacy created by starting a new unit – especially Boy Scout Troops.

If we are truly to reach more youth, we need to focus on starting more units, in particular, troops. Year after year, there are hundreds of Webelos Scouts who drop out of our program, because there are not enough troops for them to join. This is an ideal time to consider starting a new Scout unit, whether it's a new pack, troop, team, or crew. We're gearing up to help each district put in place a New Unit Team that will assist parents in starting a new unit for their boys. It's simple to do and the sense of accomplishment for you and your boys in starting your own unit can't be matched.

This is a call to parents of Webelos who will be ready to transition into Boy Scouts in the next few months, and to parents of boys who are already in troops and are Scoutmasters, asst. Scoutmasters, and active Committee Members of new Boy Scout Troops. For Scouters, being a leader in our sons' troops creates an incredibly strong bond and a powerful influence in the growth and maturity of our boys. One of our best kept secrets is that we parents not only have at least as much fun in Scouting as our boys, but we also are at least as much beneficiaries of the moral and spiritual growth inspired by the Scout Oath and Scout Law, as are our boys.

So I challenge you, parents, to take the leap. Become leaders. Get involved in starting a new troop, or a new pack, or crew with your son. They will be proud of you, and you will know that you are giving them one of the most valuable gifts a parent can make.

This is a great opportunity for you and your boy. The time is right. Take the challenge and become a leader. For more information on starting a unit, contact your District Executive or call Gary Chrislip, Director of Field Service, at 203.876.6868, Ext. 233 today.

Funnell Newest Member of Scouting Heritage Society

We are pleased to announce that the James Funnell Family has become the 30th Member of the Scouting Heritage Society by supporting our Council's Endowment Fund. **Jim Funnell** grew up in Oklahoma where he became an Eagle Scout, member of the Order of the Arrow, attended Philmont twice, and was a member of Scuba Explorer Post 604. Jim and his wife, Sally, have a son who recently completed his Arrow of Light, and a daughter who recently completed her Girl Scout Silver Award.

In February, Jim stepped down as Cubmaster of Pack 118 in Redding. At the Pack's recent Blue and Gold Banquet, all 16 second-year Webelos, including his son, received their Arrow of Light award, and crossed-over to local Boy Scout Troops. Jim leaves the Pack's remaining 85 boys in the

hands of capable leadership as he moves on to Boy Scouting with Redding Troop 15.



Funnell

Jim Funnell is an estate planning attorney, and is a Principal of the Westport, Connecticut law firm of Hermenze & Marcantonio, LLC. When asked about his support of the Council's Endowment, he said "I can help to secure the future of Scouting in the Council. Scouting is peerless as a values-

based program where youth to learn important life lessons and self-sufficiency skills." Thanks Jim, for your interest in helping future Scouts!

If you would like to learn more about how to make a planned gift to the Endowment Fund and help secure a future for youth in Scouting in the Council, please contact any member of the Endowment Committee or call Dave Myers, Director of Finance at 800.333.7905, Ext. 259.

Opportunities Exist to Fund Council Needs

A wide variety of funding opportunities exist for individuals and local businesses to fund specific items/projects from the Council operating budget. Special Opportunity gifts can be a cash-gift that is directed for a specific Council need or a 'Gift in Kind' - a non-cash gift of an item that the Council would have to buy.

Some of the specific areas that the Council is looking for funding include:

Program Needs - Council Program Kickoff, Youth & Adult Leadership Training, Scouting For Food, Scoutreach, Learning for Life, Fall Round-up and School Night Recruitment, Volunteer Recognition, District Operations.

Summer Camp Needs - Program Supplies, Camp Staff Positions, Camp Brochures, Food, Paper Products, Kayaks and Canoes.

Camp Capital Improvements - New Campsites, New Latrines, Flag Pole, Camp Truck for Camp Sequassen.

Office & Technology Needs - Copier Paper, Digital Camcorder, TV/VCR/DVD, Digital Camera, Computer Projection Machine and Computers.

Camperships - Gifts in kind to help send boys to summer camp. A week at summer camp can be a life experience for any boy. This experience is made possible for many Scouts because of the generosity of those who support our campership fund.

To find out more about a specific project, or to see the complete list of special Opportunities, contact Finance Director David Rennie at the Council Resource Center at 203.876.6868, ext. 257 or drennie@bsmail.org.

Greater New Haven Luncheon nets \$45,000

The Greater New Haven Area Tribute Luncheon raised over \$45,000 on Tuesday, Dec. 19 at the New Haven Lawn Club. The Council presented the "Good Scout" Award to **Anthony Rescigno**, President of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, and Executive Director of the Regional Leadership Council. **Dr. Reginald Mayo**, Superintendent of the New Haven Public Schools served as chairman and master of ceremonies at the luncheon. More than 120 attended the lunch.

Speakers at the Luncheon included Eagle Scout John DeStefano, Mayor of the City of New Haven, and Raekwon Chambers, a Webelos Scout from Scoutreach Pack 2229 chartered to the Lincoln Bassett School in New Haven. Benedict W. Cozzi, President and Business Manager of I.U.O.E.,



"Good Scout" Honoree Anthony Rescigno and Benedict Cozzi at the 2006 Greater New Haven Area Tribute Luncheon.

Local 478, and a past recipient of the "Good Scout" Award, presented the award to Mr. Rescigno.

Major levels of support for Scouting at the Distinguished Patron Level (gifts of \$10,000 or more) came from The Knights of

Columbus; Gifts at the Sponsor Level (gifts of \$2,500 or more) were made by Yale New Haven Hospital; Eagle Scout Tables (gifts of \$1,750) were made by Albertus Magnus College and New Alliance Bank.

Milford/Orange Good Scout Luncheon May 22

Bishop Jay Ramirez, pastor of Kingdom Life Christian Church in Milford, and Town of Orange resident **Thomas D'Orso**, installation manager at New England Mechanical, a subsidiary of EMCOR Group, will receive the Milford/Orange "Good Scout" Award at a luncheon in their honor on May 22 at the Costa Azzurra Restaurant in Milford. **Robert Macklin**, president & chief executive officer of The Milford Bank is chairing the event.

The "Good Scout" Award is presented annually to those who exemplify in their daily lives the ideals of the BSA. Recipients are chosen for their outstanding community service as well as the respect and esteem in which they are held by their colleagues. Proceeds support the programs and services of the Council.

Bishop Jay Ramirez has built Kingdom Life Christian Church into one of the largest churches in the northeast with a congregation of about 3,000 in Sunday atten-

dance. He is also the founder and overseer of K-NET, Kingdom Network of Ministries, which serves as a covering to almost 200 U.S. Churches and over 2,000 international Churches and ministries worldwide.

He is founder of Community Resource Center, a non-profit agency providing a variety of social and community services as well as family training, tutoring, career counseling and addiction support groups. He also founded Joseph's Storehouse which provides emergency furniture and other items to needy individuals, families or communities. He is also a founding member of the Devon Revitalization Committee and is involved in disaster relief efforts and ministry both domestically and around the world.

When Thomas P. D'Orso son Brian died early in life, he decided to ask for donations in his son's name to a scholarship fund for college-bound seniors from Amity Regional High School, as well as Boy Scout Troop 925 at Turkey Hill School in Orange.

The scholarship fund has contributed more than \$5,000 since 2003. Troop 925 purchased a trailer in Brian's name and displayed the names of past and new Eagles on the side. A plaque in Brian's honor is presented to all new Eagle Scouts from the troop. He is also actively involved with community sports such as soccer and little league. D'Orso is a Fourth Degree member in the Knights of Columbus and currently serves as Financial Secretary for the Holy Infant Council #12523.

Anyone interested in learning more about Scouting or financially supporting this event should contact Jonathan Pleva at 203.876.6868, Ext. 286. Seats are \$100 and all donors will be recognized at the luncheon.



D'Orso



Ramirez



Macklin

New Book Explores the Values and Influence of Eagle Scouts

New York—Thomas Dunne Books, an imprint of St. Martin's Press, announces the release of *Legacy of Honor: The Values and Influence of America's Eagle Scouts* by Alvin Townley.

This unique narrative explores the lives and character of Eagle Scouts including Bill Gates Sr., Bill Bradley, Ross Perot, Michael Bloomberg, J. W. Marriott Jr., Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Michael Dukakis, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, coach Chan Gailey, and Jim Lovell of Apollo 13. The book also explores the virtues of a Tuskegee Airman, a Vietnam War POW, a September 11 NYPD hero, a crew of Hurricane Katrina relief workers, and a host of others from every walk of life.

The author, an Eagle Scout himself, spent a year traveling throughout the country, meeting these individuals, and discovering stories of courage, service, and hope that truly belong to all Americans.

Commenting on *Legacy of Honor*, President Jimmy Carter said, "These Eagle Scouts will inspire readers to become leaders in serving others," while Defense Secretary and National Eagle Scout Association President Robert Gates hailed the book as "inspirational."

The book is already in its sixth printing and is available online and in stores nationwide. For additional information, please visit www.legacyofhonor.com.



Be Prepared.

Hit the trail this spring with the newest gear from the Scout Shop.

Milford Scout Shop

Mon - Fri 9 - 6 | Sat. 10-2

Also open late the first Thursday until 8 p.m.

60 Wellington Road, Milford or online at scoutstuff.org.

Call 203.876.0013 | fax 203.876.0021

Join the Spring 'Tiger Hunt'

Spring is right around the corner and with it comes a great opportunity to add new life to your Pack. With Cub Scout Day Camp, Council- and district sponsored activities, leader trainings and a whole slew of other fun things to do over the summer, it's a great time to get new families enrolled in your Pack without the frenzy of the fall.

There is no better time of the year to recruit the incoming first grade class into Cub Scouting. First and foremost, we're reaching them early before other organizations. It's also a calm time for families as they're not running around buying school supplies or signing up for the whole slew of sports and academic clubs. But most importantly, one of Scouting's strengths has always been its ability to bring families

together. There is simply no better time of the year than summertime to experience the outdoors in a fun, safe and Scouting program.

Each pack should be identifying a Tiger coordinator who will coordinate the Pack's overall Tiger Hunt. This volunteer will work closely with the district Tiger Czar to come up with a multi-pronged approach at recruiting new families.

A complete packet with a list of recruiting ideas, a sample news release, district contacts, training dates and more is available from the Council website. Look for more information at your April and May Roundtables and reach out to your district Tiger Czar for help and guidance.

Packs with dens of 6 or more Tigers earn special recognitions, so let the Tiger Hunt begin.

Join the Council's Winner Circle

Are you going to meet us in the Winner's Circle? The Winner's Circle recognizes units that are on the right track, with a quality program in place. To earn the award, your unit must have one more registered Scout; raise one more dollar in Friends of Scouting, and complete and log a service project

into Good Turn for America. All benchmarks are measured on June 30 vs. June 30, 2006. Qualifying units receive a commemorative neckerchief for the Unit leader, a streamer for the unit flag, recognition in *The Scouter*, and recognition on the Winner's Circle Board at the Council Resource Center.

Merit Badge College Wrap-Up

336 Scouts from all over the Council participated in the 2007 Merit Badge College. Over the four Saturdays in February, the Scouts met at Lyman Hall High School working on requirements for over 20 different Merit Badges.

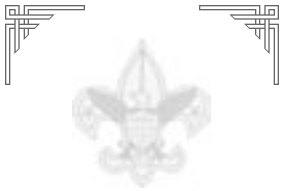
Special thanks go out to Karen Andersen and Ernie Boehm for coordinating the outstanding program. Additionally, a heartfelt thank you goes to Richard Nunn, who helped secure the Lyman Hall High School facility.

Our tremendous faculty included: John Carlson, Laurie Caraway, Scott Caraway, Lynn Crisci, Joe D'Albero, Pat Day, Clark Doehr, John Farley, Mark Gelinis, Cosette Heimann, David Kania, John Kozin, Dave Lyons, Nathan Newhall, James Nunn, Andrew

Parfitt, Ed Piazza, Larry Pisani, Roger Poggio, David Rand, John Robinson, Marty Ruest, Alec Taylor, Ned Taylor, and Mike Znosko. Thank you one and all for making this possible!!

Special Thanks to Lyman Hall High School

A special thanks goes out to the Wallingford Public Schools and especially Lyman Hall High School, for making the High School available for the 2007 Merit Badge College. Over 330 Scouts participated in the college this year. The facilities and the custodial staff were terrific. The location just off I91 was ideal. We look forward to continuing the partnership with LHHS into the future.



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 honor of Malcolm A. Nicholson
Debbie Ferreira

In honor of Peter Newcomb
John Zane

In honor of Anthony Laluna
Larry & Peggy Cohen, Natalie Zamachaj, Jeanette Caruso, Barbara Choronz, Denise Van Hise, Allwood Construction, Rich & Jean Colon, Joseph Mirmina, Scarnuley Electric, Inc., Thomas Hyde, Donna Weslowski, Philip Murphy Jr., Rich & Jean Colon

In honor of Gilbert Boyd
Carl Robert, Nancy Talbott Moulton, Margaret Ellis

In honor of Frank Delucia
Dean Westbury, Joyce Wilbourn, N C Neal Jr, c/o Cummings & Lockwood, John O'Hern, TG Henderson, Marie Sheehan, Nursing & Home Care Inc., Norman & Betsy Smith

In honor of Matthew Gordon
Ronald Japha

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





Catholic Committee

<http://catholic.ctyankee.org>

Staff Adviser

Bob Wargo
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Bridgeport Religious Emblems Deadline 4/15

All applications and workbooks for Catholic Award Emblems in the Bridgeport Diocese must be received no later than April 15. Adult and unit nominations are also due. The awards will be presented by Bishop Lori at a ceremony on June 1. All *fully completed* books must be submitted to a Religious Award Emblem Counselor. The earlier the materials are turned in, the earlier Boy Scouts can schedule a Board of Review. Please contact Father Balint, Council Chaplin, at 203.876.6868, Ext. 261 to find the nearest counselor. Information on award requirements and publications are available through Father Balint at the Council Resource Center. For more information on Catholic Scouting in the Diocese of Bridgeport, contact Deacon Joseph Melita.

