Adventures in Scouting

December 2009 - January 2010

“A Scout is Courteous”

Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America
Boy Scouts of America 100th Anniversary Update

“Celebrating the Adventure - Continuing the Journey”

BSA Rally to Launch the 100th!

For the first time in the BSA’s history every volunteer, every staff member, every Scouting alum, and every parent is invited to hear—straight from the lips of the BSA’s top leadership—the vision for Scouting’s future.

Join AT&T Chairman, President and CEO Randall Stephenson, our 100th Anniversary Chairman; Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazzuca; BSA National President John Gottschalk; and BSA National Commissioner Tico Perez for a nationwide 100th Anniversary Kick-Off Rally on December 10th. Learn how we can help lay the foundation for Scouting’s next century of service!

100th Anniversary Kick-Off Audiocast Rally
Thursday, December 10, 2009
7:00 – 7:30 pm Central
http://audiocast.scouting.org

Heart of America Council
100th Anniversary Activities

Eagle Celebration/A Pitch for Scouting
February/Summer 2010

Scout Sunday/Scout Sabbath
February 7 & 13, 2010

Community Good Turn Days
April 10 & 17, 2010

2010 BSA Major Gifts Art Tour
May 10-14, 2010

Special Events at Naish, Bartle and Day Camp
Summer of 2010

Council Good Turn – Scouting for Food
September 2010

Adventure Base 100
October 2 & 3, 2010

Council Camping Extravaganza
October 2010

National Hall of Leadership
http://ww2.scouting.org/100years/100years/NationalHallofLeadership.aspx

National Boy Scouts of America
100th Anniversary Activities

Year of Celebration Awards Program
http://scouting.org/100years/100years/ayearofcelebration.aspx

National Hall of Leadership
http://scouting.org/100years/100years/nationalhallofleadership.aspx

Generations Connection
http://scouting.org/100years/100years/GenerationsConnection.aspx

Scouting Alumni Connection
http://www.BSAalumni.org

Go Digital!
100th Anniversary Celebration is on Social Media Sites

Get the latest on the Heart of America Council plans through your favorite online social media.

Facebook
Within Facebook, just search for “Boy Scouts Heart of America”

Twitter
www.twitter.com/bsa100hoac

YouTube
www.youtube.com/bsa100hoac

Don’t Wait! Register Now!
Go Digital!

For 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America has created a strong foundation of leadership, service, and community for millions of America’s youth. Through “A Year of Celebration, A Century of Making a Difference,” we will demonstrate the incredible impact of a century of living the Scout Law.

To register visit:
http://www.hoac-bsa.org/100thAnniversary.aspx

Don’t wait… if you register before 12/31/2009, you will be automatically entered and eligible to win one of 10 great prizes!

• 5 individual 2010 camp fee waivers.

• Celebrate Scouting’s Centennial by going to camp for free in 2010!

• 5 individual $100 gift certificates to the Scout Shop.
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A Year of Celebration, A Century of Making A Difference

Consider a 100th Anniversary Centennial Unit Representative

As you know, the Heart of America Council has many exciting events planned throughout the BSA’s Centennial Year of 2010. These activities include special community service projects, an Eagle celebration, and a council-wide camping extravaganza!

The 100th Anniversary planning committee realizes the importance of new media and has created the Social Media Committee to share information through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and of course, email.

This will be a big celebration. Spreading the word and keeping everyone up-to-date will be a major task. As a result, we’re looking for youth and adults to serve as Centennial Unit Representatives who will help us promote 100th Anniversary news and events within your own unit. We hope you’ll be able to help us in identifying these individuals to serve in this fun and important position. In the near future, we’ll have more information available on how your Centennial Unit Representatives can sign-up and get involved.

Earn the “Year of Celebration” Character Award

The first of the five awards is based on the BSA core value of Character. It is represented by a 2” award marker that hangs from a uniquely designed 3” square program patch. The patch itself is patterned after the official 100th Anniversary emblem. Individuals will be able to display all earned awards on their uniforms by attaching award markers to the patch.

Scouting is a character-building program. Youth learn that personal responsibility and integrity are essential to accomplishing their goals. They learn to do good turns without expectation of reward and how to be brave when challenged to do the right thing. This award involves elements of citizenship, family life and personal fitness. Scouts will reflect on their own character and values. Adults and alumni will rediscover the impact Scouting makes on their own character.

You can plan your own ways to meet the Character requirements and in doing so, help to support your community. The Heart of America Council 100th Anniversary activities offers a great way for adults and alumni to complete part of the Character Award for the Year of Celebration.

Character

• A Pitch for Scouting/ 2010 Eagle Scout Celebration

Awards may be earned as of September 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010.

There are five requirements for each age group. Complete at least three of the five requirements to earn the award.

This program will provide every Scout, leader and alumnus a fun and meaningful way to participate in the 100th Anniversary.

Go to www.scouting.org/100years for more information on this and more 100th Anniversary programs.

Scouting Centennial Coin

The Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Act (H.R. 5872) authorizes the minting of 350,000 silver dollar coins in recognition of BSA’s 100th Anniversary in 2010. Only two commemorative coins are selected for U.S. Mint production each year, and minting of the coins for 2010 will occur between February 8, 2010 and January 1, 2011. For each coin sold, a $10 charge – representing a $3,500,000 donation – will be used to develop grants for local councils to assist with the extension of Scouting in hard to serve areas.

The design will be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury after consultation with Chief Scout Executive Bob Mazucca and the Commission of Fine Arts.

Stamp to Comemorerate Our 100 Years

In 2010, the Boy Scouts of America will receive an incredible honor from the United States Postal Service (USPS), the “Celebrate Scouting” stamp. Offering a tribute to the impact of a century of Scouting on the American landscape, the stamp will become widely available during the summer of 2010.
Silver Beaver Recipients for 2009

The Heart of America Council is pleased to recognize this year’s class of Silver Beavers recipients. The Silver Beaver is the highest award that a council can bestow on a volunteer. The award honors the individual not only for their involvement in Scouting, but also their involvement outside of Scouting to make the community a better place for young people.

E. F. Rusty Corwin
Charles G. Dallstream
James Flanagan, IV
John H. Forsyth
David M. Fowler
Kenneth Fuenfhausen
Gary R. Hazeltine
John A. Heather Jr.
Kevin C. Jenkins
Mark Jorgenson
Daniel F. Kerling
Ernest P. Lefevre
Richard G. Lockwood
Tom McDonnell
Randall E. Meador
Keith A. Neuman
Kenneth E. Nolan
Raul D. Salmon
Glen E. Sharp, II
Gary A. Smith
Robert G. Stikeleather
Thomas W. Volek
Jeffrey D. Walman, DDS
Bruce A. White
Michael R. Blinn
Karen L. Burgess
Linda D. Christiansen
Brett Cooper
2009 Centennial Quality Award

The Centennial Quality Awards program is designed to recognize units, districts, and councils in achieving excellence in providing a quality program to a growing youth population in America at all levels of the Boy Scouts of America. This is the second year of the Centennial edition of the Quality Achievement program. This award was formerly known as “National Quality Award.” The new program requires units to meet with their unit commissioners early in the year and establish programming, membership and other goals for the calendar year.

The next step for units in achieving the award is to submit the 2009 Centennial Quality Achievement Form for Unit Award. Criteria for the unit award are achieving unit set goals for: percentage of direct contact leaders completing basic training, percentage of youth retained in the program, on-time recharter, adding new members and volunteer leaders, achieving a 60% rate of rank advancement, having 70% of the youth members enjoying an outdoor experience and conducting an annual program and financial planning session.

