



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Texas Skies District

www.texas skiesdistrict.org/

May 2009 Page 1 of 2

District Meeting Location: LSD Church, 1603 Norwalk Dr, Katy, TX
 District Meeting: 7:00pm, 1st Thursday of each month
 Unit Commissioner Meeting: 6:30pm, 1st Thursday of each month
 Round Table Meetings 7:00pm, 2nd Thursday of each month
 District Chairman: Richard Shirley, Richard.Shirley@mustangeng.com
 District Commissioner: Forrest Bjerkaas, fbjerkaas@consolidated.net
 V. Chairman Adm: Julie Spier, dspier1@comcast.net
 V. Chairman of Finance: Raymond Farrell, rayfarrell@yahoo.com
 V. Chairman of Programs: Michael Scherer, michael.scherer@akersolutions.com
 Senior District Executive: Michelle Phillips, michelle.phillips@shac.org

ATTENTION UNITS

Day Camp Training: Training will be held at Deren-Huff Scout house, located at St. Peter's Methodist Church on 20775 Kingsland Drive, Katy, Texas in Building H. The Scout house in South east corner of the church property, behind Kingsland Animal Clinic and accessible via Animal clinic parking lot. For additional information contact Lyssa Wilson at lyssa.wilson@gmail.com. See you at Training!

New Volunteer Training, Saturday, May 9th, 8-9AM
 All Volunteer Training: Saturday, May 16th, 9-Noon
 All Volunteer Training: Thursday, May 28th, 7-9PM
 Returning Volunteer Training: Saturday, May 30th, 9-Noon

Fall Recruitment: It's not too early to start thinking about the Fall Membership Drive. All units need to start planning now! Please identify your Fall Recruitment Scouting Coordinator and send your coordinator's contact information to Marissa Nix-Burke at manix@thebureshouse.com or Michelle Phillips at michelle.phillips@shac.org.

New BSA Health and Medical Form: BSA has developed a new health and medical form that replaces the Class 1, 2, and 3 medical forms used in past years. In 2009, Scouts, families, and units have the option to start using the new form. The new form will be required starting in 2010. The new form is available at http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34605_Letter.pdf. For more information, click on <http://www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety/Resources/MedicalFormFAQs.aspx>.

Online Training: New Leader Essentials training is available online at www.scouting.org. There are also other trainings you can take such as YPT and Fast Start.



OA Thunderhawk Chapter

by Paul Huttenhoff

Congratulations to 17 new Brotherhood members who completed Brotherhood induction at District Camporee. Next OA Chapter meeting is Thursday, May 21 at Deren-Huff Scout House from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

Texas Skies District 2009 OA Ordeal and Fellowship is August 14-16 at Camp Brosig. Stay tuned for more information. All units with OA members and candidates should reserve this weekend.

Kudos Corner

by Michelle Phillips

Once again, the Scout Fair was a great success! We would like to thank Brad and Sally Boozer for their work with Scout Fair. And a SPECIAL THANK YOU to Mrs. Suzie Yost for her work on the Value Pack Sales. Mrs. Yost devoted countless hours to this project, and we are very appreciative of her dedication.

The Texas Skies District top seller of the Value Packs was Dominic Maya of Pack 542 who sold \$2000 worth. 2nd place goes to Matthew Wright of Pack 987, and 3rd place goes to Matthew Bonilla of Pack 164. Thank you to all scouts that sold value packs this year!

We would also like to thank the following units for participating at the Scout Fair. Many of these units had awesome booths where Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts were able to display their talents and skills, and showcase the excitement of Scouting! Way to go Scouts! You are what makes Scout Fair so special each and every year!

Packs 164, 239, 281, 343, 353, 393, 424, 987, 1455, 1836
 Troops 557, 590, 827, 925, 987, 1455, 1919



Upcoming Events

- May 1-3 OA Ordeal
- May 7 6:30PM Unit Commissioners Meeting
- May 7 7:00PM District Committee Meeting
- May 8-10 OA Ordeal
- May 9 Day Camp Training at Deren-Huff Scout House
- May 14 7:00PM Roundtable: Program Preview
- May 15-17 OA Ordeal
- May 16 Day Camp Training at Deren-Huff Scout House
- May 16 IOLS & Owl Training at Bear Creek Park
- May 16 11AM to 3PM Go Camping Classic, Bass Pro Shop
- May 21 7PM OA Chapter Meeting, Deren-Huff Scout House
- May 23 10AM Scout Competitions, Bass Pro Shop
- May 28 Day Camp Training at Deren-Huff Scout House
- May 30 Day Camp Training at Deren-Huff Scout House



Training

Knowledge Brings the Responsibility of Choice

by Lori Powell

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training

IOLS is required for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters in order to wear the "Trained" patch. IOLS started on April 29 where patrols were formed and course information provided. The camping portion of training will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday, May 16, and end 11:00 AM on May 17th at Bear Creek Park. Cost is \$15, includes Saturday lunch and crackerbarrel (patrols will prepare their own dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday).