'Protecting God's Children' Registration

Volunteers serving in Catholic units in the Archdiocese of Hartford should register online for the Virtus sexual abuse prevention program by visiting the website, www.archdioceseofhartford.org. Click on "Protection of Youth," then "Office of Safe Environment." Follow the prompts to register for a training session. Upcoming training sessions are listed. If you are unable to register online, please call Dolores Skovich, Safe Environment Coordinator, 890.541.6491 for further assistance.



Pack 570 was recently recognized by the Catholic Committee on Scouting with the Pope Paul VI National Unit Award. Unit Commissioner Ed Wolf, Sr. presents Fr. Bob Weiss with this most prestigious award. Looking on left to right is Assistant Cubmaster Mike Salvatore and Cubmaster of Pack 570 Randy Pineau. Pack 570 was the only unit in the Bridgeport Diocese to earn this award.

Scatacook Pack 570 Earns Gold Medallion

St. Rose of Lima Pack 570 was presented the National Gold Medallion Award at their annual Blue and Gold Dinner on March 24. Region One Chairman of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS), Arthur Keegan, who serves New England, made the presentation. The pack was started nearly 5 years ago which makes the distinguished honor even more special for St. Rose of Lima and the pack.

The Gold Medallion Award recognizes outstanding Catholic units in each of the 14 Episcopal regions. It promotes the NCCS initiative to grow its units, youth members and adult volunteers. Medallion winners epitomize those units that excel at providing youth with quality programs including religious activities, religious emblems participation, outdoor activities, and special events that encompass the religious, vocational, and educational aspects of Scouting under Catholic auspices.

According to Ed Wolf, Sr., Pack

Scouts from Pack 570 pose with Bishop William Lori at the annual Catholic Emblems Service at St. Augustines Cathedral in Bridgeport.



570 Unit Commissioner and Religious Emblems Coordinator, "Each December Fr. Bob holds a workshop for the Rosary Patch and 114 patches have been awarded to date. In the back of the church is a plaque for the recipients of the Parvuli Dei and Light of Christ religious awards. We have a total of over 50 Scouts that have earned these awards. On Earth Day they participate in cleaning up the church grounds and planting flowers. The pack also supports "Cubs for a Cure" which is a team that participates in Newtown's Relay for Life. They hold car washed and tag sales to raise money. Last year they were the highest relay team having raised \$13,000."

The pack also earned the Pope Paul VI award in 2005. The Pope Paul VI award is the NCCS equivalent of Scouting's Quality Unit Award, the difference being that requirements are related to Catholic Scouter development and youth in the unit participate in the religious emblems program. For more information on Pack 570, please visit their website at www.pack570.org.



Jewish Committee

<http://jewish.ctyankee.org>

Committee Chairman

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Staff Adviser

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nystrom@ctyankee.org

The Jewish Committee on Scouting entered the year on a high note with a wonderful Scout Shabbat service on Friday, Feb. 9, at Congregation B'nai Torah in Trumbull. In addition to recognizing Scouts who earned their religious emblems in 2006, the service was led by Scouts from all throughout the Council. In addition, we were treated to two thoughtful sermons from the Senior Patrol Leaders of Troops 15 (Stamford) and 41 (Woodbridge). Everyone received a special Scout Shabbat Patch, celebrating 100 years of Scouting. *Yasher koach* (may you go from strength to strength) to all the young men to participate in the service.

We'd also like to recognize the Scouts in Troop 15, who recently completed a service project at the Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield. On a Sunday afternoon, the Scouts helped transport residents from place to place, and spent time talking to them. They did a real *mitzvah* in helping out, and the JHE was very appreciative of their volunteer work.

Our website is full of valuable resource information, as well as current happenings in the Council, the region, and nationwide. There are also convenient links for the Jewish Scouting Emblems - Maccabee, Aleph,

Ner Tamid and Etz Chaim, along with Jewish Eagle Scout kit and scholarship forms.

Announcing Kinus '07

Deer Lake Scout Reservation is host to Kinus 2007 on September 7-9. Organized by Dave Rand, SM-T15 Stamford, and Mark Zuckerman, ASM-T65 Trumbull, the Kinus promises to be a wonderful weekend filled with events for both Jewish and non-Jewish Scouts. We hope to have workshops on religious emblems (and the opportunity to work on the appropriate emblem for your faith), learning about "Jewish" Scouting and what that means, along with time to follow the 12th point of the Scout Law. We even hope to have a few surprises, including the opportunity to make your own Shofar or ram's horn, games and special prizes, including Mets & Yankee tickets! As the kinus will be held on the last weekend before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, we'll also look at what that means. The Kinus will be open to all Scouts, regardless of their individual faiths; in fact, we encourage non-Jewish Scouts and units to come, so that we can both learn about each other's religions! For more information on the kinus, please contact either Dave Rand, drand@associatesofwestport.com, or Mark Zuckerman, meinekeman@aol.com.

Maccabee Emblem First in a Series

The Scouting religious emblems program gives recognition to youth who had demonstrated religious growth in accordance with the 12th point of the Scout Law: "A Scout is Reverent

The Maccabee emblem program helps Jewish Tiger Cubs & Cub Scouts (1st thru 3rd graders) learn more about Judaism. The Maccabee emblem takes its

See JEWISH, Page 23

More Religious Committee News on Page 23



Training Committee

Council Training Chairman

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Just a reminder that every registered leader in Connecticut Yankee Council must complete Youth Protection Training by December 31, 2007. Additionally, every registered leader must complete Fast Start Training (program specific) by December 31, 2007. Merit Badge Counselors must complete Youth Protection Training by December 31, 2007. Scouters who do not complete these courses will be unable to reregister for 2008.

Please contact your District Training Chair or Unit Committee Chair for more information. And visit the BSA on-line learning center to complete these courses, at <http://olc.scouting.org/>.

For nearly 100 years, Scouting has been an integral part of our communities, making a positive impact on countless young lives. This innovative program of Required Training will help the Adult Leaders of Connecticut Yankee Council continue to offer high quality programs to our Youth members and "Deliver the Promise."

Remember ... every Scout deserves a Trained Leader.

A complete calendar of upcoming trainings, as well as registration forms is available 24/7 on the Council's website. Visit www.ctyankee.org and click on the "Training" tab. Then click on "Upcoming Training." If you're unsure of which training is right for you, contact your District Executive and they'll be glad to assist.

Coming This Fall Pow Wow '07

A Learning Extravaganza

During a recent week, a Cub Scout collected can goods at his church for a donation to a food pantry, took part in a color guard at his school and went on a campout with his pack. His parents were so proud of him. They said to him "Akela has taught you well." This Cub Scout will be a leader for his generation. How was he given an opportunity to do all this? His Cub Scout leaders came to POW WOW. They are helping to shape the leaders of the next generation.

Pow Wow is Saturday, Nov. 3. Please contact Christopher Guarniere at 800.333.7905, Ext. 254 to be a part of the Pow Wow team.

This is a forum for all Cub Scout leaders and parents to gather, exchange ideas and learn some new ones. It doesn't matter if you have been in the program for longer than you care to admit or are brand new. POW WOW has something to offer everyone! Join us and together we can make the galaxy a better place. Our kids are the next "greatest generation" and it is up to us to give them the tools to become this.

POW WOW is your opportunity to learn what a monthly theme is and how to make that craft you always wanted to with the boys. Discover what is the Webelos to Scout transition or the Centennial Quality Awards Program. Building a birdhouse is fun but how is it done. Why is the Pinewood Derby so important? I would love my son to leave no trace at home and in the woods. What is a repeat after me song? Yoda may not know the answers but the POW WOW staff does.

Think of POW WOW as a live action version of the Cub Scout How-To Book. Instead of turning pages, you will have a hands on experience. Another leader has gone through what you are experiencing now. You are not alone in this Cub Scouting universe and POW WOW is your beacon of light. Join the fun and fellowship.

Update Your Training Records At Council

Kathy Znosko

COUNCIL REGISTRAR

If you are a registered leader in a Pack, Troop, Crew, or Ship, you should know by now that Connecticut Yankee Council has adopted a new policy, requiring all leaders to be trained. Many of you are trained, but Council's records may not indicate that fact.

With this new requirement in place, it becomes extremely important that Council's training records be accurate and up-to-date. Your help is needed to accomplish this task.

This past fall, a "Person Profile" was printed for each registered adult in each unit. This profile showed, among other information, what training Council has recorded for you. These profiles were given to the District Commissioners, who were responsible for distributing them to all units.

If you never received yours, check with your Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, or Skipper. If he or she never received them, ask your Unit Commissioner, District Commissioner, or District Executive. When you do obtain your profile, look carefully at the training, if any, that is recorded for you, and the dates that are indicated for that training.

If you find that any training you have taken is missing or the dates are wrong, please make corrections on that profile and return it to your District Commissioner or District Executive, who will bring it back to Council, where the correct information will be entered in your record.

Now, that being said, if everyone does submit corrected training records, Council could well be inundated, making it very difficult to keep up with entering all of this information. We will need help. Do you have some time, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. that you could volunteer to come in and help enter this information into our computer system? Call your District Executive, Registrar Kathy Znosko, or Office Manager Karen Caiati to offer your assistance.

Some additional tips and information about Training Records:

1. Have you been plagued by a persistent "N" next to your name on every roster you have received from Council? Have you repeatedly changed that "N" to a "Y" every time your unit submits its Charter Renewal? Here is the three-part explanation. First, every time National BSA has changed the content and format of a training course, it has changed its title and the range of dates that particular course is effective. If the dates recorded for you do not match the particular course title, ScoutNet

All leaders must be trained ... it's extremely important that Council's training records be accurate and up-to-date.

will not register that you have taken that training. Second, when ScoutNet looks to see if you have been trained, it is very position specific. If it doesn't find the specified training for your position, it will indicate that you are not trained.

For example, a Charter Representative who is also the Committee Chair may find that she is indicated not trained for one position and trained for the other; most often she is missing Charter Representative Training. Or, a new Wolf Den Leader may have shown that he was trained last year as a Tiger Den Leader, but not this year, if he has not had the "Den Leader Specific" training.

The third part of this, is that, because the system is so title and date sensitive, we can only enter training in your record if you tell us what training you have had and approximately when; therefore, simply changing a "N" to a "Y" isn't enough information for us to use.

2. Did you find on your "Person Profile" that you were trained in 1911? This was the

default date, entered into ScoutNet in 1998, when Council began using the system. The system no longer recognizes that date as a valid one.

We have been trying to change all the 1911 dates to more realistic ones, that the system will at least read as valid, but it would be much better to have the correct dates from you.

3. Are you "Mountain Man" trained? Does your "Person Profile" say you've had "Boy Scout Leader Basic Training" or "Scoutmastership Fundamentals"? "Mountain Man" was a Council title for these National courses. We can only enter National titles in the system. We also don't know the dates for "Mountain Man" 16 or 25 or 40. You will need to give us the approximate dates you took the course.

4. Are you concerned that you don't know the National title for the course you took? As long as you give us a general idea and an approximate date, we should be able to choose the right course title to match with the date. The exception to this would be if you've been trained since September 2001, when the new courses took effect.

Because these courses are broken down into several components, all of which are not necessarily taught in the same session, it is important that you tell us when you have had each component. For instance, most Cub Scout Leader sessions include New Leader essentials, but most Boy Scout and Venturing Leader sessions have not.

But, New Leader Essentials is still a required component for all leaders to be considered trained. If you have not had New Leader Essentials or you have, but we don't have it recorded, then the system won't recognize you as being trained.

As always, if you have any questions or problems, please contact me at 800.333.7905, Ext. 262 or znosko@ctyankee.org.



Venturing & Sea Scouting

<http://seascouts.ctyankee.org>

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CYC Sea Scout to be Regional Boatswain's Mate/Boatswain Elect

From Northeast Region
Commodore Bob Sirhal:

It is my pleasure to announce the selection of Connor Rieve of Ship 110 as (The Northeast Region) 2007-08 Regional Boatswain's Mate/ Boatswain Elect. Connor is from Bethel and a Senior at Bethel High School. He is an Able Seaman and completed this past summer's Texas SEAL course. In addition, he is a Cadet in the Naval Junior ROTC.

In 2006 he received the US Marine Corp Scholastic Excellence Award and was chosen as a Cadet SWAB for the summer training cruise aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Barque *Eagle*. This past summer he also participated in the Youth Service Opportunity Project working in a local Homeless Shelter in Washington, DC. Part of the recommendation Connor received from LCDR Mark Dwinells, USN(Ret), stated that "Connor is the type of young man who shows up early stays late, and makes everything he is involved with successful through his initiative and leadership."

I look forward to working with Connor in the coming program year. Connor will be sworn during the Regional Bridge of Honor next month.