The Centennial Quality Achievement Award can be a useful tool in helping to provide the highest quality program possible to the young people in your unit. For more information you can contact your unit commissioner or district executive.

BSA’s 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership

The 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership is a one-time opportunity for anyone to recognize outstanding leadership by a Scout, registered Scout leader, or Scouting volunteer. Let us know who has made a significant difference in the lives of young people through extraordinary service… and the Scouting virtues they have modeled.

Inductions to the 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership will be based on stories submitted online to local BSA councils across the U.S. and reviewed by a national panel of judges. Those stories must explain how nominees made an extraordinary difference in the lives of others through their leadership.

Nominations will be posted through the Hall of Leadership section of www.Scouting.org/100years. Each online nomination is submitted in the form of a story and must be 450 words or less. The nomination period closes February 8, 2010, which marks the 100th anniversary of the country’s largest youth-serving organization. Judging will then begin for the final inductees to the 100th Anniversary National Hall of Leadership.

The roster of inductees will be announced at the BSA National Annual Meeting in Dallas in May 2010.

NESA Eagle Scout Scholarship


If you apply for a scholarship you must use the correct version of the application.

Incorrect applications from prior years will be immediately rejected. This past year, just over 4,500 applications were received for the 109 scholarships awarded.

Interactive Website Preserves the Eagle Scout Journey

As a way to celebrate the accomplishments of Eagle Scouts, The Boy Scouts of America announced today the introduction of myNESA.org, a destination for personalized, online showcases that tell the Eagle Scout story.

Eagle Scouts of all ages can now dust off their awards and breathe new life into their Scouting experience by sharing their achievements online with family and friends.

To check it out go to http://www.mynesa.org/
How Scouting is Funded

Making Scouting available requires funding at all of levels. Whether you look at the pack, troop crew or team level or at the Heart of America Council or National Council, programs, facilities and administration all take some form of financial support. Here is a quick look at how that works.

Units

Units can use a variety of fund-raising methods that meet the guidelines set by the National Council and are approved by their unit committee and chartered organization. Most commonly, units are funded through:
- Weekly or monthly dues paid by the member
- Unit product sales such as popcorn
- Chartered organization contributions
- Other money-earning projects approved by the chartered organization

Units use the funds they raise for programs and activities. Most commonly, units use their funds for:
- Unit activities such as camping
- Program supplies for unit activities
- Equipment such as tents, camp stoves, and pinewood derby® tracks
- Advancements and awards such as rank emblems and merit badges

Heart of America Council

The Heart of America Council is funded through:
- Investment in Character donations as a part of our annual fundraising effort
- Special events
- Popcorn sales
- Foundation grants
- Local United Ways
- Activity fees from summer camp, camporees, etc.
- Investment income and endowments

The Heart of America Council uses funds raised to support the Scouting program for units. Funds are used to:
- Maintain the H. Roe Bartle and Theodore Naish Reservations and the Council Service Center
- Provide insurance
- Maintain membership records
- Pay salaries and benefits to employees
- Purchase program supplies for Scout activities sponsored by the council
- Provide volunteer training

Your support, in the form of volunteer hours and financial commitment, is the strength of Scouting in the Heart of America Council. Please be sure to provide all of the families involved in your pack, troop, crew, or team the opportunity to join those who are making a difference. If you have not already.

Winter Sports Safety--Helmets

With winter just around the corner, keep in mind the upcoming change to the Winter Sports Safety section of the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Based upon the review of General Liability claims history, along with a recommendation by the Risk Management Advisory Panel (two Scout executives from each region), and input from the Health and Safety Support Committee, the following change will be made to the Guide to Safe Scouting and published as an Alert on Scouting Safely.

“Appropriate personal protective equipment is required for all activities. This includes the recommended use of helmets for all participants engaged in winter sports such as sledding and other sliding devices. The use of helmets is required for the following activities: downhill skiing, snowboarding, and operation of snowmobiles (full-face helmets).”

When units engage in winter sports, they should only use designated areas where rocks, tree stumps, and other potential obstacles have been identified and marked, cleared away, shielded, or buffered in some way.
The 2009 popcorn sale was a great success. The gross sales for the campaign topped $2.8 million for the second year in a row. Our success was due to the hard work of our district and unit Popcorn Kernels. They helped to generate the enthusiasm and excitement needed to achieve this tremendous level of sales.

In the popcorn sale, the numbers really matter. This year 472 units participated in the sale and the top selling item was the Original Caramel Corn Bucket with 25,667 containers sold.

Growth in our sale means more funds are available to provide an even better program for our Scouts. Over 70% of the funds generated by this sale remain here to help our units and our council.

This fundraiser allows Scouts to play a part in supporting their unit’s yearly program plan and helps to teach about being thrifty, the 9th point of the Scout Law. By following the plan and conducting a Kick off for their Show-N-Deliver and Take Order sales, many of our units earn enough to provide for all of their activities during the year. It’s a great way to ensure that you don’t need to do more than one fundraiser during the year.

The council uses its portion of the sale to ensure maintenance at our facilities continues uninterrupted and program fees will remain as low as possible for camping and activity participants. This sale is a winning situation for all involved.

Take a look at your sale results! Congratulations on an outstanding job! Your work will pay off in great Scouting programs for the youth members of our council!
Camping and Program

2010 Cub Scout Day Camp “Centennial Luau”

The following is the complete schedule for Day Camps offered by the Heart of America Council for the 2010 Camping Season. Unit Leaders may contact these volunteers or your District Executive for more information regarding your district’s camp, or to volunteer to serve on staff.

The Day Camp fee is $50.00 per Scout through April 7, 2010. On April 8, 2010, the fee is $65. For any new Cub Scout recruited after that day or new Tiger Cubs who finished their kindergarten year in 2010 and join Scouting in June, the cost will be $50.00. Scouts that are added at camp will be charged $70.00.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cub Scout Day Camp Information for 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Muddy</td>
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<td>Blue Elk</td>
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<td>Kaw</td>
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<td>Lone Bear</td>
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<td>North Star</td>
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<td>Northern Tier</td>
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<td>Pelathe</td>
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<td>Pioneer Trails</td>
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<td>Red-Tailed Hawk</td>
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<td>Trailhead</td>
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<td>Trails West</td>
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<td>Twin Rivers</td>
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Bear Resident Camp

The Heart of America Council Bear Camp sign-up will be conducted online starting Monday, January 11, 2010, at 9:00 AM through February 5, 2010. There will be a link on the home page of the council website, www.hoac-bsa.org.

The on-line registration will be available until Bear Resident Camp has met its predetermined capacity. Each session holds a maximum of 230 participants. The fee for the 2010 Bear Camp will be $65.00 per person (youth or adult). If reservations are made by February 5, 2010 the discounted fee is $50.00. To make a reservation on or after February 5, you must e-mail Terri O’Neal at toneal@bsamail.org. For a full definition of fees, refunds, and non-refundable deposits, as well as further information, please visit the website.

If you recruit a new Scout into Cub Scouting after February 5, 2010 to attend camp, the fee will be $50.00. A copy of the youth application will be necessary to receive the reduced rate.

Bear Resident Camp is designed as a one-on-one camping experience. Therefore every youth attending camp must have an adult partner. There are no part-time Scouts or Leaders at Bear Camp. Come join the fun at Cub World at Camp Naish!
Webelos Resident Camp

Webelos Draw for the 2010 camping season will be held January 23, 2010. Specific times and locations have been mailed to Cubmasters and Committee Chairs.

Listed below are the 2010 Webelos Camp sessions. Any registered Webelos Scout (including third grade graduates) may attend Webelos Camp. Webelos Camp is held at the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation, and is a three-day, two-night experience. The program contains separate activities for first and second year Webelos.