Outdoor Leader Skills Webelos Training

OWL is required for all Webelos leaders who will be taking their Webelos scouts camping. OWL participants are encouraged to pre-register and will need to check-in for the one-day course on Saturday, May 16, prior to 8:00 AM. OWL will end approximately 9:00 PM Saturday evening. Cost is \$15, includes lunch and dinner.

To register for these courses contact Bill Wescott at wiliam.wescott@el Paso.com or Benno Dunn at bennodunn@yahoo.com. For additional information, contact Benno Dunn at 281-413-9912 (cell) or 281-228-5538 (office).

New Courses Available at Online Learning Center

Have you been to the BSA Online Learning Center (OLC) lately? At <http://olc.scouting.org> new training courses are being added almost every week. Did you know that:

- ◆ New Leader Essentials has been replaced by an online course called "This is Scouting"?
- ◆ Boy Scout Leader Fast Start is available in Spanish?
- ◆ There's a Fast Start course for the Scout Parents unit coordinator?
- ◆ Hazardous Weather training is required by someone in the unit for a unit to apply for a tour permit?

Make it a point to visit this site periodically as new training courses are constantly being developed and added. Share these with your leaders, and don't forget that every youth deserves a trained leader.



Commissioner Corner

by Forrest Bjerkaas

Goals Is your unit all you want it to be? Are you accomplishing what you desire for the boys in your Pack or Troop, or the youth in your Crew? **Clearly defined goals** are critical to guide the program, activities, and ultimately the results of your unit. Indeed, goal setting is the cornerstone of the Centennial Quality Unit (CQU) Program. As the spring draws to a close, with your Unit Commissioner, review how you are progressing on your 2009 CQU goals. If you haven't set CQU goals, contact your Unit Commissioner to set your improvement goals for the rest of the year. Together, let's deliver the highest quality program possible for the youth of our area!!



Gathering of Eagles

By Dave Williams

Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at Minute Maid Park, 6PM
Be part of the largest gathering of Eagle Scouts in Sam Houston Area Council history! Eagle Scouts of all ages should make plans now for this inspiring time to meet and network with other successful Eagle Scouts in the Sam Houston Area Council. For more information go to The Gathering of Eagles website at www.thegatheringofeagles.org



Outdoors Camping Classic Volunteers Needed

May 16, 2009

Red Cross - The Western Branch office is taking over Bass Pro Shop and will be kicking off "GO OUTDOORS CAMPING CLASSIC" by providing water safety information and demonstrations to the public. Go Outdoors Camping Classic will be held from 11:00am to 3:00pm at Bass Pro Shop at Katy Mills Mall.

We need volunteers to work in one-hour shifts as buddies and/or groups. Contact Don Thomas at 832-433-1877 if you are able to help.



Let The Games Begin

May 23, 2009

Bass Pro Shops would like to invite your troop or pack to participate in a day filled with fun and team competitions.

Where: Bass Pro Shops at the Katy Mills Mall

When: Saturday, May 23rd Beginning at 10:00am

Tent Constructing Races: Two teams at a time will compete. The team with the fastest score wins and remains in the competition until all teams have been eliminated to reveal the fastest team.

Rules: Teams must use care and skill at the same time as trying to be the fastest in putting their tent together. If tent is broken during the process, the team will be automatically disqualified. Teamwork is essential.

Plan is to have a Cub Scout division and a Boy Scout division. A minimum of at least 5 teams per division is needed. Scouts are welcome to set up a booth to membership drive that day. Our contact is Carol Yauger at 281-644-2200 x 5203.



District Derby

Our Cub Scouts had a blast as their race cars roared down the track at our 2nd Annual District Derby! The Pinewood Derby gave the Cub Scouts a great opportunity to show off their creativity, design, building and decorating skills to compete in this race of gravity powered model racecars. Special thanks to Greg Allen who chaired this event!