Bridge Of Honor

The Council Sea Scout Squadron's annual Bridge of Honor on February 2 recognized Sea Scouts for rank advancements and other achievements throughout the year. The key-note speaker for the evening was Commander Robert McKenna, Response Department Chief at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound.

The follow Scouts were recognized for making rank:

Ship 1 – Anthony Guerra, Apprentice; Tiffany O'Connor, Apprentice; Edward Peach-Keyes, Apprentice; Roberto Santiago, Apprentice. **Ship 2** – Zebluin King, Apprentice; Jessica Markey, Apprentice, Ordinary; Walter Morris, Apprentice; Patrick Mullin, Apprentice; Henry Thompson, Apprentice. **Ship 84** – Erin Hopkins, Ordinary; Ryan Kenny, Ordinary; Zack Tomasio, Ordinary; Marc Trembly, Apprentice. **Ship 110** – Daniel Atienzar, Apprentice; Chris Burns, Apprentice; Tyler Dwinells, Apprentice.

Squadron Boating Course May 5

The Council Sea Scout Squadron and the New Haven Power Squadron is running a Squadron Boating Course on Saturday, May 5, 9 to 5 p.m. at the Council Resource Center. Participants can learn the fundamentals of safe boat handling and operation as well as earn their Connecticut Boating Certificate. The State Boating Certificate is required for all individuals who operate vessels on Connecticut waters. This course meets state and National Association of State Boating Law Administrator requirements for certification.

Sea Scout family members are welcome to participate, but must be at least 14 years old. The course normally costs about \$50 but is subsidized by the New Haven Power Squadron at \$26 each. Participants should bring Parallel Rules, Dividers, Pencil, & Bag Lunch. A registration form is available on the Council website. For more information, please contact Jonathan Glassman at 203.975.9715 or jglassman@gmail.com.



Sea Scouts were recognized for their achievements at the annual Squadron Bridge of Honor on February 2.

Seabadge NE-XVII

Seabadge NE-XVII is October 5-7 at the US Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, NJ. Seabadge is an advanced leadership training experience for Sea Scout Officers at the Ship and Council levels.

It's a course in leadership, team building, motivation, monitoring, and management skills. Seabadge helps participants offer the best quality program while expanding it to reach more youth. Graduates earn the Seabadge Trident Pin, patch, and certificate.

Seabadge participants must be approved by the local Council; be currently registered in an adult Sea Scouting position for a minimum of one continuous year. Priority for attendance will be given to individuals serving Sea Scouts on the Ship and/or squadron (council) level. Council level volunteers and professionals active in Venturing operations are also encouraged to apply; have completed New Leader Essentials Training, Venturing Leader Specific Training, and Sea Scout Officers' Specialized Training; and be willing to apply the skills and knowledge obtained through the Seabadge course to strengthen Sea Scouting at the local Ship/council levels.

The Seabadge NE-XVI Fact Sheet and Application are available on the Council website. Inquiries may be directed to Benjamin Feril, Seabadge Skipper / Course Director at 410.287.8892 or bengmferil@msn.com.

Venturing Leader & Sea Scout Officer Training

New Leader Essentials, Venturing and Sea Scout Officers' Specialized Trainings is offered on Saturday, April 28 from 9 to 5 p.m., and Monday, April 30, 6:30 to 10 p.m. Council Resource Center. Venturing Crew leaders are required to attend the Saturday session only. Completion of the course qualifies you as a trained leader in Venturing or Sea Scouting. Completion of these courses fulfills requirements for the leader training awards and is a prerequisite for Seabadge and Wood Badge Trainings. This course includes Venturing Youth Protection.

A training registration form is available on the Council website or by contacting your district executive or unit commissioner. A \$5 fee includes training materials and coffee. Registrations must be received by April 20. Late registrants and walk-ins will be charged \$10. Bring a bag lunch on Saturday.

For more information, please contact John Neary at 203.381.0878 or jneary42@sbcglobal.net or Jonathan Glassman at 203.795.9715 or jglassman@gmail.com.

'Man Overboard' Sea Scout Gam June 9-10

The Sea Scout "MAN OVERBOARD" Gam is at Captain's Cove Seaport in Bridgeport on June 9-10. The Rendezvous has theme-based competition and

activities designed to be both fun and informative. Slip space is available for boats. Scouts and officers need their ship's work uniform for opening and closing ceremonies. Registration materials are available on the Sea Scout website.

Sea Scout Week At Camp Sequassen

Sea Scout week at Camp Sequassen is July 22-28. Sea Scouts can complete Ordinary (Swimming, Rowing and Safety Afloat), Able (Lifesaving, Fire Safety and Cooking), and Quartermaster (Citizenship and BSA Lifeguard) rank requirements. Scouts can also earn the Scuba BSA and Snorkeling BSA awards, go sailing, canoeing, and participate in all of the other camp activities such as archery, rifle and shotgun shooting, crafts, mountain biking, climbing and repelling, and much more. Learn To Swim lessons are available. If paid by May 1, the camp fee is \$250 (\$270 if paid after May 1). Scholarships are available. The week is sponsored by Sea Scout Ship 2. For additional information or to sign-up contact Skipper Kevin Markey at 203.597.0309 or ship2@snet.net.

Summer Long Cruise

The Connecticut Yankee Council Sea Scout Squadron will hold a joint long cruise for all Ships on July 8-14, 2007. The cruise destination and ports of call have yet to be determined. Save the date and be sure that your Ship signs on for this great summer adventure. For more information contact Commodore Bob Kral.

Powder horn Training

Powder Horn, Venturing's outdoor resource training, is offered August 22-24 and September 26-28, 2008. Powder Horn is an action-packed, hands-on outdoor course that exposes Venturing leaders to activities and resources necessary to operate a successful Ranger Award program. Contact Course Director John Neary at 203.381.0878 or jneary42@sbcglobal.net.

See **VENTURING**, Page 9



Owaneco Lodge Order of the Arrow

<http://www.owaneco.org>

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Venturing

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Sea Scout Wardroom

The Council Sea Scouting Wardroom meets on the second Monday at 7 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church Library, 651 Pequot Avenue in Southport to discuss Sea Scouting operations and upcoming activities. The wardroom is made up of all Council members and ship skippers, officers and committee members. Anyone interested in Sea Scouting is welcome.

Letter from the Chief

Our Lodge has received a \$4,000 service grant from the National Order of the Arrow for the refurbishment of the Hoyt Training Cabin. The entire project is expected to cost close to \$10,000 for which we're selling fundraising Lodge flaps at \$25 each. Anyone interested in purchasing a Fundraiser Flap should e-mail me at vill@owaneco.org. Updates as to when the service project will kickoff will be emailed to members of the Lodge soon.

We have other activities we're looking forward to this spring. In conjunction with the Council's "Scouts Can ... Build a Home" campaign, Owaneco Lodge will be raising money for Habitat for Humanity by collecting aluminum beverage cans to be recycled. In addition, each chapter is collecting donations outside of local Walmart superstores. Donors can sign pieces of lumber that will be used in the construction of a new Habitat home. Walmart has been generous enough to match the funds raised by our efforts with a donation of its own.

The election season is wrapping up for 2007 and the Ordeals are fast approaching! Our May Ordeal is at Deer Lake Scout Reservation on May 4-6. Come and join us for a weekend of Service at one of our council's great scout camps. I look forward to seeing you all at the Lodge Picnic, and working with you this spring!

— Andy Vill
Lodge Chief

Venturing/Sea Scouting Email Group

Sign up to receive e-mails from the Council Venturing and Sea Scouting committees and stay in the loop. Visit groups.yahoo.com/group/CTYankeeVenturing and click "Join This Group!" or e-mail Bill Amidon at wamidon@snet.net.

Be sure to include your name, position in Scouting and reason to join.

Events Committee Report

Owaneco Lodge 313 is having its first annual Lodge Picnic. It will be held at Old Mine Park in Trumbull on April 15 from 1 to 4 p.m. This picnic is a time for fun and food – the two things Boy Scouts love most. A free picnic style lunch will be served including hotdogs, hamburgers and veggie burgers. We will hang out and play games including basketball and Ultimate Frisbee our lodge's unofficial sport. So come, have a good time and not do work. The picnic will also cap our Scouts Can! campaign, so bring your donations and come and support our Lodge.

Also the May Ordeal is coming fast! Like always, great fun will be in store. Deer Lake gives us more changes to lend some cheerful service. Great food as always and fellowship. Come lend a hand or two bring a friend and make it a weekend! We can wait to see you there!

— Chris McCloskey
Events Committee Chairman

OA Day at Camp Sequassen

Owaneco Lodge will once again host its OA DAY program at Camp Sequassen for the 2007 Summer Camp Season. Every Tuesday during summer camp, proudly wear your OA sash during the entire day. Immediately following lunch, during siesta, arrowman are invited to attend encouraged to attend a service project, meeting on the Clark Field side porch.

As usual, Tuesday night is a brotherhood ceremony. If you have been an active Ordeal member for at least 10 months, seal your membership by completing your Brotherhood journey. After the brotherhood ceremony, all arrowmen are invited to a night of fellowship in the dining hall as we indulge in ice cream.

Again, there will be a limited edition "OA Day Patch." The proceeds directly benefit Sequassen. Same as last year you might say? OH NO!

Attend Sequassen this summer and see what else Owaneco has in store for you!

COMMISSIONER CORNER

Doug Machin, Council Commissioner

Webelos to Scout Transition

The unit commissioner is the connecting link in the chain between the troop and the pack. Often, the same unit commissioner will serve both units in the same community.

1. Be a catalyst in developing good relationships between troops and pack leaders.

2. Promote communication by scheduling a meeting of key volunteers.

3. Help plan a Webelos den visit to a troop meeting and other joint activities.

4. Keep the pack and troop on schedule as plans develop for the crossover ceremony at the blue and gold banquet.

5. Attend the crossover ceremony.

6. Be sure new Scouts have completed a Boy Scout application, they have a copy of the troop's activities, and they know when and where the troop meets.

7. Work with the pack and troop in their charter renewal process to help ensure Webelos Scouts are moved from pack rosters to troop rosters.

8. Work with the Webelos transition chair to follow up on those who have not yet joined a troop. Make sure they are invited to join a troop.

By planning and coordinating their efforts, the pack and troop can help make the Webelos-o-Scout transition seamless, and give all Webelos Scouts a chance to experience the fun and excitement of Boy Scouting.

Commissioners in the BSA

The role of the unit commissioner is to help every unit be successful. Unit success is defined by the unit achieving Quality Unit status and demonstrating an improvement in the

retention of its members.

Commissioners are district and council leaders who help Scout units succeed. They coach and consult with adult leaders of Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Venturing crews and Sea Scouting ships. Commissioners help maintain the standards of the Boy Scouts of America.

They also oversee the unit charter renewal plan so that each unit reregisters on time with an optimum number of youth and adult members.

A commissioner plays several roles, including friend, representative, unit "doctor," teacher, and counselor.

The commissioner is a friend of the unit. Of all their roles, this one is the most important. It springs from the attitude, "I care, I am here to help, what can I do for you?" Caring is the ingredient that makes commissioner service successful. He or she is an advocate of unit needs. A commissioner who makes him or herself known and accepted now will be called on in future times of trouble.

The commissioner is a representative. The average unit leader is totally occupied in working with kids. Some have little if any contact with the BSA other than a commissioner's visit to their meeting. The commissioner helps represent the ideals, the principles, and the policies of the Scouting movement.

The commissioner is a unit "doctor." In their role as doctor, they know that prevention is better than a cure, so they try to see that their units make good "health practices" a way of life. When problems arise, and they will even in the best unit, they act quickly.

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A truly mountaintop experience

By Stephanie Milliman

What usually comes natural for Boy Scout leader John Gelinas was interrupted on the cold night of January 4 atop Africa's highest peak Mount Kilimanjaro. While climbing the 19,340 foot mountain, his five-man Scouting group faced extreme whiteout conditions.

"We got stuck in a blizzard. There were high winds and lots of snow," said Dr. John Gelinas, a child psychiatrist and leader of Boy Scout Troop 15, and Cub Scout Pack 118 from Redding. His mission was to see the glaciers at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro before they have melted because, he says, global warming is having an effect on this climate.

Another Boy Scout leader from his troop, Brad Kocka alongside Gelinas had begun their first big mountain climb together. The group left the mountain's Barafu Point, at midnight, to get to Uhuru Peak by morning. "Our group had split up and three of us were ahead and another man was behind," Kocka says.

During the trek the mountain's temperatures dipped into single digits. On the way up the mountain, while caught in a snowstorm, Dr. Gelinas suffered corneal abrasions from swift winds blowing ice into his eyes. "Once the goggles are encrusted with sleet, you really have no choice but to take them off," Kocka says. Any type of body heat coming off your face would melt the ice and it would freeze again hence a Scout's preparedness and equipment was not helpful. "You just put your head down and kept marching on."

Over the next several hours Gelinas would lose up to 95 percent vision, making the decent ambiguous. "Even though I lost vision, I was never scared one bit," he says. At this point dependency on the guides was critical. The group, who booked their trip with Zara Tanzanian Adventures, was led by Gabriel Minja who took complete charge guiding them to the summit.

Scout Leaders Trek Mt. Kilimanjaro During Blizzard



'Once the goggles are encrusted with sleet, you really have no choice but to take them off. You just put your head down and kept marching on.'

– Brad Kocka

"On one side there was a crater with huge ice flows down its side, and you could only see glimpses that came through in waves, otherwise there was about 10 percent visibility," Kocka says. Stiff winds were estimated to be about 40 to 50 miles per hour, and the hiking trail from Stella Point to Uhuru Peak was about 10 feet wide. "You never knew when you had a chance to see something because of the sleet and snow," he says. "You were constantly watching your feet each step in front of you to make sure there were footholds."