The cost to attend Webelos Camp this year is $115.00 per Webelos Scout and $115.00 per full-time leader. This fee covers the cost of all patches for Scouts, program supplies, participation awards, meals, lodging, and insurance. Please note camp T-shirts are NOT included in the Webelos camp fee. Like Day Camp and Bear Camp, you must register to attend camp as a Pack, not individually. Additionally, adults attending Webelos Camp (full or part time) must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

### Webelos Camp Sessions for 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>June 27-29, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 2</td>
<td>July 1-3, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 3</td>
<td>July 5-7, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 4</td>
<td>July 8-10, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 5</td>
<td>July 11-13, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 6</td>
<td>July 15-17, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 7</td>
<td>July 18-20, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 8</td>
<td>July 22-24, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 9</td>
<td>July 25-27, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 10</td>
<td>July 29-31, 2010</td>
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<td>Session 11</td>
<td>August 1-3, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 12</td>
<td>August 5-7, 2010</td>
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</tbody>
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National Scout Jamboree “100 Years of Scouting”

The National Scout Jamboree will be held in Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia from July 26, 2010-August 4, 2010. It will bring together 40,000 Scouts, Venturers, leaders, and staff for 12 days. They will share adventure, international friendship, personal growth, and development. Please visit the Heart of America Council web-site at www.hoac-bsa.org for more information and to sign up to participate.

**Boy Scout Camp**

The 2010 Boy Scout Camp Draws for the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation and the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation have been held but it is not to late to still make your troops reservation.

To make your reservation call the Camping Services Department at (816) 569-4928.

**Do you want to go to camp?**

Do you have a Scout in your troop that cannot attend camp with your troop, yet wants to go to camp? The Order of the Arrow is hosting a provisional Scouting unit at the Theodore Naish Scout Reservation June 20-26, 2010. Contact Christi Leewright at (816) 569-4928 for information on how to sign-up.

**Camp Payments**

The first 2010 Boy Scout Camp payment is due February 17, 2010. This payment should be ½ of your unit’s balance. If you have any questions regarding your units Confirmation and Billing statement please call the Council Service Center at (816) 569-4928. Remember it is the Scout motto to “Be Prepared”, so don’t wait until the last minute.

**Trainer Development Conference**

Are you a youth trainer, district trainer, council trainer, commissioner or any Scout leader who wants to learn to communicate ideas better? On Saturday, April 17, 2010 from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm a Trainer Development Conference will be held at a location to be determined. The cost for this conference is $15.00.

During this conference you will be taught:

- Basic principles of learning
- Importance of good communication
- Characteristics of a good trainer
- The required steps of planning
- The importance of training arrangements
- Training methods
- Training technology
- Putting “Pizzazz” in training
- And much more….

The deadline for registration is Friday, April 9, 2010. Please register online at www.hoac-bsa.org or you can register by visiting the Council Service Center. If you have any further questions please contact J. Britt Davis, HOAC Training Director at (816) 569-4924, jdavis@bsamail.org.

Volunteers wishing to join your District Training Team should visit with the District Training Chair at your monthly roundtable.
Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet
The Order of Arrow Winter Banquet will be held on January 2, 2010 at Bartle Hall, please visit the council website at www.hoac-bsa.org to register or check at the October roundtable for a registration form. Last year over 500 OA members and their guests attended. We will recognize the newest Vigil Honor members and announce the founders award recipients.

Plan now to attend. For more information call Terri O’Neal at (816) 569-4933 or toneal@bsamail.org.

OA Dues
Tamegonit Lodge dues are now due. You may pay your dues online at www.hoac-bsa.org or you can print off a renewal form on the Council website to be mailed in. Make sure to include your current membership level when you renew your membership.

OA Spring Inductions
2010 Spring Inductions are April 30-May 2, 2010 and May 14-16, 2010. Registration information is available online, at Roundtables, and in the Spring Torchbearer. If you were inducted as an Ordeal member last spring, now is the time to seal your membership by completing your Brotherhood.

OA High Adventure Opportunities
High Adventure opportunities exist for those Arrowmen that would like an opportunity to attend Philmont to serve on the OA Trail Crew. Experience a wilderness voyage at Northern Tier or experience an ocean adventure at the Florida Seabase. For an application visit the OA High Adventure website at www.adventure.oa-bsa.org. Both of the programs are held during the summer of 2010. You must be 16 years old by the time you start the program but not yet 21.

MOS Tribal Council Recommendations Due
Service as a member of Mic-O-Say’s Tribal Council is an important camp leadership responsibility. While this responsibility is not given as recognition for past service, it is nonetheless reasonable, that an individual’s talents, abilities, dedication to, understanding of the Scouting principles and loyalty to the values and educational experiences of the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, be examined to help determine the likelihood of success in this service role.

All Tribal Council Recommendations are due to the Council Service Center by March 1, 2010. Recommendations should only be the official form that can be found on the HOAC website at www.hoac-bsa.org under resources or forms or at the Council Service Center. These forms have also been distributed at the February roundtables. If you have further questions please call the Camping Services Department at (816) 569-4928.

OKPIK Northern Tier High Adventure
Scout troops and Venture crews are invited to participate in the OKPIK cold weather camping program. Winter is a great time to be in the outdoors. There are numerous weekends throughout the winter that are still available. For more information go to: www.ntier.org.

Philmont Council Contingent Opportunities
The Heart of America Council, BSA will be taking a contingent to Philmont departing July 8, 2010 and returning July 21, 2010. There is a fee of $950.00 per participant which includes round trip transportation, meals to and from Philmont, fees at Philmont Scout Ranch, High Adventure T-shirt and two mandatory shake-down trainings prior to arrival at Philmont. The fee does not include personal gear or spending money. There are a limited amount of camperships available to be part of the Philmont Council contingent.

For more information please contact Leslie Staack at lstaack@bsamail.org or 816-569-4963. The application for the Philmont Council Contingent and Campership Application can be found on the council website at www.hoac-bsa.org located under Resources and Forms.

Woodcarving Workshop
The annual Woodcarving Workshop was again a success. The workshop is held annually in November. Thank you to Paul Cast and the team of volunteers or organizing this event.
## Council Calendar of Events

### December

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-31</td>
<td>Naish and Bartle Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Popcorn Payments Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Scoutreach Dinner</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>University of Scouting Staff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Council Properties Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Council Training Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>OA LEC Meeting</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Council International Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Scouting with Disabilities Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-25</td>
<td>Council Service Center Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-31</td>
<td>Scout Shop Closed</td>
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### January

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Service Center and Scout Shop Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>UMKC Scout Day with the Roo’s</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Council Day Camp Meeting</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Council Shooting Sports Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Woodbadge Post-Course Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bartle and Naish Work Days</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>OA Election Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bear Camp On-Line Draw Begins</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Boy Scout New Camp Leader Training</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Council Equestrian Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Patron Luncheon Table Host Orientation</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Maintenance Team Dinner</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Patron Luncheon Table Host Orientation</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>University of Scouting Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>OA LEC Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-18</td>
<td>Venture Snow Skiing Trip</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Service Center and Scout Shop Closed</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Jamboree Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>Patron Luncheon Table Host Orientation</td>
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<td>Council Training Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Bartle Work Day</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>OA Election Training</td>
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Click [Here](#) for Council Calendar Updates

## SAT/ACT Software for Scouting Families

In alliance with the Boy Scouts of America, eKnowledge is offering SAT and ACT test prep programs valued at $200, free to Scout families. The eKnowledge Sponsorship Alliance is made up of educationally focused foundations, as well as a group of professional athletes from the National Football League and Major League Baseball that includes Warrick Dunn and Chipper Jones. The eKnowledge Sponsorship Alliance has provided more than 120,000 SAT/ACT prep programs to families all over the United States.