They reached Uhuru Peak in eight hours and forty-five minutes. Shortly behind the other three hikers who made it to the summit first. At the top, Dr. Gelinas asked Minja, "Where's the helicopter?" who answered with sincerity, "What's a helicopter?" Hurriedly amidst the blizzard Gelinas

and Kocka flew the international flag of Scouting to celebrate the Boy Scouts 100 year anniversary. "We were the only group where 100% actually made it to the top," Kocka says. "There were a lot of people who turned back." The guides told him they had not seen weather that harsh in a long time. Under 50 percent of the hikers that tried to summit that day made it.

Throughout the ordeal Gelinas says there was never any doubt about the guides' ability and he had complete trust in them. "I was so happy and grateful to need other people. I was never alone it grew so late and dark I could go no further." Hiking down the mountain, towards Kili's entrance point via Mweka Route, there was about four more hours to get to the hotel.

Guide Minja went down the mountain for help, and eight Zara porters came up to assist with his descent. It had been 18 hours from midnight to 8 p.m. and they had been climbing in extreme weather the entire time.

"The last day it is almost like climbing a ladder," Kocka says. "Whiteout conditions were so bad we headed back down to Barafu Point and we rested for an hour or so between." Getting down the mountain was pure exhaustion for Gelinas, so the night porters carried him down. The group descended to 15,000 feet, after reaching the summit, to rest for three hours, but there was another 5,000 feet to climb down towards camp. This time it was an easier trail, and he wore a hat and sunglasses to protect his eyes from the sun.

Despite his situation, Dr. Gelinas says the trip was successful even though he was temporarily blinded and could not see the glaciers, the next morning he regained most of his vision. He was happy his group was able to summit the mountain. Also while on the trip he was able to visit the Moshi Amani Center orphanage. "It's a wonderful example of how parents can remind their children of things we can do when we're older."

Help solve the case of the Missing Den Leader at ... CSI Cub Scout Day Camp!

Be the next Nate the Great, Encyclopedia Brown, or Sherlock Holmes and come to Cub Scout Day Camp to help solve the case of the missing den leader. Learn how to take and identify fingerprints, cast footprints, figure out which pen left a mysterious note, and follow the clues to answer the mystery.

Along with hands-on, science based experiments and problem-solving, campers will enjoy the many activities of day camp - sports, arts & crafts, nature, camp foods, and archery. At Albertus Magnus and Camp Seton swimming will also be offered.

Day Camp will run for six weeks from 8:30 to 4 p.m. on Mondays, 9 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday - Thursday, and 9 to noon on Friday followed by a picnic and show by our campers.

Dates & Locations:

July 9-13 - Polish National Alliance Park, Wallingford
July 16-20 - Albertus Magnus College, New Haven
July 23-27 - Eisenhower Park, Milford
July 30 - Aug. 3 - Old Mine Park, Trumbull
August 6-10 - Hoyt Scout Reservation, Redding
August 13-17 - Camp Seton, Greenwich



The fees are: \$165 (\$150 Early Bird fee if received by May 1)

Camperships are available. Please check the Council website or call 203.876.6868, Ext. 266 for more information.

And if you volunteer ...

We are in need of volunteers at all of our locations. You don't have to be an experienced or trained den leader - we provide the training.

All you need is a sense of humor, a desire to work with boys and have fun. In return for your time, your camper attends camp for \$25. If you have more than one camper attending, then the fees are as follows: 2 Scouts = \$175, 3 Scouts = \$260, 4 Scouts = \$345. All volunteers receive two camp shirts.

Den Chief Training at Day Camp

If you are a boy who has just crossed over to a Boy Scout Troop or are a Boy Scout who has not yet taken Den Chief training, then we have the program for you. You will go through the Den Chief training course, then be assigned to a den or program area at Day Camp to practice what you've learned.

You will also be instructed in the various areas of day camp, such as archery, nature, sports, scout skills, etc. We will provide you with the Den Chief Training Handbook, a camp shirt, water bottle, Den Chief patch, a certificate to show your leadership hours, and a sheet with any Boy Scout advancement you may have accomplished during your time at camp.

This program will be offered at all locations at a cost of \$40 per Scout. This is an excellent opportunity to increase your leadership skills and have a fun time doing it.

If you have any questions regarding Day Camp, becoming a Volunteer, or Den Chief Training Camp, please call 203.876.6868, Ext. 266

We look forward to seeing you at camp.



Sequassen Site Reservation Fee \$200

Site reservations will be accepted from any unit agreeing to bring ten or more Scouts to summer camp. Sites cannot be reserved if a unit plans to have less than ten Scouts in attendance but may work with the Camping Registrar to be co-located with another unit in an unfilled site. When a unit shares a campsite, the incumbent unit will have priority to reserve the site and week for the following year.

A unit may reserve its site and week of camp for 2008 by completing a Campsite Reservation Form and paying the required deposit, e.g., a unit camping in Trail campsite during week one of the camp season may reserve Trail campsite for week one of the following camp season.

A camping unit may reserve its site and week by submitting a Campsite Reservation Form and deposit to the Camp Registrar no later than August 31. If a reservation form is not submitted, the site becomes available at 9 a.m. on September 3, 2007.

A campsite may be reserved for the summer resident camp season at anytime provided no other unit has reserved or has rights to reserve the site (See paragraph #2). A \$200 non-refundable deposit fee is required to reserve the site.

The deposit may be credited against the summer camp fee or used to reserve a campsite for the following summer camp season.

NOTE: A unit rolling over a \$50 site reservation deposit may continue doing so at Camp Sequassen for as long as it annually camps. If a year is skipped; however, a \$200 deposit will be required upon its return to Camp Sequassen.

A site reservation form is available from the Council website.

The Camp Registrar may co-locate units in a campsite to optimize space. Unit leaders will be advised of required site adjustments.

Camp Sequassen Turns 80

Scouts arriving at Camp Sequassen this summer will be walking in the footprints of Scouts who attended Camp Sequassen 79 years ago. In many ways, the camp is the same as it was in 1927, and in so many ways it is a much different place.

Whatever your perception of the camp might be is common to all who camped there: Scouts attending camp will experience the same challenges, apprehensions, thrill of success and personal growth as Scouts have done since the first one went to Camp Sequassen 80 years ago. It's a special place where Scouting melds with one's spirit.

Dr. Larry Pisani will be there, as he has been for 72 consecutive years. Like the camp, he has changed (for the better) but as always, he is looking forward to meeting a new group of Scouts and being part of their camp memories.

Join the celebration! A registration form is available on the Council website.

Help Wanted

*Camp Sequassen Staff
needed for 2007*

Few summer jobs provide the satisfaction and sense of accomplishment as does a position of camp Counselor. It's more than a job. It's a challenge. It's teaching. It's helping others to succeed. It's Scouting. It's also a big step towards your future success.

Openings are available for program area instructors, camp clerk and kitchen aides.

If you are at least 16 years of age and interested in a great summer job, please complete an application located on the Council website.

The Positive Outcomes of Summer Camp

Did you know that there the Boy Scouts of America has proof on the difference just one week of summer camp can make in the life of a boy? A recent study by Louis Harris infers that positive outcomes of Scout summer camp occur because the environment and activities at camp incorporate



Sequassen's Dining Hall Gets a New Look Inside

*Council Camping Committee
Announces New Policy*

Preliminary work began this fall, which included the removal of adornments from the Dining Room. The project will encompass cleaning and repairs to the Dining Room interior and the walls and trim will receive a brand new coat of paint. The goal is to finish by the next summer camping season and Sequassen's 80th Anniversary, to do this we need your help! Please contact the Maintenance Committee or the Camp Ranger.

In conjunction with this effort the Council Camping Committee has set a policy to insure the Dining Hall stands as an expression of the love and respect we have for our camp. The policy #S1, posted on the website, sets basic guidelines regarding what adornments may be approved for display. Of the existing items those which are re-displayed will fall under the new guidelines. Any party interested in any remaining items should apply in writing or e-mail to the Camping Committee by June 15 for consideration.

For more information, please contact Pat Maxim at 203.389.5470 or phm@snet.net.



21st Annual Fishing Derby

April 7 & 14, 2007

A perfect morning event for Scout and family. Come catch two trout in our fully stocked lagoon at Deer Lake. Scouts fish from 8 to 11 a.m. and adults from 11 to 1 p.m. Baits, lures, and lunch -- for you, not the fish -- will be sold on site for your convenience. Camping reservations must be made separately at an additional charge by calling the Camping Registrar at 800.333.7905, Ext. 273. Registration is limited to the first 850 participants. Parking is limited, so please carpool. Rain or snow, it's a go.

Participant Fee:

Fishing participants	\$15
Breakfast only	\$5

The fee includes a hearty pancake breakfast with sausage and a beverage, morning fishing with a two-trout limit, and a commemorative patch.



Cub Scout Fun Fest 2007

July 21, 2007

Come join us in the fourth annual Cub Scout Fun Fest at Deer Lake. Hands on gizmos, gears, pulleys, machinery ... you name it, we've got it. This is an event for the entire family to enjoy. Activities include swimming, fishing, a nature hike, brainteasers, crafts, games, boating and more. Volunteers are needed to make it a success. Program begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 4 p.m.

Participant Fee:

Scouts / Siblings	\$12
Adult Partners	\$4

The fee includes an event patch, a full day of activities and lunch. Registration closes on July 14, 2007 and no refunds will be issued after June 15, 2007.



Scout Day at Lime Rock

October 19-20, 2007

A perfect event for easy camping. Drive up to your campsite, unload and set up. Fix your Saturday meals or purchase them at the snack bar. It doesn't get any easier than this. Camp on the infield Friday night and enjoy the races on Saturday. Open to all registered Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, leaders and their families. Tickets and directions may be either picked up at the Council Resource Center or mailed to you prior to the event. No tickets will be sold at the gate.

Participant Fee:

Scouts / Siblings	\$14
Adults	\$7

Fee includes an event patch, unit ribbon, Friday night camping, Saturday races, adult leader's Friday night social and a really good time. Rain or shine. Registration deadline is Oct. 12. No refunds after Oct. 5.

21st Annual Fishing Derby Registration Form

Name _____ Unit _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Mail Completed form and payment to:

Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA
 21st Annual Fishing Derby
 60 Wellington Road
 Milford, CT. 06460

No. of participants fishing _____ @ \$15 each \$ _____
 No. of breakfasts only _____ @ \$5 each \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Phone 800.333.7905, Ext. 273

Fax 203.876.6884

PICK UP PATCHES AT EVENT.

We will be attending the following session April 7 April 14
 I would like to pay by: Check Credit Card
NO REFUNDS. REGISTRATION IS NOT TRANSFERABLE BETWEEN SESSIONS.
 VISA / MC / AMEX No. _____
 Exp. Date _____ Signature _____ Date _____

2007 Cub Scout Fun Fest Registration Form

Name _____ Unit _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Mail Completed form and payment to:

Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA
 2007 Cub Scout Fun Fest
 60 Wellington Road
 Milford, CT. 06460

REGISTRATION DEADLINE -- July 14, 2007

No. Scouts / Siblings _____ @ \$12 each \$ _____
 No. adult partners _____ @ \$4 each \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Phone 800.333.7905, Ext. 273

Fax 203.876.6884

PICK UP PATCHES AT EVENT.

I would like help with this event.
 I would like to pay by: Check Credit Card
 VISA / MC / AMEX No. _____
 Exp. Date _____ Signature _____ Date _____

2007 Scout Day at Lime Rock Registration Form

Name _____ Unit _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Mail Completed form and payment to:

Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA
 2007 Scout Day at Lime Rock
 60 Wellington Road
 Milford, CT. 06460

REGISTRATION DEADLINE -- Oct. 12, 2007

No. Scouts / Siblings _____ @ \$14 each \$ _____
 No. adults _____ @ \$7 each \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Phone 800.333.7905, Ext. 273

Fax 203.876.6884

PICK UP PATCHES AT EVENT.

I would like help with this event.
 I would like to pay by: Check Credit Card
 VISA / MC / AMEX No. _____
 Exp. Date _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Tour Permits Explained

Tour Permit Tidbit # 1

Tour Permits? What are they and why do I need them?

Answer: They are an absolutely required piece of documentation of unit planning for any trip that a unit takes in excess of 15 miles away from their own meeting site. The unit absolutely must carry out a reasonable planning effort for that activity trip and document that planning effort. By having the Council Service Center approve or permit that plan for a unit activity, liability coverage is secured for the unit's chartering organization, the unit leadership, the CT Yankee Council, and the BSA. In addition, it certifies that the unit activity is reasonably safe and appropriate for participation by youths and adults. The only exception to filling out a tour permit is for participation in District or Council events. If you have any questions concerning the need to do activity trip planning or a need to document this fully by filling out a Tour Permit, call your District Executive.

— Jack Boitano, Ph.D.
Risk Management Chairman

Online Tour Permits

An online assistant is available to help complete the Tour Permit. Visit <http://www.scouting.org/forms/tp/index.html> to complete it online.

Tour Permits and You

Unsure of when your unit needs to file a Local Tour Permit? Don't worry, you aren't the only one. Our council's tour permit policy asks units to file a permit at the Council Resource Center when your activity meets one or both of the following situations:

1. 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.

2. 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 sports.