"I believe in using my gifts and public image to help the community," said Chipper Jones, six-time All-Star and future Hall of Fame baseball player.

Now in its fourth year, the eKnowledge Sponsorship Alliance has donated more than $26 million of SAT/ACT test preparation programs. The PowerPrep™ program helps prepare students to take the exams and increases student confidence, which can result in higher test scores and thousands of dollars in scholarships.

Families interested in obtaining the FREE $200 SAT/ACT PowerPrep™ Programs may order online at [www.eknowledge.com/bsa](http://www.eknowledge.com/bsa) or by calling (951) 256-4076.

There is a fee of $13.84 (per standard program) which enables eKnowledge to provide technical and customer support, registration, licensure, processing, handling, and worldwide shipping.

For more information, please contact Lori Caputo, ESA Programs, at LoriCaputo@eknowledge.com or (951) 256-4076.

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## Council Annual Meeting Notice

from the Heart of America Council By-laws
Article III, Section 3. Clause 1

".......The annual meeting is for the purpose of (a) receiving annual reports of the Executive Board, officers and various committees, (b) electing members at large, associate and honorary members of the corporation, National Council Members, regular members of the executive board, and officers of the corporation other than the Scout executive, (c) receiving and approving financial statements showing the financial position of the corporation as of the close of its most recent complete fiscal year and the results of operations during such year, and (d) transacting such other business as may come before the meeting."

Each year, the Heart of America Council conducts an annual business meeting in which elections are held. The meeting for 2010 will be held on January 25.

Terry Miller, Past President of the Council, has been appointed by Council President William Esry to serve as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Accordingly, if you have any suggestions for nominations to any category of board membership, please submit them to Mr. Novak at the following address:

Heart of America Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
P. O. Box 414177  
Kansas City, MO 64141
Roundtable

It’s winter and roundtables are on our district schedule. They should be on your’s as well. The Big Muddy District roundtable meetings are held the first Tuesday each month at the Lexington United Methodist Church located on South Highway 13 in Lexington at 7:30 pm.

Roundtables are a successful way for leaders to gather and learn from each other. This is an opportunity for you to get information on a variety of subjects from the Heart of America Council and the Big Muddy District. Each month there will be a new program for both Boy Scout and Cub Scout leaders.

Investment in Character

As you all know, Investment in Character is an essential part of funding the operations of the Big Muddy District, as well as the council. As beneficiaries of the services that our annual fundraising campaign provides, your support is imperative to the continuation of the Scouting movement.

Please work with our Investment in Character volunteers who devote hours of their time, above and beyond their contributions to their units, to ensure that our annual campaign is a success. We are still working towards our goal of $16,000 so any remaining pledges or gifts are greatly appreciated.

School Night for Scouting

I wanted to thank everyone for a TERRIFIC job on School Night for Scouting. This year's School Night was a great success with a 75% increase in Scouting enrollment. A huge thank you goes out to those involved.

For more information regarding the School Night for Scouting program please contact Jon Geiger at (816) 682-2130.

Training

Training is important to all the youth we serve to make certain they receive the best program possible, through the best leadership available. All youth deserve a trained leader and training courses are available through out the council.

Don’t forget to make certain that your Scoutmaster, Cubmaster or unit leader is trained before the recharter process. All top leaders must be trained for the 2010 recharter process.

For more information about training or the University of Scouting please call Jon Geiger (816) 682-2130 or visit the council’s website at www.hoac-bsa.org.

Fall Camporee

The Big Muddy Fall Camporee was a great success, thanks to all troops who brought program areas and participated. We had 70 Scouts and 32 leaders and adults in attendance.

Patches will be available at the December roundtable.

A special thanks to Cliff Cox and Troop 414 from Carrollton, MO for hosting the Camporee they did a fantastic job.
Popcorn 2009

Thank you to everyone who participated in the popcorn sale. Don’t forget that all money is due to the Scout Office no later than December 7.

If you have any questions about popcorn payments please call Tiffany Bumgardner at (816) 569-4969 or Bob Hamlin at (816) 569-4921.

Camporee

A HUGE thank you goes out to Kerry DeHaan and his staff for putting together a great camporee. Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you had a great time and enjoyed the overnight experience (activities started around 8:00 pm Friday night and concluded around 7:00 pm Saturday evening with a campfire.)

Membership

It is our mission to give every youth the Scouting opportunity. In order to complete this mission we must always be spreading the word of Scouting. Thank you for your recruiting efforts, and continue to strive to grow your unit.

Investment in Character

It’s time to start scheduling our family presentations for the 2010 campaign. In 2009 over $90,000 worth of camperships were given out and we were able to give nearly 600 uniforms to boys who wouldn’t otherwise have been able to afford it thanks to your support of the Scouting program. We have been able to provide programs in low-income housing areas and to the inner city youth who would not have been able to be involved in the Scouting program if it were not for your support. Thank you for your generosity in years past and we hope that you will continue to support this great program.

To schedule your presentation, contact Tiffany Bumgardner at (816) 569-4969 or at tbumgard@bsamail.org.

Klondike Derby 2010

Klondike will be at George Owens on January 23, 2010. The price is $8/person with a $10 unit registration fee. If you choose to camp out, there is an additional cost of $15/unit. For more information contact John Fitzgearlds at 461-8717 or Brian Bentrop at bbentrop@bsamail.org, (816) 569-4918.

District Dinner

The 33rd Annual Blue Elk District Dinner will be Saturday, February 6, 2010 at Adams Pointe Conference Center, 1400 NE Coronado Drive, Blue Springs, MO. This year’s Master of Ceremony is Ken Horrell. The cost is $23 per person. If you have any memorabilia from years past we will have tables set up for you to display your items. Also, if you have any pictures send them to Jim Beachner to be included in the slide show. Nomination forms are due December 1 for District Award of Merit, Silent Service Award, Scouters Spirit Award and the Paul Arend Award. For more information on District Dinner contact Jim Beachner at beachner@gmail.com, 847-5617 or Tiffany Bumgardner at tbumgard@bsamail.org, 569-4969.
Annual District Recognition Dinner

Our annual District Recognition Dinner will be Saturday, January 30 at Camp Naish South Camp Dining Hall. Our social hour will begin at 5:30 pm with dinner starting promptly at 6:30 pm. Registration is $20 per person. Registration fliers will be distributed at the December roundtable and will be available on the hoac-bsa.org website on the Kaw District webpage.

Please consider a donation to sponsor dinners for attending Eagle Scouts. Nominations for the District Award of Merit are due by December 4. Other nominations may include exceptional Cubmasters, den leaders, Webelos den leaders, Scoutmasters, assistant Scoutmasters, committee members, district committee members, or Commissioners. Please prepare a letter of recommendation with supporting information for any award you think is relevant and turn in by the December roundtable. We have a December 4 deadline.

We would like to recognize your unit. What have you done this year? Has anyone in your unit received recognition for community, religious, or military service? Who has served on the summer camp staff or dance team? There are many stars in Kaw District and we would like to recognize each and every one of you.

Rechartering 2010. It’s That Time Again!

The time to renew your unit charter is here. We have prepared a charter renewal packet for each unit. Starting December 1 you can log on to the Internet and begin the recharter process. The Kaw District has established two recharter turn-in dates for your convenience they are January 7 at roundtable and January 14 at both Leavenworth Library and at Wyandotte West Library between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. We also be in the office all day on January 19 to help anyone needing help with the recharter process.

Please contact Jeff Terrell (816) 569-4947 or Dusty Boatright (816) 569-4967 to arrange to deliver or pick-up your charter renewal paperwork.