If your unit is attending an event that is more than 500 miles from your meeting location, a National Tour Permit is required. It is important that your tour permit is filed two weeks in advance of your trip to ensure that is approved. You can fax, mail or bring your tour permit to the Council Resource Center. Sending in your tour permit on the day of departure is risky; it does not afford enough time to correct errors and may result in your trip being delayed due to an unapproved tour permit.

For more information, visit the resource section of the Council website.

Adventure Day Camp at Deer Lake

The Council is operating an adventure day camp at Deer Lake beginning June 25. Patty Clifton is Camp Director. The camp season goes from June 25 to August 10 and offers co-ed program for youths K-12.

Deer Lake is ideally suited for hosting a day camp with open fields, wooded areas, a spring-fed lagoon, fixed structures and far enough away from home to be an adventure.

Adventure Day Camp is operated as a Learning for Life program offering fun-filled days with many activities designed to build self esteem, instill values to build character and development leadership skills.

Patty plans to have diverse, age appropriate programs with abundant activities to keep the campers busy and entertained. She and Ranger Mark are excited about this new program and are busy making plans, hiring staff and taking reservations. For a registration form and more information, please visit www.deerlakecamp.org

Deer Lake Venture Wilderness School

Venture Wilderness School is a co-educational program for individuals in grades 9-12.

These outdoor activities are open to all individuals, regardless of their experience. Skill areas include rock climbing and rappelling, canoeing and kayaking, low and high ropes course events, orienteering, backpacking, first aid and safety awareness, Leave No Trace skills, and much, much more. The program is geared to a five day schedule, where Monday and Tuesday are day sessions and Wednesday through Friday are overnight on the trail, utilizing both Deer Lake and over a thousand acres of State Forest immediately adjacent to camp. If you're ready for challenging outdoor activities, Venturing may be the thing for you.

Call Mark Clifton at 203.421.4040 to arrange an adventure for you and your group. Do it now!

Help Your Council Earn the Good Turn for America Award

The Good Turn for America Council Award recognizes local councils with a shared vision and a proven commitment to help youth learn qualities of good citizenship through community service projects carried out in collaboration with other community organizations.

There are four requirements for the award:

1. Summarize one or more Council-wide events or activities related to Scouting for Food, Scouting for Shelter, and/or Scouting for Healthy Living, including a statement of who benefited.
2. All districts participated in the council event/activity or conducted their own district event/activity.
3. At least 60 percent of the units in the council participated in a council, district, or unit Good Turn for America event/activity.
4. Good Turn for America events/activities were conducted in

collaboration with the following community organizations.

You and your district play an important role in completing the second and third requirements. And, in light of the many units that diligently responded to the natural disasters in the Gulf Coast states and continue to conduct Scouting for Food projects this year, remember that every service project is a Good Turn for America project and will help your council qualify for this recognition. Remind your units to enter their service project information at www.goodturnforamerica.org.

Finally, remember to take advantage of the Good Turn for America unit recognition items available through the Supply Group. These items, which may be found in the "Awards and Gifts" section of the BSA Official Retail Catalog, include a patch and segment, unit streamer, certificate, and plaque.

Safe and Happy Campers

The BSA sets standards to ensure all Scouts enjoy a safe and satisfying camping experience. Scout camps must meet mandatory standards to open. Non-Scout camps are required to meet certain standards as well. Unit leaders conducting a long term (three days or more) camp experience at other than a BSA accredited camp must meet the following requirements:

- The name, age, and address, experience and qualifications of the Scouter serving as Camp Director.
- The names and ages of other adult leaders.
- The number of Scout campers.
- The location of the campsite and the best route to reaching it.
- A copy of the daily program.
- A copy of the camp menu.
- Required tour permit.
- Written details covering emergency procedures and medical emergencies that include arrangements made for police, fire, rescue squad, and hospital protection.
- Written approval of chartered organization.

Scout Campership Opportunities

No Scout will miss a week at summer camp because of lack of funds. That is the Council's commitment to all Scouts. While all youth from all towns will receive funding, specific funding has been made available to Scouts in Wallingford to attend camp.

A Campership is financial assistance awarded to a Cub Scout or Boy Scout to allow him to attend a summer camp program (residential camp or day camp). Camperships are need-based and are awarded to youth who are unable to afford the full summer camp fee.

Camperships are approved for Connecticut Yankee Council camps only.

Campership requests must be submitted to the camp registrar by May 31, 2007. Forms are available at the Scout Service Center and/or from unit leaders. Camperships requests must be filled out completely and signed by the parent/guardian or unit leader.

Your gift to Friends of Scouting keeps Scouting strong, affordable and available.

Thank you to all those who have already made their annual commitment to support Scouting.

We couldn't do it without you.

START YOUR PROGRAM YEAR RIGHT.

A strong unit program requires good planning.
Our kickoffs are designed to help you do just that.

Mark your calendars now
and make sure your unit is represented.

Program Kickoff • Tuesday, June 19

Recruitment Kickoff • Tuesday, July 17

Popcorn Kickoff • Wednesday, Aug. 15

Powahay District

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

<http://powahay.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman

Robert Eason
203.656.9600
reason1016@aol.com

District Commissioner

John W. Hanks
203.325.9077
johnwhanks@hotmail.com

Membership Vice-Chairman

Michael Kraus
203.968.1430
mdkraus@optonline.net

Program Vice-Chairman

Clayton Cole
203.761.9640
clayton@cole-family.org

Finance Vice-Chairman

Nathan Newhall
203.425.9607
newhall1.23@aol.com

Sr. District Executive

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

April

- 1 – Tiger Hunt Kickoff
- 4 – District Meeting
- 8 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 – Roundtable
- 25 – Commissioner Staff Meeting

May

- 2 – District Meeting
- 5 – Pinewood Derby Championship
- 5 – Cubmobile Derby
- 8 – Volunteer Recognition Dinner
- 13 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 30 – Commissioner Staff Meeting

June

- 6 – District Meeting
- 9 – Tiger Leader Training
- 10 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 19 – Council Program Kickoff
- 27 – Commissioner Staff Meeting

July

- 4 – Independence Day

Volunteer Recognition Dinner May 8

The annual Powahay District Volunteer Recognition Dinner is Tuesday, May 8 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Stamford. The evening is an opportunity to recognize all the hard work that Powahay volunteers put into Scouting over the past year. The highlight of the evening is the presentation of the District Award of Merit, the highest award a district can present to a volunteer.

Along with the District Award of Merit, volunteers can apply for Veteran Awards, Leader Training Knots or other recognitions such as National Camping Award or Summertime Pack Award. If there is someone you feel deserves recognition, please contact your Unit Commissioner to see what may be available. Invitations are being sent to all registered leaders and are also available on our district website, along with award forms. For more information, please contact Advancement Chairman Chester Wickett at cwickett@optonline.net.

Thank You For Your Generosity to FOS

As of the printing of this edition, our district has raised nearly \$60,000 toward our Friends of Scouting goal of \$115,000. A very sincere *Thank You* goes out to all families who have contributed so generously to this campaign. FOS helps fund much needed Council programs and services, as well as providing the opportunity to allow any family to join Scouting. Your unit benefits directly from the FOS campaign. If you haven't yet made your pledge, or would like to help by asking friends or local businesses, please contact FOS Chairman Nathan Newhall.

Powahay Chapter OA Meetings

Powahay Order of the Arrow chapter meetings are the second Sunday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Darien Scout Cabin. Please contact Chapter Advisor Michael DiMeglio at hover950@hotmail.com for more information or if you'd like to get more involved.

Powahay's First Annual Cubmobile Derby

Powahay is proud to introduce a brand new activity for our packs this spring. The first annual Cubmobile Derby is Saturday, May 5 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in New Canaan. A detailed packet has been distributed at Roundtables and is available on our district website.

This event is sure to be fun for the entire family and bring some excitement to our Spring Cub Scout schedule. Each den works together to build a "Cubmobile," a pint-sized racing vehicle. Each den has one racer, and each boy in the den races in the car once. Usually, a ramp is used to help start the cars, and they are gravity-propelled downhill to the finish line or can be raced on a flat parking lot with members of the Den pushing the car. The Cubmobiles are easy and inexpensive to build. Build one for each Den or just one for the entire pack to share. Wood can easily be donated through local construction sites.

Pinewood Derby Championships May 5

The annual Powahay District Pinewood Derby Championships is scheduled for Saturday, May 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 682 South Avenue in New Canaan. The top three racers from each pack are invited to compete. A registration form and rules packet is available from the district website.

Roundtables

Every month on the second Wednesday, we host an information-overload session to help you provide a better program to the boys. The problem is, *you're not there*. Roundtables are designed to introduce leaders to new ideas and resources, as well as providing the training and networking necessary to help you be a stronger leader. Our last Roundtable of the year is April 11 and we look forward to seeing you there. Please contact Roundtable Commissioner Norm Merritt at normanmerritt@gmail.com with any questions or if there's a program you'd like to see.

Chairman's Corner

If you believe Puxatawny Phil (the groundhog), Spring is few short weeks away. While our winter has, for the most part, been quiet, with little snow and record warm temperatures in January, our Powahay district program of activities has been anything but. We have held numerous Boy Scout and Cub Scout Leader training courses, had our annual Klondike Derby, planned and run by Rowayton Troop 2, which was a great success, and had our Cub Scout Polar Bear day, which drew record participation. These are but a few activities that have taken place so far this winter with many more upcoming. None of these programs would be possible without the contributions of so many volunteers across the District. I would like to thank all of you for your commitment and dedication to Scouting across the district and, of course, look forward to your continued support.

One of our higher priorities for 2007 is to revitalize the District Commissioner role, significantly increasing the number of Commissioners, who serve as the principal liaison between the units and the District/Council. I am pleased to report that, while we are not yet fully staffed, we have made great progress and now have Commissioners for most of our units. We are still looking for volunteers, however, so if you are interested please contact John Hanks, our District Commissioner, Tony Vogl or me.

I am also pleased to congratulate Nathan Newhall, Clayton Cole and Willis Austin, all of whom received the Silver Beaver Award at the annual Council Recognition Dinner in January. The Silver Beaver Award is presented to those Scouters recognized by their peers in their exceptional service to Scouting. Nathan, Clayton and Austin have a long record of exemplary service to their units, the Powahay District and the Council.

—Robert Eason, District Chairman

Spring Recruiting Adds New Energy To Your Unit

Our district crossed a very important line at the end of March. For the first time in several years, we experienced a growth in membership. Why is this important? It means that Scouting is on the rise again in Powahay and we should all pat ourselves on the back for delivering a strong program to the boys.

This spring, we're encouraging every Pack, Troop and Crew to help us continue this trend by planning and hosting an open house or social event where new families can see what Scouting is all about. With fun, engaging activities such as the Cubmobile Derby, Spring Camporee, and Scout Night at the Bluefish, along leader trainings and orientations available, there's no better time to get new families (and leaders) active and engaged. Take the time now to inventory your gaps and make plans to fill them before the fall hits. Contact Mike Kraus or Lori Lemay at lorinnor@aol.com to get some great ideas.

What's The Difference 'tween a UFO and a UC?

A recent joke we found online somewhere. The answer is, *some people have actually seen UFO's*. That may have been the case, but in Powahay, it isn't any more. Under the leadership of our new District Commissioner John Hanks, we've re-energized our volunteer commissioner staff to provide real service to our units.

What does that mean? In a nutshell, it means that every unit has a coach, mentor and friend from district whose sole purpose in Scouting is to help your unit succeed. They're an important link between district and the units, as well as helping to facilitate communication and help solve problems.

We're proud of the fact that we now have more than 20 active unit commissioners in Powahay who want our units to succeed and grow. Reach out to John Hanks today to find out who your commissioner is. *Working together, we can all make a difference.*

Scatacook District

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

<http://www.scatacook.org>

District Chairman
Alvin Tuck
atuck@ajtuckco.com

District Commissioner
Mike Carpenter
203.544.8023
mike@mcarpenter.com

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

April
4 – District Committee Meeting
11 – Roundtable
11 – Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting

May
2 – District Committee Meeting
9 – Roundtable
9 – Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting

June
6 – District Dinner

District Dinner

You are all cordially invited to the annual Scatacook District Dinner. Please join us for an evening of good food, awards, and fellowship. There are many awards that will be given out such as the Spark Plug Award and the Key 3 award. Lets not forget the high-light of the night the District Award of Merit. All District Award of Merit applications must be received no later than May 2. If there are any leaders, committee members, or parents who you would like to honor at the District Dinner please let us know so we can add you into the program.

Roundtable

Roundtable is held the second Wednesday of the month from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at St. Thomas Church in Bethel. At least one leader from every unit should attend. The purpose of Roundtable is two fold. First, this is where the most up to date news and information is presented to the district. Second, this is an opportunity for questions to be asked and answered. Every month breakout sessions are held with a specific program theme. If there are any themes that you would like to see please let us know.

Friends of Scouting

We are now in four months into our annual FOS fundraising campaign and we are making vast strides towards reaching our goal of \$82,500. If your Pack, Troop or Crew has not had a presentation and would like to sign up, please contact Dominic Gualtieri.

OA Chapter Meetings

Chapter Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at St. Thomas Church in Bethel. The meetings start at 7:30 p.m. All Brothers are invited to attend.

SHH!!!!

Scatacook Helping the Hungry (SHH) is a program that was started over a three and half years ago. So far Scatacook Packs, Troops, and Crews have donated or collected 9000 pounds of food. Lets work together to make "helping the hungry" part of our District's culture. The goal is to reach 15 tons by Thanksgiving. How can we do this you may ask? We can do it by collecting food at all district events as well as at unit events. Don't forget to report your results to Jay Lubin.

Commissioner Corner

I am happy to report that after many years of volunteer service in other capacities within our district I have accepted an offer to become your new District Commissioner. I am excited about the opportunity and look forward to the challenges ahead. Our district is fortunate in that there are many excellent unit commissioner's already in place that will help make getting started a bit easier. Commissioners are first and foremost a friend and resource to our packs, troops, and crews. A commissioner should be there when a unit leader needs guidance, has a question, or share in the experience of unit that is running smoothly. A commissioner should also keep a Scouting unit abreast of district and Council programs, activities and opportunities for recognition.

Although we are grateful to those Scouters that already volunteer their time as unit commissioners there are simply not enough to cover all our units. If you would be willing to help out by becoming a unit commissioner please give me a call. If you are a Scout leader and have a question or suggestion regarding our commissioner program please contact me.

— Michael Carpenter, District Commissioner

Spring Recruiting

We are in the midst of spring recruitment. In addition to recruiting Tigers during Tiger Hunt, it's a good time to be thinking about recruiting from all grade levels to help fill any gaps in your Pack, Troop, or Crew. Council has several programs to help with recruiting. In addition we can provide your unit with flyers, posters, or stickers.

Popcorn

It may seem early to talk about popcorn however now is the time to start planning for a successful year. If you would to have a presentation done for your committee about how to hold a successful sale or to address the potential income from the popcorn sale please let us know. Contact the district Popcorn Kernels Jim and Jolene Wruck.

SCOUT NIGHT

Saturday, June 2 • Visit www.ctyankee.org to download a flyer or call the Cutters at 203.777.5636.

Tickets are \$15 each. Features watching batting practice, opening parade, food, fun, film on the big screen and a campout in the outfield.

CUTTERS



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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Bob.Abercrombie@thomson.com

District Commissioner
Peter Gordon
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District Executive
Jeff Garrand
203.876.6868 Ext.237
garrand@ctyankee.org

District Paraprofessional
Andrea Guarniere
203.876.6868 Ext. 280
aguarniere@ctyankee.org

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April

- 3 – District Committee Meeting
- 3 – District Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 10 – District Roundtable
- 10 – OA Chapter Meeting

May

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

June

- 5 – District Committee Meeting
- 5 – District Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 12 – District Steak Roast

July

- 4 – Happy Independence Day!

Roundtable

Roundtable is held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield. Roundtable is a great resource for any leaders and parents in helping run successful dens, packs and troops.



Tom Pabis, Scoutmaster and Deno Gualtieri, Committee Chairman of Troop 10 get ready to serve the 200 guests at the Pomperaug District Dinner.

District Dinner

The Annual Pomperaug District Dinner was held on Saturday, Feb. 10 in conjunction with the Scouting Anniversary Week. Many thanks go to Troop 10 of First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield who hosted a great event and to Chris Caruso for chairing the dinner. 200 Scouts and Scouters from the district attended. The district gave out many awards to dedicated Scouts and Scouters in the district. Pomperaug awarded the District Award of Merit to Robert Cloutier, Richard Colon, and Douglas Heim. Two Senior Patrol Leaders were also recognized, Hank Allen of Troop 63 for running the District Klondike and Eduardo Santiago of Troop 34 for running the Fall Camporee/WOW.



Scouting is a family affair! The Vigeants show off their Scouting spirit at the District Dinner.

Pomperaug District Klondike Kwest 2007

The District Klondike took place at Camp Sequassen the weekend of January 19-21 with more than 250 Scouts and adults representing 20 units.

The program was organized by Troop 63 of Monroe under the leadership of SPL Hank Allen. Activities included First Aid and Safety, Orienteering, Geocaching, Lashings, Log Cutting, Firebuilding, Team Building Activities and a day long Scavenger Hunt. Several of the events also had an option geared to Webelos Scouts. The highlight of the day was the "Pimp My Sled" competition which judged the creativity of the Patrols in the outfitting and decorating of their Klondike sleds. The Sled Race was held on Clark Field which, thanks to the first real cold of the winter, had a light covering of real snow that remained for the entire day.

An evening campfire and cracker barrel rounded out the day's events and were enjoyed by all. Closing ceremonies were held on Sunday morning following a Scout's Own Service and awarding of participation ribbons.



SPL's Eduardo Santiago of Troop 34 and Hank Allen of Troop 63 receive recognition for their hard-work in running district activities.



Above – Girls from Venturing Crew 68 try their hands at the two person saw competition.

Right – Boys of Troop 103 show off their Klondike sled.

Below – Boy Scouts from Troop 63 conduct the opening ceremony.



Firebuilding

- 1st Place: Evil Monkeys, Troop 90
- 2nd Place: Rockets, Troop 90
- 3rd Place: Troop 39

Orienteering

- 1st Place: Screaming Eagle, Troop 90
- 2nd Place: Evil Monkeys, Troop 90
- 3rd Place: Patrol 2, Troop 62

First Aid

- 1st Place: Patrol 2, Troop 62
- 2nd Place: Dragon, Troop 34
- 3rd Place: Moose, Troop 82

Lashing

- 1st Place: Patrol 1, Troop 163
- 2nd Place: Evil Monkeys, Troop 90
- 3rd Place: Panther, Troop 199

Teambuilding

- 1st Place: Patrol 1, Troop 162
- 2nd Place: Dragon, Troop 34
- 3rd Place: Moose, Troop 82

Logging

- 1st Place: Panther, Troop 199
- 2nd Place: Patrol 3, Troop 65
- 3rd Place: Patrol 2, Troop 163

Iditarod Sled Race

- 1st Place: Dragon, Troop 34
- 2nd Place: Screaming Eagle, Troop 90
- 3rd Place: Moose, Troop 82

Great Meal in a Pot Challenge

Troop 62

Uber Patrol (Best Overall)

Dragon, Troop 34

Pimp My Sled

Best Overall Sled
Evil Monkeys, Troop 90

Best Patrol Theme
Troop 65, all patrols combined

Best Scout Theme
Troop 15

Best Klondike Theme
Patrol 2, Troop 62

Heartfelt thanks and congratulations are extended to the youth and adult leadership in addition to all of the adult volunteers of Troop 63 for an outstanding event.

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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cheimann@csc.com

District Commissioner
Kirk Engstrom
203.484.0161
kirk.engstrom@comcast.net

District Executive
John Rochette
203.876.6868, Ext. 275
rochetted@ctyankee.org

April

- 3 – District Committee Meeting
- 3 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 10 – Roundtable
- 10 – OA Chapter Meeting

May

- 1 – District Committee Meeting
- 1 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 8 – Roundtable
- 8 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 18-20 – Spring Camporee

June

- 5 – District Committee Meeting
- 5 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 12 – District Recognition Dinner

Friends of Scouting Campaign Update

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our FOS campaign. We're off to a great start toward our \$33,000 goal. Please help Scouting in your community by pledging at your unit's presentation. It costs our Council about \$175 to provide a year's program for each youth. For more information, contact our FOS Chairman Russ Amato at 203.488.7475 or rbrefrig@sbcglobal.net.

Pioneering at the Spring Camporee

On May 18-20th, we'll hold our annual Spring Camporee at Bauer Farm in Madison. The theme is pioneering. We will arrive Friday evening and set up camp along with our campsite Gateways (an item to be judged.) Stations will be set up where Scouts can learn about Pioneering, and complete requirements toward the Pioneering Merit Badge. There will also be competitions and a camp wide game. Contact John Rochette or visit the district website for more information.

2007 Klondike Derby

Our Klondike Derby was held at Deer Lake Scout Reservation on January 27. In spite of the below zero temperature on Friday night, the nine units who attended had an enjoyable weekend camping and participating in various Scout related activities. A special thanks to Larry Perry for all of his hard work and effort in coordinating this event. A good time was had by all!

A 'Class A' Cheer For Our New District Chair

Lighthouse is proud to introduce Cosette Heimann as our new District Chairman. Cosette is a highly dedicated volunteer who is Woodbadge trained. She has also earned the Bronze Pelican and the Silver Beaver Award. We look forward to her service to our district.

Keep Things Popping

Tired of paying for Scouting? Lighten the load with our annual

popcorn sale. Earn your unit's yearly budget in just a few weekends, and earn prizes too! Contact John Rochette for more information.

District Annual Dinner

Join us Tuesday, June 12 at the Tabor Lutheran Church in Branford as we salute the Scouting volunteers of Lighthouse District. You won't want to miss the presentation of the District Award of Merit, Unit Shining Star Awards and more. The evening begins with a reception at 6:15 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., and the program beginning at 7:45 p.m. Registrations at the door are strongly discouraged. Please pre-register with Donna Parker, 203.488.4341.

District Award of Merit

Lighthouse awards three deserving volunteers with the District Award of Merit in recognition of their tireless support and leadership to district initiatives. Although the recommendation form is only one page, a successful recommendation will be much longer, highlighting the Scouting experience of the volunteer. Please give the volunteer the credit they deserve, detailed recommendations are valued more than short recommendations. These are also due by May 30.

Shining Star Award

Without quality volunteers, the packs, troops and crews of Lighthouse would not be able to function. Once again Lighthouse has the privilege of supporting our units in the recognition of their valued adult volunteers. Each pack, troop or crew from the district may nominate up to three individuals to receive this honor. Please submit a separate form for each volunteer nominated. A profile of the accomplishments and contributions of your "Shining Star" will be part of the ceremony. A committee of leaders from your unit should determine who should be recognized this year as a Shining Star.

Please be sure to arrange for your recipient to be present at the dinner. Please download the recognition form from the district website and return it before May 30. Nominations received after the deadline will not be accepted.



Pack 455 hosts their annual Pinewood Derby.



Sea Scouts from Ship 1 with Ranger Mark Clifton at Deer Lake.

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Now's your chance to let the Steven Spielberg or Peter Jackson lurking inside of you out and onto the screen.

OUR PASSION FOR SCOUTING
ENTER YOUR VIDEO
CONTEST

Produce a one-minute video showing how passionate you and your Scout are about Scouting. Be one of the first 75 to enter a video in the Our Passion For Scouting video contest and you'll score two special ScoutParents T-shirts and, if your entry receives the most votes, win one of two handheld GPS units.

First 75 entrants get 2 ScoutParents T-shirts

2 Prizes Awarded: handheld GPS units

Find all the details at:
www.ScoutParents.org

WEPAWAUG VALLEY DISTRICT

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

<http://wepawaug.ctyankee.org>

District Chairman (Interim)

Michael Znosko
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District Commissioner

Donald Kaletsky
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dkaletsky-bsa@yahoo.com

Field Director

Eddie Blue
203-876-6868 x276
blue@ctyankee.org

April

- 2 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 2 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 5 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 7 – Fishing Derby
- 11 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 11 – District Committee Meeting
- 14 – Fishing Derby

May

- 2 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 2 – District Committee Meeting
- 3 – Cub Scout Roundtable
- 4-6 – Famoree
- 7 – Boy Scout Roundtable
- 7 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 9 – District Dinner

June

- 2 – Scout Night at the Cutters
- 4 – Cub Scout/Boy Scout Leaders Picnic
- 4 – OA Chapter Meeting
- 13 – Commissioner Staff Meeting
- 13 – District Committee Meeting
- 19 – Annual Program Kickoff



Leaders and members of the Milford Fire Department collected Toys for Tots this past winter.

A Scout is Reverent

Nearly 50 Scouts, Scouters and their families joined together on Sunday, Feb. 4 at St. Joseph's of Stratford National Catholic Church to celebrate the annual Wepawaug Valley Scout Sunday Interfaith Service. Several Scouts and Scouters helped out with the readings. Bishop Anthony of St. Joseph's, an Eagle Scout, gave the Message for the Day. Kathy Norris, Shawn Norris, and Curtis Cocco of Troop 196 were our hosts at St. Joseph's and helped coordinate the reception of cake, cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate that followed the service. Donna Wesolowski also helped with coordinating the event. Anyone interested in hosting next year's service should contact Mike Znosko, Program Vice Chairman.

Roundtable Change

Roundtables return to the first week of the month. Boy Scout Leader Roundtables are the 1st Monday of the month, and Cub Scout Roundtables are the 1st Thursday of the month. Roundtables start at 7:30 p.m. and are held at the Council Resource Center. Every unit is encouraged to send at least one representative to these important informational sessions.

The New Centennial Quality Awards

The BSA has a new program to recognize units in conjunction with its 100th anniversary approaching in 2010. Each unit is asked to meet with their unit commissioner to complete the applica-

tion and set goals or benchmarks for the coming year. If you have not done so yet, please contact your unit commissioner or District Commissioner Don Kaletsky.

Time to Start Popping!!

Once again it's time to get things set for the Trail's-End popcorn sale. Special thanks to Marty Casey from Milford Pack 712 for stepping up to be the District Popcorn Kernel.

Now is the time to commit your unit for the 2007 Popcorn Sale. Please get in touch with Marty or Eddie Blue to sign up for the sale. Popcorn is a critical fundraiser for the Council. It also helps raise much need funds for the individual units. At least 30 percent of the unit sales stays with the unit. The Leaders Kickoff Celebration is August 15. For the second year, we will also have a Youth Kickoff on September 8th. The Show & Sell campaign runs from September 15th through October 24th. The Take Order campaign runs from August 15th through November 1st.