Training

Kaw District strives to offer the best Scouting program possible to our Scouts. Important to running a good program are trained leaders. Training helps you understand what resources are available to help you run an outstanding program. Trained leaders are able to keep Scouts in the program longer. This December there are many opportunities for all of our leaders to get the necessary training. This will be particularly important for those leaders just starting their exciting Scouting adventure.

Also, an important fact is that every top leader has to be trained for 2010. If your top leader is not trained, then the unit will not be able to recharter in January. For 2011, every leader that is registered has to be trained.

Commissioner Recruitment

The Kaw District had a very successful recruitment of commissioners in October with 7 new commissioners signed up to be unit commissioners. We recognize Mark Mitchell with special thanks. He made phone call after phone call to make sure that we had a successful recruitment. The district would also like to thank the council commissioner for holding a special training for the commissioners and for helping with recruitment meeting.

If you are interested in becoming a commissioner or just curious what they do, give our District Commissioner Mark Mitchell a call at (913) 371-4.
District Dinner
Mark your calendars for January 19 at 6:00 pm for the Lone Bear Annual Recognition Dinner. Don’t forget to turn in nomination forms for the Award of Merit and Silver Bear. For those who may not know, these awards recognize people who have given exceptional service to scouting in the Lone Bear District.

Please take a few moments to fill out the nomination form for that exceptional scouter. Forms can be found online or by contacting Josh Morales at jmorales@bsamail.org or (816) 569-4961.

Klondike Derby
It’s time for an outdoor challenge. Join us February 19-21 at Knob Noster State Park for our Biennial Klondike Derby.

Popcorn 2009
A big, “Thank You!” to everyone who helped make our Popcorn Sale a success! That should go a long way to help kids with their camp fees. Thanks especially to John Slobaszewski for serving as the District Popcorn Kernal for 2009. Also, big thanks to Denny Jefferson, Jerry Post, and Ken Demel for the time that they spent helping with the distribution.

Camporee
Another big thanks to John Cerda for giving leadership to our Fall Camporee. This year’s theme was, “Survivor” and came complete with outdoor competitions and hidden “immunity” items. It was a great time!

A reminder to our District Scouters...
For our District Committee and Commissioners: We will be meeting on December 8th, at 6:30 pm, at the Clinton Golden Corral for our annual “All Call” gathering.

Training
The training team would like to thank everyone who took time to attend training this fall. As you know, all top leaders must be trained in order for your units to recharter. This is the first step in the three year process of ensuring that our Scouts have the best program possible. Training is the one single thing that every leader can complete that will make the difference.

If you have questions about trainings or would like to be on the training team, please contact Richard Miller at (660) 909-2486 or email him at richard.mhi@gmail.com.
Investment in Character

It’s that time of year where we kickoff “Investment in Character”. That is the theme for our annual fundraising campaign which raises money for the best youth serving program in the country…Scouting.

We are currently working to get every unit scheduled for a family presentation. If your unit has yet scheduled a presentation, please take a look at your unit calendar and decide on the best time to have a brief presentation. Troop Courts of Honor and pack Blue and Gold banquets are ideal opportunities. A volunteer presenter will take just a few minutes to tell the Scouting story and give families an opportunity to decide how they can best support the Scouting program. Thanks in advance for your crucial financial support of Scouting.

To schedule a presentation contact District Executive, Mike Farrell at mfarrell@bsamail.org or (816) 569-4950.

District Annual Business Meeting

The North Star annual business meeting will take place on January 12, 7:30 pm at North Cross United Methodist Church, 1321 NE Vivion Rd, Kansas City, MO 64118. All voting members who include, chartered organization representatives, district members-at-large, and any council members-at-large residing in the district are welcome and encouraged to attend. Suggestions for the district chairman, vice-chairman, district commissioner, and district members-at-large may be made in writing and must be received two weeks before this meeting by Jason Ballew at jballwe@bsamail.org or (816) 569-4950.

2009 North Star District Fall Camporee

On October 16, 2009, close to 1000 members of the Internationally Famous North Star District in the Heart of America Council gathered for the weekend at Kelsey Short Youth Campground at Smithville Lake for three days and two nights of Scouting fun at the 2009 North Star Camporee. There were competitive activities for Boy Scouts, as well as, exhibition displays for the Scouts. Even Webelos got into the action with competition stations designed exclusively for them.

Firebuilding, knot tying, a compass course, lashing, and barrel racing were just some of the competition courses. There were exhibits including two trebuchets shooting hedge apples into a pasture at a target. A cooking station allowed Scouts to showcase their dutch oven cooking skills. Whole chickens were cooked in an outdoor oven, and the leftover carcasses were tossed by adventurous Scouts in the trebuchets. Webelos took advantage of the archery and BB gun ranges, as well as making Dream Catchers. Den Chiefs provided leadership to the Webelos at all of their events.

Several volunteer amateur HAM radio operators ran the Jamboree On The Air station again this year, allowing Scouts to talk with others around the world letting them know about the Camporee and what Scouting in the North Star District is all about.

Saturday evening showcased a great Campfire where all of the units had a grand time. A large support staff assembled by Paul “Gator” Crooks provided the support for the entire event. Thank you to all for your help and support. 2009 was a great Camporee, and plans are already being made for 2010, the 100th Anniversary of Scouting.
Centennial Quality Unit

Please turn in your completed Centennial Quality Unit Award form before December 31, 2009. Your 2010 commitment form can be turned in December or January. The commitment form should be completed by unit leaders and unit commissioners. Questions? Please contact your unit commissioner for more information. Not sure who your unit commissioner is? Contact David Woy at (913) 991-8244 to find out or visit the Unit Service page on the Northern Tier District webpage.

Camporee 2009

Camporee was a great success this year! More than 300 Boy Scouts and Webelos came out for a weekend of beautiful, but chilly, fall weather and the Science of Scouting. THANK YOU to Troop 123 for being our host troop for the weekend. They did an amazing job preparing and executing the event! They did an amazing job showing how Science and Scouting go hand in hand. Congratulations to Troop 351 for winning the Super Troop this year!

Investment in Character

Please help continue to make Scouting affordable and available to everyone. It is time to make sure that your unit is signed up for a Family Presentation. If you have not signed your unit up for this year, now is the time. Presentations take about 10 minutes and should be scheduled at either your troop Court of Honor or pack Blue and Gold. You can sign up at roundtable or contact Bruce Harken at bruceharken@yahoo.com.

Recharter Turn In

Recharter turn is set for Tuesday, January 7 at roundtable (OP LDS Church-7100 Hadley). One leader from your unit needs to bring all the recharter paperwork with the correct signatures. Times are assigned and will be available on the home page of the Northern Tier website. You may begin the online process on December 1. If you have any questions regarding recharter, please contact your unit commissioner or Kathryn Rajala at krajala@bsamail.org. Your unit commissioner will also be on hand to help complete the 2010 Centennial Quality Unit goals form and to get your unit’s commitment to an Investment in Character family presentation.

Annual Business Meeting

Northern Tier District will hold its Annual Business Meeting at 7:00 pm on January 5, 2010 at Grace Christian Fellowship Church (7230 Quivira Road). Elections for district committee positions and members-at-Large will be held. All voting members of the district, including 2009 members-at-large and chartered organization representatives, are encouraged to attend. If you wish to nominate somebody to the district committee for any of the positions, please send those recommendations in writing to:

Northern Tier District, Nominating Committee, 10210 Homes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131

Nominations may also be given in writing to Kathryn Rajala. All nominations must be received no later than December 15, 2009 to insure proper consideration.