District Dinner May 9

All volunteers and their spouses are invited to the Wepawaug Valley District Dinner on Wednesday, May 9. Join us for an evening of fellowship with your fellow Scouters to recognize the hard work of our volunteers. Veteran Awards, Training Awards, Camping Awards, Outstanding Leader Awards, and the Ella Mirmina Award are some of the presentations which will be made. The culmination of the evening is the presentation of the District

Introducing: Eddie Blue

I guess that would be me, your new District Executive. I am thrilled to be a part of Wepawaug Valley. We have a great bunch of volunteers. I started about two weeks ago and have heard nothing but good things about this district. I've already begun attending Courts of Honor and Arrow of Light ceremonies and am so very proud of the boys I've met and am grateful to all the parents and volunteers who give so much of themselves to help these boys reach their goals. Way to go!

Please allow me to tell you a few things about myself. This month, I celebrate my fifteen-year wedding anniversary. My wife, Catina and I have two beautiful daughters, who are 13 and 10. Unfortunately I was not a Scout in my younger years, but was a Scoutmaster in New Haven for Troops 4200, 4281, and 4229. Although I will miss working with the boys, I look forward to serving with you. As a former soldier, active duty Air Force and Army National Guard, I believe in the values that Scouting instills in our youth. I'm glad I have an opportunity to help us grow as a district, which will enable us to better serve our community.

If at any time you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call. I will make every attempt to make myself available to you, and if you are just hanging out in the Scout Shop, drop in and say hello, I would love to meet you.

I would like to congratulate all the Webelos who will be crossing over this year. I would also like to congratulate all the boys who have passed their Board of Review for Eagle Scout. Lastly, to all the boys that will age out this year, no matter how you finish your time in Scouting you finish as a winner, congratulations! Remember it is not always who we are at the end of the journey that matters the most, instead it is what we learn during the process. Thank you for supporting the Boy Scouts of America.

— Eddie Blue, District Executive

Commissioners Corner

I would like to welcome Eddie Blue, our new District Executive, to Wepawaug Valley. Please come to the next Roundtable to meet him. On behalf of the Commissioner's Staff, we wish him much luck and success. We are still accepting forms for the new Centennial Quality Unit Awards. We are just a call or e-mail away. I will do my best to make sure that your unit is given the opportunity to meet with me or one of our Commissioners to fill out the application.

Every boy deserves a trained leader. You owe it to our youths to be fully trained. Training starts with "Fast Start" and "Youth Protection" training. For Scout Committee members there is "Troop Committee Challenge." All three are available on line. This minimum training will be mandated as of January 1, 2008.

Thank you for what you have done for our youths and for what you will continue to do.

— Don Kaletsky, District Commissioner

Award of Merit. This is the highest award that a district may bestow on an individual. The dinner is at Patrigani's Restaurant, 313 Campbell Avenue in West Haven. A check-in reception is from 6 to 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner until about 9 p.m. The menu includes a house salad with vinaigrette dressing, potato and vegetables, a

choice of prime rib "au jus", stuffed chicken breast, or stuffed filet of sole, and desert.

The dinner is \$27 per person. Reservations must be made by Friday, May 4. Registration forms made be picked up at the Council Resource Center or from our district website.

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

Jim Nunn
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Senior District Executive

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Vice Chairman – Membership

Tony Anderson
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Vice Chairman – Finance

Ray Moncevicus
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romaldasm@aol.com

Vice Chairman – Program

Garry Desjardins
203.265.1379
desjardins1@comcast.net

Vice Chairman – Communications

Joanne Kelleher
860.628.2151
pack8ct@hotmail.com

April

- 3 – District Committee Meeting
- 9 – District Roundtable
- 13 – Commissioner Updates
- 16 – District Tiger Mania Launch
- 28 – Pinewood Derby
- 22-28 – BS Recruitment Week
- 23 – OA Achewon Chapter Meeting

May

- 1 – District Committee Meeting
- 4 – Webelos to Scout Application Deadline
- 7 – District Roundtable
- 11 – Commissioner Updates
- 13 – Membership Inventory Deadline
- 18 – 20 Spring Camporee
- 18 – Tiger Mania Applications Due
- 22 – OA Achewon Chapter Meeting

June

- 5 – District Committee Meeting
- 8 – Commissioner Updates
- 11 – District Recognition Dinner
- 14 – Wear Uniform to School Day
- 15 – 2008 District Budgets Due
- 20 – Save-a-Scout Telethon
- 25 – OA Achewon Chapter Meeting

Making Webelos to Scout Transition Work

Spring is a time of change in nature, and the same is true with Scouting. From early February through June, our units see an annual cycle of renewal as Webelos leave their packs and cross over into troops. On the surface it seems so easy – our boys *cross over*. But *crossover* means *change*. Webster defines “change” as “to make different.” And the Boy Scout program *is* different than Cub Scouting. Critical to making our boys’ cross over a success is helping them and their parents to understand this difference.

Transitioning from an environment where activities and goals are adult-led/adult-initiated to one where the boy is the leader is a big step. Clearly understanding the goal of the Boy Scout program (boy-led/boy-initiated) and how that affects him will help a new Scout start his journey from boy to man and parents to complete their journey from Akela to coach. Communicating this message and the new expectations should start with Cub leadership in the Webelos program and continue with Boy Scout leadership through a boy’s first year in his Troop.

Marketing wisdom says that people need to hear a message a minimum of 5-10 times before they can understand and fully accept it. Make sure you help our boys and their parents get the message they need to make their cross over to Scouting a success. Make transition talks a regular part of your program.

Congratulations to all our new Boy Scouts and their families.

Popcorn Sale!

Make money for your unit, have fun and earn prizes while you do it. The annual Trail’s End popcorn sale is nearly upon us. This fall your unit can earn thousands of dollars from just one fundraiser by selling popcorn. Spend more time in the outdoors doing fun activities and less time earning money. The Show & Sell Program is an easy way to earn money for your unit. Order your popcorn, setup in front of a popular store in town, and sell your product; no delivery required! Make this fundraiser

your number one and only money earning project of the year! Each unit is asked to elect a Popcorn Chairperson to be the contact for this project. If your unit has not sold popcorn in the past, a member of the popcorn committee will set up an appointment to speak with the unit committee about the sale. Contact Peter Greenbacker at 203.627.2357 or petergrmbkr@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Friends of Scouting Campaign Update

Each year volunteers, families, and our local communities are asked to help raise our district’s fair share of the Council’s operating budget. This year our goal is to raise \$48,000. As of February 30, we raised over \$21,000. If everyone contributes what they can to our campaign we will achieve our goal of \$48,000 by the beginning of April, earlier than our campaign has ever reached goal. Thank you to everyone who has helped to sustain the Scouting program in our communities.

For more information about the Friends of Scouting, please contact Finance Chairman Caroline Griffin at 203.710.8119, twinsand@snet.net.

District Dinner June 11

Please join us Monday, June 11 as we salute the Scouting volunteers of our district at our annual District Dinner. You won’t want to miss this event as we recognize Scouters at the unit and district levels with the District Award of Merit, Unit Shining Star Awards and more.

Assistant Den Leaders, Den Leaders, Assistant Cubmasters, Cubmasters, Committee Members, Committee Chairmen, Assistant Scoutmasters, Scoutmasters, Associate Crew Advisors, Crew Advisors, District Commissioner Staff, District Committee Members, and other Adult Volunteers, and their families are encouraged to attend this event.

Please Note: Registration at the door are strongly discouraged as food and seating is planned prior to the evening. Please be considerate and register on time. Keep an eye on the district website and at roundtable for additional information.

Chairman's Corner

“On my honor I will do my duty... to help other people”

It’s part of our oath. We teach this to our boys. We demonstrate this behavior in the service projects we provide. But how far does that duty extend? Are we limited to the ones we see; the members of our unit? Or does our duty extend as far as our hearts can reach?

We raise the majority of our funds for Scouting in two ways. You’re all familiar with our Friends of Scouting campaign. We reach out to the families who are already supporting our program and ask them to give a little more. The other way we raise the funds we need is through our popcorn fundraiser.

Sometimes the real purpose of the popcorn fundraiser gets lost. Unlike most fundraisers, Scouting chose to give something back to the boys who participated. And so we talk about awards for boys and percentages for units. But we sometimes forget the real goal of our popcorn fundraiser.

For any of you who handle household bills, I don’t have to tell you that things cost more. That’s true for Scouting too. Camp Sequassen doesn’t get a break on its electric bill. Stocking the lake for Fishing Derby has not become less expensive. Maintaining and improving our camps is one of the largest payments made from our fundraising efforts. In addition, we subsidize the cost of camping. If you google resident camps in Connecticut you’ll find our nearest competitor charges over \$100 more for a single week of camp. Most cost much more. Popcorn fundraising makes sure that camp is affordable for all our boys.

Most importantly, the money we raise from popcorn allows us to set aside funds for camperships. Camperships make sure that Baden-Powell’s promise is available to those boys who, because of life’s path, need Scouting most.

So, when you get the call this year to make the commitment to sell popcorn, keep the real goal in mind.

“To help other people” I know you will do the right thing. Have a great Spring.

— Lynn Crisci, District Chairman

Good Turn for America

We know that 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 click on the link below.

The Boy Scouts of America launched the Good Turn for America program in early 2004. It provides for collaborative service with other organizations and service agencies and a system for accounting for all service performed by members of the Boy Scouts of America.

Each unit leader received a login and password at the September Roundtable. If you no longer have this information, or are in need of this information please contact Anna Matusz in the Camping Department.

Veteran Award Applications

If you have served actively in Scouting for 5 years or more, you are eligible to receive the Veteran Award. Tenure of service is important to the Sleeping Giant District and the National Organization of the Boy Scouts of America. The Veterans Award is given to individuals in intervals of five years: 5, 10, 15, 20, etc.

This is a self nominated form, however others may nominate their peers if they know the number of years of service.

Please let us know how long you have been involved in the organization. These awards will be presented at the District Recognition Dinner in June.

Award applications should be

See **SLEEPING GIANT**, Page 21

Sleeping Giant

Continued from Page 20

sent to Christopher Guarniere at the Scout Resource Center prior to April 23 to ensure arrival in time for the dinner. You can download the application from the Sleeping Giant District website.

District Award of Merit

Each year the Sleeping Giant District awards two deserving volunteers with the highest award that a district can present. The District Award of merit is awarded to volunteers who support the units of the district through tireless support of district initiatives.

It should be noted, while the recommendation form is only on page a successful recommendation will be much longer, highlighting the scouting experience of the volunteer being recommended. Please give the volunteer that you recommend the credit they deserve, detailed recommendations are valued more than short recommendations. All District Award of Merit Recommendations are due by Friday, May 13 to be considered.

Pinewood Derby Championship

The Sleeping Giant Pinewood Derby Championships are Saturday, April 28 at St. Theresa Church Hall in North Haven.

A minimum of 9 cars per Pack will be allowed to enter the race.

Commissioner

Continued from Page 9

They observe symptoms, diagnose the real ailment, prescribe a remedy, and follow up on the patient.

The commissioner is a teacher. As a commissioner, they will have a wonderful opportunity to participate in the growth of unit leaders by sharing knowledge with them. They teach not just in an academic environment, but where it counts most—as an immediate response to a need to know. That is the best adult learning situation since the lesson is instantly reinforced by

Watch this website for future announcements and updates regarding the number of entrants allowed.

Every car should be build with the possibility that it WILL qualify. Each Scout in your Pack should be provided with a copy of the attached specification sheet. The District Derby staff does not want to turn away a qualifier because his car does not meet specifications. Specifications will be strictly enforced. If a car fails to pass initial inspection the Scout will be given a reasonable amount of time to “legalize” the car. A reasonable amount of time will be defined by the event judges. The decisions of the judges will be final.

The Official BSA Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Kit is the preferred kit of the District Championships. Failure to meet specifications will result in disqualification of the car. More information can be found on the district website.

Tiger Mania 2007

It's time for spring recruitment for Cub Scout Packs! Cub Scout Packs that run a summer time program should be taking advantage of this early recruitment period of new Tiger Cubs and Cub Scouts. Get your Scouts signed up early before sports and other activities can draw them away. The Vice Chairman for Membership is Tony Anderson and he can be reached at 203.230.0740 or aanderson01@snet.net. Between now and mid April a membership

practical application of the new knowledge.

The commissioner is a counselor. As a Scouting counselor, they will help units solve their own problems. Counseling is the best role when unit leaders don't recognize a problem and where solutions are not clear-cut. Everyone needs counseling from time to time, even experienced leaders.

We are looking for unit commissioners. Experience is not important, caring is. Please contact your District Commissioner for more information, or write me at cymommish@comcast.net.

coordinator will be contacting the Sleeping Giant District, Cub Scout Pack leadership to help them organize and develop a successful Tiger Mania program.

Advancement in the Unit

Once a board of review has certified a boy's advancement, he deserves to receive recognition as soon as possible. This should take place no later than at a ceremony at the next troop meeting. The certificate for his new rank may be presented later at a formal court of honor. This policy should be adhered to in awarding merit badges.

A boy will gain confidence as he advances and instant recognition will increase his self-confidence, peer-confidence and confidence in his leaders. Presently we find all too often that units are not submitting advancement reports in timely fashion and in many instance, recognition is not forthcoming in a timely fashion. We ask that your unit adopt a policy of instant recognition so that boys realize their achievements as soon as possible. For more information or questions about your units advancement, please contact the Sleeping Giant District Advancement Chairman, Clark Doehr at 203.634.7712.