District Dinner 2010

District Dinner will be held on Saturday February 6, 2010 at Old Shawnee Town Hall. Everyone is invited to attend this important salute to our district’s 2009 outstanding volunteers and programs. Gathering begins at 6:00 pm and the dinner begins at 6:30 pm. The cost for the dinner this year is $22 per person. District Award of Merits and Outstanding Leader Awards will be presented at this time. To register for this event visit: http://hoac-bsa.org/ntactivities.cfm

Klondike Derby 2010

Dust off your sled, because on January 23, 2010, the Northern Tier District is proud to present Klondike Derby. Scouts test your winter camping skills. Each patrol must build and bring a Klondike sled or a miniature Conestoga or Prairie Schooner Wagon with their trademark canvas bonnets! Participants serve as the draft animal of their choice: dogs, horses, oxen, or mules, depending on the type of vehicle they bring. Patrols/teams will load the sleds with their personal and patrol equipment. They will pull them to each station. Stations will be named after famous Gold Rush towns. Gold nuggets will be used to keep score. Bring your sled and let the games begin!

Merit Badge Forum 2010

The district Merit Badge Forum will take place on Saturday, January 30 and February 27 at Lexington Trails Middle School in DeSoto. The registration form will be available shortly on the Northern Tier activities webpage and there will be a registration deadline.
Rechartering
Thank you to everyone that turned in their charters on time!!! Our district still has a couple of units that need to finish this process. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Jacob Allen at jallen@bsamail.org.

Recruiting
Retention, Retention, Retention!!!!!!! Retention is the way the Pelathe District will continue to grow. Please follow up with every Webelos II Scout that does not transition over to a troop. Please find out why, so we can make sure next time every Webelos Scout bridges over into Boy Scouts. Thank you for everyone’s efforts in providing the best possible program for the boys so they remain interested in Scouts and continue to have a blast and become young healthy individuals.

Training
Be sure to check to see that all your top leaders are fully trained before we start this recharter period. Remember that starting this year, training is going to begin to be required for units to recharter. The training requirement is being phased in so that within three years all leaders must be trained for the positions they hold in order for the unit to recharter. Some individuals have been trained for various positions in their troop or pack. When registration comes you will need to be sure you are trained for the position you are currently holding. Training course required to be fully trained do vary according to positions held. Thank you in advance for becoming fully trained. Fully trained leaders will only make our program stronger.

Investment in Character
Scott Gates is working hard making sure we reach out to everyone in the Pelathe District and give them the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of numerous youth in the Boy Scouts of America. Please take the time to fill out a pledge card and send it into the council office if you have not done so yet. Every unit should have a family presentation at one of their meetings (typically it’s the Blue and Gold Banquet or Courts of Honor). Thank you in advance for everyone’s support to the Scouting program!

Day Camp
Come Join us at the Pelathe Day Camp next Summer, June 7 - 11 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Alfred Cramer and Megan Helm are working together this year to put together another great Day Camp. As we get closer to day camp be looking for more information at roundtables!

Roundtables
It is strongly recommended that everyone attends roundtable. This is an informational event that takes place to make sure your troop or pack has all the materials and training you need to become successful. Roundtables are a good way to get all of your questions answered. Roundtable occurs the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at First Baptist Church in Lawrence off of Kasold Road. Every unit has a file that is filled up each month with useful information and ideas. Please take the time to attend roundtable each and every month of the year.
District Chair  
Jim Bernard Jr.  (913) 385-7088

District Vice-Chair  
Morgan Olander  (913) 649-6388

District Vice-Chair  
John Starr  (816) 213-0066

District Vice-Chair  
Gary Williams  (816) 358-4895

District Commissioner  
David Penner  (816) 444-2379

District Director  
Brian Tobler  (816) 569-4985  btobler@bsamail.org

District Executives  
Jay Ritter  (816) 569-4946  jritter@bsamail.org

William Torres  (816) 569-4965  wt Torres@bsamail.org

Click Here for contact information on additional volunteer Committee Chairs.

**Merit Badge Academy**

The 2010 Pioneer Trails Merit Badge Academy will take place on Saturday, January 16 at Hogan Preparatory Academy, located at 1221 E Meyer Blvd. Merit Badge Academy provides Scouts the opportunity to earn a wide variety of merit badges. Please note that prerequisites are required for almost every merit badge. It is the responsibility of the boy to make sure all prerequisite requirements have been met before the Merit Badge Academy. Please see the “Course Requirements” link on the Pioneer Trails District Activities Website to view course prerequisites: http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Districts/PioneerTrails/Activities.aspx. The fee for Merit Badge Academy will be $5 per Scout. Registration information can also be found on the website. In addition to turning in individual registration forms, Scoutmasters are asked to submit a form for the boys attending from their troop. Please see the website for details. For more information, contact Advancement Chairman Pat Parks at (816) 523-6382 or salutar1@att.net.

**Camporee/ Cub Family Campout**

If you missed our district-wide camping events, you missed a great weekend! Over 250 Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Scouters flooded the Longview Lake Camping Area on October 10 for a fun but cold weekend full of Scouting activities. Saturday included several different stations relating to the Camporee theme “Be Prepared.” The Scouts in attendance learned what to do in several different emergency situations including how to purify water, how to identify different weather patterns, and some general safety tips for around the house and when out camping. Highlights of the day included the “Save your Scoutmaster” relay game and Kim’s Game where Scouts had to choose what to pack in their emergency kit. Thank you to everyone who helped make this weekend possible!

**Investment in Character**

It is time once again to begin our annual fundraising through the Investment in Character Campaign. Please look at your unit’s calendar for the best time for a presentation this winter. Presentations are often done at unit events where the family is in attendance, such as Blue and Gold Banquets or Eagle Court of Honors. Please remember, funds contributed through the Investment in Character campaign help support Scouting throughout the Pioneer Trails District and the Heart of America Council. Please contact Larry Tyrl at (816) 942-5648 or ljtyrl@kc.rr.com to schedule an Investment in Character presentation for your unit.

**Website**

If you haven’t had a chance to check out the new website, you are missing out! The new website went live this past spring. We are thrilled to have an updated and professional looking website for all of the Scouts, parents, and volunteers in Kansas City. Visit www.hoac-bsa.org and check it out. To view the Pioneer Trails District webpage, visit http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Districts/Pioneer-Trails.aspx.

You can register online by visiting the website, monthly roundtables, or at the Council Office. Contact George Weaver at (816) 941-6411 for more information.
Investment in Character
A huge thank you to all who supported the 2009 Investment in Character campaign. As we know, the year threw us some curve balls but Red-Tailed Hawk has volunteers with big hearts!

Congratulations to the units that met their goals and earned free-rank advancement: 783’s, 785’s, 122, 324, 412 and 85.

Through your contributions Heart of America Council is able to continue to provide programs of the highest caliber and maintain our outstanding Scout Reservations at Bartle and Naish. Please welcome David McCricket, Red-Tailed Hawk’s New Family Friends of Scouting Chairman.

Commitment 2010-Recharter
The coming months are an important time of year to get ready for 2010. Time is of the essence! The 13th point of the Scout Law is “A Scout is Punctual” right?

For those new to Scouting, recharter is the process of reviewing your pack, troop, crew and team membership in order to register them for the coming year. The process is to be completed online. If you have questions about the rechartering process contact your unit commissioner or district executives.

Recharter packets are due January 14, 2010.

Training
Every Scout deserves a trained leader! Training is more important than ever as it will affect the membership of your pack, troop, crew or team. All Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Venturing Crew Advisors and Varsity Team Leaders must be fully trained in order to re-charter this January. Many of the trainings can be completed online at MyScouting.org. Be sure to enter your Member ID in order for the trainings to be recorded. Email Bridgete McKenna at bmckenna@bsamail.org for Member ID requests.