Does your Pack have a Pack Trainer?

Under the direction of the pack committee or the cubmaster, the pack trainer helps leaders and parents understand purposes, policies and procedures of the Cub Scouting program.

The pack trainer facilitates the training of leaders and parents in the pack. The pack trainer promotes training to help leaders learn to plan and conduct pack and den meetings and activities.

The pack trainer orients parents and leaders, and gives guidance to pack leaders to perform his or her specific position.

The pack trainer helps the district and/or council in its Cub Scout training program. This position counts as a member of your Pack committee.

Commissioners Corner

Permit me to introduce myself. My name is Jim Nunn, and I have just recently been installed as the next District Commissioner for Sleeping Giant District. I was both a Cub Scout and Boy Scout as a youth, but in less ancient times, I have filled the unit roles of den leader, Asst Cubmaster, Cubmaster, Asst Scoutmaster and Troop Advancement Chairman. On the district level, I have chaired several Cub events, and have been a Unit Commissioner and Asst District Commissioner for Meriden. I am also Woodbadge trained ... *and a good 'ole Eagle too.*

I am taking over this position at a very exciting and challenging time in SG District. It's a time that the district faces several challenges, especially in the areas of membership and finance. We hope to grow our youth membership during times in which the youth of our district have an ever increasing list of activities to choose from, including band, theater and a myriad of sports leagues. While all of these activities offer valuable life experiences, we believe that delivering a quality Scouting program to our youth is what will encourage them to participate in these other activities *as well as* Scouting, instead of making the choice to participate in only one. And we all know about the valuable life experiences that Scouting has to offer our youth. We are poised to deliver a great program and to build our number of youth members in the future.

Our district committee is also focused on and has specific plans for raising the funds needed to deliver a great Scouting program. If you look at the district committee member list on the district website, you will see an incredible cast of characters that will enable us to deliver resources and program to every unit, scout, leader and family within our district.

But back to the Commissioner side of the house. There are two main challenges that I face as a new District Commissioner. The first is to build up the commissioner staff, by recruiting and training dedicated Scouters to act as Unit Commissioners. We have far too few UCs at the moment, and thus are not supplying all of our units with “friends” that can help those units out when they have questions or issues that arise. The optimum ratio of units to UCs is around 3:1. The ratio within SG is currently around 9:1. This means that the current UCs would be overburdened by having to work with too many units, or what is happening in reality is that there are some packs and troops that have no UC to communicate with. So I am currently seeking out Scouters who are experienced with a knowledge of the various scouting programs, and who are willing to act as mentors or “friends” to units in their towns. There are many folks out there that have valuable information to share, and it becomes a matter of identifying those special individuals who can act as mentors to 2 or 3 units.

Another exciting challenge upon us is the introduction of the new Centennial Quality Unit Award program. The CQUA program involves asking each unit to develop a set of goals in several areas, such as increasing youth membership, recruiting and training adult leaders, rank advancement, and providing youth with outdoor activities. The unit then is asked to develop a plan that is aimed at meeting the goals. The new CQUA program is focused on “Improving the QUALITY of program in every unit.” But with this new program comes a lot of questions. Which is another reason that more UC's are needed, to work with the units as they try to understand this new program, set their goals, and carry out those goals.

If you would consider becoming a “friend” to 2 or 3 units to share your Scouting knowledge, I would like to hear from you. I am prepared to give Sleeping Giant District a great deal of my time and energy, but I still need your help.

— Jim Nunn, District Commissioner

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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
203.876.6868 Ext. 236
ralbovsky@ctyankee.org

Youth Services Executive
Robert Wargo
203.876.6868, Ext. 246
wargo@ctyankee.org

2007 Health Careers and Science Careers Academy

Three health academies and two science academies will be conducted this summer. Learning for Life's National Health Careers Committee and National Science Careers Committee are working with the National Institutes of Health and NASA to give youth an opportunity to experience careers in these areas first hand.

Highlights of academies include: (1) career-related seminars/workshops, (2) interaction with practicing health or science professionals, (3) team competitions, (4) tours, (5) award programs, and (6) extracurricular activities. Participants will have an opportunity to experience interactive hands-on seminars, tour NASA and other science-related facilities, visit medical research facilities. For more information contact Peggy Chestnutt at 972.580.2428 or pch-estnu@lflmail.org.

2007 Law Enforcement Scholarships and Awards

There are many benefits for young men and women who participate in Law Enforcement Exploring. Some of the benefits are special scholarships and awards in which Law Enforcement Explorers qualify:

ATFAR Scholarship (Law Enforcement, \$1,000) – The retiree's association of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) offers scholarships in the amount of \$1,000. Scholarships are presented every year to Law Enforcement Explorers

Capt. James J. Regan Scholarship (Law Enforcement, 2 one-time/\$500) – The National Technical Investigators Association presents two one-time \$500 scholarships annually. Criteria include academic record, leadership, extracurricular activi-

ties, and a personal statement.

Sheryl A. Horak Memorial Scholarship (Law Enforcement, \$1,000) – This merit-based award involves a \$1,000, one-time scholarship. The award also includes a plaque and pin.

Law Enforcement Exploring Community Crime Prevention Award – The International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners provides an annual recognition of Explorer posts that exhibit outstanding support of their communities. Includes a plaque and pin.

DEA Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award (Law Enforcement, \$1,000) – The DEA Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award consists of an engraved plaque and a \$1,000 award, which will be presented in recognition of Proficiency Awards program provides an opportunity for posts and their Explorers to earn a series of recognition items that acknowledge their law enforcement Exploring experience.

Career Achievement Award for Law Enforcement Explorers – The components of the Learning for Life Career Achievement Award programs allow young people to acquire and be recognized for career proficiency achievement and community service.

Leadership Award Program – Leadership Award is given to youth and adults who have given exceptional dedication and leadership to the youth participants in either the Learning for Life or Exploring Program.

To find out more information for each scholarship and award, visit www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement/index.html

Fire/Emergency Services Exploring Conference

How cool would it be for your Fire Post to be with great posts from all over the country? Get your posts to participate in this exciting experience. The 2007 National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference will be held at the Illinois Fire Services Institute in Champaign, Illinois. Registration opens on June 18 and the conference concludes on June 22. The conference fees cover program, housing, and food. The complete conference guidebook and video is available at www.learningforlife.org/exploring/fire. Planned Events include: Team Competitions, Individual Competitions, Seminars, and Demonstrations. To Register your post, complete and mail the Post Reservation/Security Deposit Form to Fire/Emergency Services Exploring, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Irving Texas, 75038.

2007 LFL Workforce Development Workshop

What is "Workforce Development?" It refers to programs and services to help individuals sharpen or gain skills necessary to obtain or maintain a job or career. Some programs focus on

adult populations. There are many efforts to prepare youth as tomorrow's workforce. Locally organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, Community Colleges, and Education are involved in exposing youth to workforce skills.

Our Learning for Life programs can be a resource to address workforce issues for youth. We have curriculum, career seminars and fairs, worksite programs like Exploring and transition lessons for special needs. Collaborations can be built in any community using the Navigators, Champions, and Exploring programs.

The Learning For Life Workforce Development Workshop is available to schools partnered with Learning For Life instructional components and Explorer Posts.

The only cost will be transportation to and from the workshop location. Learning for Life will provide handouts, refreshments, and the lunch. Register through Connecticut Yankee Council, Learning For Life so we'll have you included in the count for handouts.

The date is set for April 19 in Boston and the sessions will begin at 10 a.m. and close at 3:30 p.m. Learning for Life provides lunch for those who have pre-registered (at least three weeks prior). For more information contact Learning For Life Staff John Ralbovsky or Robert Wargo.

SCOUT NIGHT

Friday, June 22 or Friday, August 31 • visit www.ctyankee.org or call 800.333.7905, Ext. 238 for details.

BLUEFISH



JCOS

Continued from Page 6

name from Judah Maccabee and his brothers, who led the military and religious struggle against the Syrian King, Antiochus, who attempted to suppress the practice of Judaism.

Their revolt ended in victory with the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem in the year 167 BCE. The holiday of Chanukah (Feast of Lights) celebrates this victory. There are six parts to the requirements to earning the Maccabee emblem: Names (family), Holidays, Terms/Expressions, Symbols/Objects/Articles, Community Helpers and Heroes. You can work with your family and /or your rabbi or religious school teacher as your counselor, and have fun while you're learning and exploring your Jewish background and history.

Stay tuned! In future issues of The Scouter, we'll feature each of the Jewish Scouting Emblems!

Lastly, we're always looking for volunteers, people who want to make sure our youth have a strong Jewish scouting program. Committee meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month (during the school year) at the Council Resource Center, at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Dave Elkodsi for more information.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS SCOUTING COMMITTEE

Committee Chairman
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The Importance of Wood Badge Training

Charles W. Dahlquist, II

YOUNG MEN GENERAL PRESIDENT

It is vital that we, as Priesthood and Aaronic Priesthood/Young Men Leaders take training seriously. We are part of this great partnership with Boy Scouts of America for very specific reason; If we fully participate, our young men will be blessed and better prepared for missions and for the blessings of the temple. Part of the participation is training – especially Wood Badge training.

If we are really intent in touching the lives of our young men, ... then we will do whatever is necessary to help us to accomplish that – including getting trained. For most of us, Wood Badge is life-changing because it has to do more with vision and understanding this great tool for strengthening young men of the Aaronic Priesthood than anything else.

Why do we think that we do not need to be trained in that program which the church has espoused for nearly 100 years as the “activity arm of the Aaronic Priesthood?” The reason why Scouting training is vital is that, by and large, we do a very poor job in training the leaders we call to Aaronic Priesthood/Young Men callings – and yet expect them to work miracles in the lives of their young men. One of the great blessings of our partnership with Scouting is the marvelous training that is provided.

The call is for every leader, including stake presidency members working with youth, high councilors, stake Young Men presidents, Bishoprics, ward Young Men

leaders and Scouting leaders, to be trained. By my count that is, at the least, 7 – 10 per ward and 50 -75 per stake. I know companies that don't even allow a new employee to step into the plant or office until he has received initial training. They do that because they know that, without training, most individuals will be ineffective in the job they were hired to do. And yet, we call leaders to strengthen, motivate and prepare young men for missionary service and life in general – without one iota of training.

In contrast to that, I know one bishop who has 17 Wood Badge trained leaders in his ward. Imagine the strength of their youth programs. I was in another ward the other day – a new ward with little Scout tradition. I was there because my grandson, now 11 years old, was getting his Second Class and First Class badges. As I spoke with a member of the bishopric after the Court of Honor,

he indicated that their entire Scouting team – Bishopric, Young Men presidency and Scouting leaders – were heading to Wood Badge within the year. I can only imagine what a great blessing that will be to the boys those leaders serve.

Instead of worrying about one person from a ward and two persons from a stake attending Wood Badge – why don't we just commit to get every leader trained, including Fast Start, Youth Protection, Basic Training and Wood Badge immediately after they're called. Once a priesthood leader makes that type of an investment in the training of a leader, he will be less likely to release him after 6 months of faithful service – but will leave him in long enough to have a positive effect in the life of a boy...

Scouting teaches us how to build character and spiritual depth in our young men, and how to help them become involved in service and making a difference in the lives of others – while they are having fun.



Charles Dahlquist

I, personally, am gratefully for the effect of my own personal attendance at Wood Badge at Camp Maple Dell nearly 25 years ago. I may not remember how to make a woggle, but I can still recall my feelings experienced during the training – it was life changing for me.

To learn more about Wood Badge, contact Norm Merritt.

Chicken or the Egg?

Woodbadge in the Council has required Sunday participation which has precluded our leaders from taking part. If we have enough demand, we can persuade the Council to hold an LDS-friendly Wood Badge – one that does not require any Sunday participation. If, as President Dahlquist, Young Men's General President, has challenged us, each unit in the Council sent their YM leaders and their Bishoprics, we would be *oversubscribed* and would need to hold several sessions to accommodate the demand. However, without this demand, it is unlikely we'll get the classes scheduled. In this case, the Chicken comes before the Egg. Please let us know if you are interested in an LDS Friendly Woodbadge.

2006 By The Numbers

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints was the number one chartered organization in terms of registered traditional youth and units for the year 2006. 397,840 Scouts were registered in 36,155 units. There were 9,822 packs serving 132,370; 18,458 Troops/Teams serving 199,868; and 7,875 Venturing Crews serving 65,602.

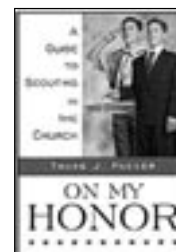
On My Honor: A Guide to Scouting in the Church

Thane J. Packer has called upon a rich and long history of Church experience and work with the Boy Scouts of America to compile this new book on Scouting for leaders, parents and Scouts alike. *On My Honor* outlines the Scouting program in such a way that readers will learn the basic principles of Scouting as well as the principles of the gospel that correlate with the program and make Scouting “a laboratory for the practice of gospel values for boys of Aaronic Priesthood age.”

“Scouting can help produce among boys monarchs of our young men,” writes the author. “If we do not bring special forces to bear ... there are forces less worthy that will bring a boy down upon the hills and leave a lone-some place against the sky, a place where he might have stood as the noblest of God's creations.”

On My Honor explores the importance of Scouting as a program in the Church and is certain to become a valuable resource for anyone involved in the Boy Scouts of America.

This book is available through the LDS-BSA Relations office by downloading the order form from the website: <http://www.ldsbsa.org> or by calling 801.530.0004.



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