Not sure what you need to be a trained leader? Check out the training page on the Heart of America Council website. Click on “Districts”, “Red-Tailed Hawk” and then “Training”. To register for upcoming trainings please email Jeff Wandtke at rthtraining@hotmail.com.

Stay in the Communication Loop
Are you receiving all of the latest and greatest information regarding the Red-Tailed Hawk District and the Heart of America Council? There are many ways to keep informed and acquire current Scouting information. Please share the below communication avenues with the leaders in your unit.

• Constant Contact E-mail, all registered leaders will receive email updates
• Heart of America Council Website, www.hoac-bsa.org
• RTH roundtable, generally held the first Thursday of every month at College Church of the Nazarene, Cunningham Family Life Center

Cub Family Campout & Camporee Re-Cap
Thank you to all volunteers, packs, troops and crews for coming out to Cub Family Campout and Camporee this past October. The event was great and fun was had by all. Total attendance reached over 1,000. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves and will join us again next year!
Camporee
The 2009 Thunderbird District Camporee, “Learning the Ropes” was a huge success. We had over 450 Scouts, leaders, and staff attend. Scouts participated in rope making, save the log, throw a rope, splicing, build a signal tower, log tackle and pull, build camp furniture, and build and launch a trebuchet. Thank you to Pete Zibers, Kris Krahenbuhl, and all the camporee staff for all their hard work to make this an awesome program. Special thanks to the U.S. Army and the soldiers who helped with the camporee. They helped the staff with large tents, a water buffalo, generators, lighting, vehicles, and volunteer Army staff personnel.

Commitment ’10
Thanks to all of our packs, troops, crews, and teams for joining us in November for our annual re-charter event. Your help and cooperation helped us set the pace for the Council!

Winter Ski Event
The 2010 Thunderbird District Winter Ski Event will be at Snow Creek in Weston, MO on Saturday January, 23. Don’t miss out on the winter fun. Skiing and snowboarding will be open to the district from 9:00 pm Sat. to 2:00 am on Sunday. The registration deadline is the January roundtable.

There are no walk-ins for this event. Helmets are now a BSA requirement.

For more details, check out the Thunderbird Activities webpage for a flyer. For more information contact Jason Bledsoe jbledsoe@bsamail.org

Spring Pinewood Derby event at Paradise Park
Join us on March 27, 2010 for our spring Cub Scout event at Paradise Park. Come on out and race your Pinewood Derby Car and see who will be the district champion! Enjoy Paradise Park. Activity passes and food will be available for a discounted price. Some of the activities are: Children’s Edutainment Center, Foam Factory, Bumper Cars, Rock Wall, Go Karts, Jr. Go Karts, Miniature Golf, and more. Check out the website for a flyer. Contact Jay Ronnberg raymorescoutdad@gmail.com for more information.

Save These Dates
• January 23, Winter Ski Event at Snow Creek
• March 13, Merit Badge Academy
• March 27, Pinewood Derby at Paradise Park

Merit Badge Academy
March 13, 2010 will be our annual Merit Badge Academy. Check the Thunderbird Activities site for class availability, prerequisites and registration information.

Annual Business Meeting & Election
Thunderbird District will be holding its annual business meeting and elections on Tuesday, January 12, 2009 at St. Thomas More. The meeting and election will be in conjunction with the district committee meeting and begin promptly at 7:00 PM. The elections are held for district chairman, district vice-chairman and members-at-large.

Nominations MUST be received in writing at least two weeks prior to the district election. Please send the name of your nomination to: Thunderbird District Nominating Committee Chairman, 10210 Holmes Rd., Kansas City, MO 64131.
2010 Investment in Character Campaign

Please help continue to make Scouting affordable and available to everyone. It is time to make sure that your unit is signed up for a family Investment in Character presentation. If you have not already signed up your unit for this year, now is the time. Presentations only take 5 minutes and should be scheduled for either your troop Court of Honor or pack Blue and Gold. You can either sign up at Roundtable or contact Wayne Floyd at wayne.floyd@sprint.com.

Annual Business Meeting and Election

On January 14, 2010, 6:30 pm, at Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church, Trailhead District will hold its annual business meeting. Elections of various district committee positions and member’s-at-large will take place at this time. All voting members of the district, including chartered organization representatives, are strongly encouraged to attend this very important meeting. If you wish to nominate somebody to the district committee for any of the positions, please send those recommendations in writing to:

Trailhead District, Nominating Committee, 10210 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131

Nominations may be also be given in writing to Matt Specht or Jenna Murphy. All nominations must be received no later than December 11, 2009 to insure proper consideration.

Recharter Turn-in Day

Don’t forget your unit’s recharter paperwork is due to be turned in at the Recharter Turn-in Day on January 12 at Atotton Lutheran Church, 9948 Metcalf from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. You may begin the online process on December 1. If you have any questions regarding recharter, please contact your unit commissioner or district executive, Matt Specht at mspecht@bsamail.org or Jenna Murphy at jmurphy@bsamail.org. In addition to turning in your unit’s recharter paperwork, your unit commissioner will also be on hand to help your unit complete the 2010 Centennial Quality Unit Goals form and get your unit’s commitment to Investment in Character and 100% trained leadership.

Training

Training is an important part of learning to become an effective leader. Why is training so important? It will help you plan effective, organized and FUN meetings, it will make your job easier as a leader, and most importantly it will keep the youth in the program. Don’t miss out on Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster job specific training held during the merit badge conference this year on January 9th and 30th at Church of the Resurrection. In order to recharter for 2010, all top leaders including Cubmasters, Scoutmasters and Crew Advisors must be trained. For Trailhead District Training details visit the training page on the website. For any training questions, please contact district training chairman, Gene Bellner at geneb311@swbell.net

For the most updated information on Trailhead District, visit our webpage at: http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Districts/Trailhead.aspx
Recharter 2010
On January 7, 12, and 14, The Trails West District will have 3 convenient locations for you to drop-off and complete your 2010 recharters. We will also be available to answer any questions you may have. Trained volunteers will be on site to help make this as simple as possible. Units will be asked to fill out their 2010 Centennial Award Worksheet at the drop-off site.

Recharter Drop-Off Sites:
- Thursday, January 7, 2010
  Community Covenant Church (Roundtable)
  7:00-9:00 pm
- Tuesday, January 12, 2010
  Olathe Public Library
  6:30-8:30 pm
- Thursday, January 14, 2010
  Lackman Library
  6:30-8:30pm

Contact Matt Armstrong with questions or for more information (816) 569-4978 marmstro@bsamail.org.

2010 Trails West District Dinner
- Saturday, January 23, 2010
  Atonement Lutheran Church
  9948 Metcalf
  Overland Park, KS 66212
  6:30-8:30 pm

All Trails West Scouters and their families won’t want to miss the 2010 Trails West District Dinner. This event will recognize the accomplishments of the Trails West District during the 2009 Calendar year as well as unit and district leaders for their contribution to Scouting.

Trails West District Outstanding Leader Awards and the District Award of Merit will be presented at the District Dinner.

For a link to the page where you can download the form to register for the dinner and to nominate your fellow Scouters, visit http://www.hoac-bsa.org/Districts/TrailsWest/Activities.aspx.

Roundtable
Roundtable is held the 1st Thursday of the month at Community Covenant Church, 15700 W 87th St., Lenexa, KS. All Scout leaders are encouraged to attend. Come to stay current on all the latest district news, learn new Scouting skills, and catch up with fellow Scouters.

Also offered at the same time as the roundtable is Merit Badge Counselor Training and the Order of the Arrow Chapter Meeting.
2009 Twin Rivers Key Leadership

District Chair
Jeff Walmann (913) 256-4063

District Commissioner
Curtis Gibson (913) 259-2568

District Executive
Gordon Corcoran (816) 569-4941
gcorcora@bsamail.org

Click Here for contact information on additional volunteer Committee Chairs.

Recruiting and Retention

This is the time of year where we focus a great deal on recruitment. Twin Rivers has once again done a great job in recruiting new Cub Scouts into the program. Although there is some follow-up work still being done, everyone did a great job helping out with this monumental task. Out of all of the hundreds of boys we talked to this fall about Cub Scouts only about 20 have yet to join! If you stop and think about it that is simply amazing!

We still need about 40 boys, (mostly Boy Scouts for balanced growth) to join before December 31 to make our year-end goal. Please consider the following activities to assist with recruitment;

Have the boys invite and bring a friend to their den and pack and Scout meetings. Most boys who were involved with football are now finished with their season. Now would be a good time to invite or re-invite them to join.

Have an Open House and invite potential new members to come and see what Scouting is all about. If you would like flyers or other marketing materials to advertise your event, contact Gordon Corcoran at the council office.

Have your Scouts use social networking (Facebook, Twitter, Evite, etc.) to invite their friends to and promote your Open House event.

If we haven’t already, we need to start thinking about retention. The following are some ideas to help with retaining our members;

If you have boys that have missed a couple of meetings and you don’t know why, please call their parents and invite them to come back. If you need assistance with this contact your unit commissioner.

We should now also be conducting membership inventories to identify those Scouts who are not registered and get applications for them turned in. This will streamline the re-chartering process for you greatly.

Encourage all of your Scouts to subscribe to Boy’s Life magazine. Studies have shown that boys who subscribe to Boy’s Life stay active in Scouting longer.

It will require a total team effort in order for the Twin Rivers District to make it’s goal. Just like in track, we have hit our “wall” but now is the time for us to get our “kick”, our “second wind” and push through to the finish line and victory.

2009 Twin Rivers Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting for the Twin Rivers District will be held on December 15, 2009 at 6:30 pm at the Whistle Stop Cafeteria in Osawatomie. The slates of new officers for the district will be voted on at that time. All chartered organizational representatives, members-at-large are encouraged to attend to cast their vote.

As always, no nominations will be accepted from the floor.

2009 District Fall Camp-O-Ree

Thanks to everyone who attended and especially those who helped out with the Twin Rivers District Fall Camp-O-Ree 2009. The event was held at the Ottawa City Forest Park on the north side of Ottawa. There were 84 Scouts in attendance that enjoyed activities such as archery, a fire starting competition, a lashing competition, a monkey bridge, obstacle course, and a very moving flag retirement ceremony led by a Vietnam veterans group. If you missed it, you missed an awesome event.

Thank you to Lonnie Davis for chairing this year’s Camp-O-Ree and for all those who assisted him on putting on such a great event. Also, thanks to the Louisburg Cider Mill for the apple cider and cider donuts for our Saturday night cracker barrel. Thanks to the City of Ottawa for allowing us to camp at the park and for all of their assistance.

Next year the Fall Camp-O-Ree will be held at the council level and will be a once-in-a-lifetime event celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Scouting. You and your unit will not want to miss it; it will truly be one of the biggest events that many of your Scouts will ever see.

2009 Cub Family Campout

The Cub Family Campout was held at Beaver Lake in Osawatomie. The weather was almost perfect for camping and it was neat to hear the coyotes howling at about 10:30 pm that sent all of the young Scouts scurrying for the safety and security of their family tents, which was kind of humorous.

Thank you to Rhonda and Chris Lewis and everyone else who helped put on such a great event. I know all of the new Cubs and their families had a good time. Thanks to the Louisburg Cider Mill for the hot apple cider and cider donuts for our Friday night cracker barrel. Also, thanks to the City of Osawatomie for allowing us to camp at the lake and for all their help and assistance.

Next year, like the Fall Camp-O-Ree, we will not hold the Cub Family Campout at the district level. Everyone will be invited to join us for the huge 100th Anniversary Celebration.
ATTENTION ALL EXPLORER POSTS!!!~

Now that Fall Fiesta has come and gone, recruitment is what it’s all about. Everyone should have their renewal paperwork and working to complete the process. November 16 has come and gone and renewal paperwork is due. We are here to lend assistants in any capacity. We can sit down with you and go through line by line your renewal paperwork process. We will be at recruitment nights answering questions, helping out with program, and just lending two extra hands. Please, make sure you are conducting a recruitment night for your Explorer Post. Without recruitment……..their is no Exploring. Please contact Lisa Thomas, Exploring & Learning for Life Director, at 816.569.4972 or lithomas@lflmail.org to schedule an appointment to complete your Post Renewal Paperwork and to attend your Post Recruitment Night! We want to be there to help.

Samantha Atwell receives The Young American Award

Samantha Atwell, daughter of Scott & Teri Atwell and a senior at GEHS, was presented The Young American Award by Sheriff Frank Denning at a ceremony held on Tuesday, November 17. The Young American Award is offered through the Scouting program. Samantha has been involved with the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office Explorer Post 2203 since 2005 and holds the rank of Sergeant with the post.

The Young American Awards have been presented since 1968 to young adults between the ages of 15 and 25 who have achieved excellence in scholastic fields and have been involved in service to their community, state, or country that adds to the quality of life.

Congratulations, Samantha

Tell us your story!!

We would like to hear about what you are doing with articles and pictures. In the newsletter we offer an abundance of information, but it is a lot of fun to see what the other posts and groups are doing out there. If you have a great story to tell of an adventure, activity, or exciting event, send it in or email me your story with pictures and we’ll try to get it in to the newsletter.

Contact Information

Your post or group is important to me. While I visit with all advisors, lead teachers, and principals regularly, I am available to address your needs and concerns as they arise. Please contact Lisa Thomas, Exploring & Learning for Life Director, at (816) 569-4972 or lithomas@lflmail.org

Got E-Mail?

Would you like updated Exploring information? Want to know about the latest resources available to your post’s leadership? Send me an e-mail and I will add you to our group listing. Your information will be kept confidential.
Flowers are beautiful but fleeting and material gifts are not always fitting. A tribute can find no finer form than a living gift to the Heart of America Council’s Endowment Fund. If you would like to help direct gifts to the endowment, booklets providing donor forms are available. For more information, contact John Kuehn at (816) 569-4979.

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Frederick G. Defoe  
Susan Fenner  
Robert Hamon  
Howard and Marion Stier  
Jared C. Pearce  
Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
Oganes and Aurora Ashikyan  
Tara Barker  
Thomas and Thelma Delantonas  
Lorna and James Easton  
Richard Fink  
Sarah Green  
Robert Hamilton  
David and Jodi Huard  
Donald and Winona Gibbs  
Kay Hayworth  
Andrea Jackson  
Gene Leonard  
Richard and Elaine Ogden  
Blanche Pearce  
Melanie Pearce  
Michael Pearce  
Regina Pearce  
Michael and Debra Robinson  
Keith and Cynthia Sickendick  
Daniel Sisco  
Dean and Mary Anne Stoskopf and Family  
John and Antonette Thornton  
James and Linda Tucker  
Ed and Mary Tyson

**IN HONOR OF:**

Mike Avery  
Advantus Capital Management, Inc.  
Matthew Crowther  
Marjorie Dozier  
Mark Jorgenson  
Kansas City Area Development Council  
Judge Carl Muller  
Lexington Mo. Employer Committee

**Booklets of Donor Forms Available**

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