



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Texas Skies District

www.texasskiesdistrict.org/

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District Meeting Location: LDS 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

Program Helps: Cub Scout Leaders... Program Helps 2009-2010 is here and are located at <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34409.pdf>.

Scouting Website: It is a great resource to help begin planning the 2009-2010 Cub Scouting year. It provides tools such as templates for pack calendars and newsletters, den leader meeting ideas, handouts for new leaders, basic cub scout information for new parents, outdoor program guidelines, guide to safe scouting, and so much more.

Pack Planning: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Leaders/PackPlanningResources.aspx>

Den Leader Resources: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Leaders/DenLeaderKit.aspx>

About Cub Scouting: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Leaders/About.aspx>

Resources for New Leaders: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Leaders/NewLeaderResource.aspx>

Leader's Library: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsources/CubScouts/Library/Leaders.aspx>

Finance News: TSD has raised \$87,169 toward our goal of \$100,000 for 2009. That's great progress, but we have a ways to go. If you haven't yet made your contribution, contact Ray Farrell @ 281-395-4303 or rayfarrell@yahoo.com. Unit leaders can help out by making another pitch to your units. Scouting is important to all of us. Please make your contribution to ensure that the Scouting program continues to prosper in our community and the Sam Houston Area Council.

Unit Commissioner: If you don't know who your unit commissioner is go to http://www.texasskiesdistrict.org/Who_is_my_UC.xls.



Popcorn Time

by Margaret Izard

2009 Popcorn Campaign- "Powered by Popcorn" Your unit can fund your entire year of Scouting with a single fundraising campaign!!! We are excited for every unit and we know this is attainable. Your commitment to join this campaign can make it happen!!! If you would like to sign up, please email Margaret Izard at mizbil@sbcglobal.net with your unit type (pack, troop, team, or crew) and unit number, and your popcorn chairperson information. Save the following dates!

Sept. 8th Popcorn Kick-off, Oct. 1st Sale Begins, Nov. 21st Popcorn pick-up/distribution, Dec. 11th Money due to council

Well funded programs have more kids having fun!



A Scout Is Helpful

City of Humble proclaimed July 24 Mavry Sepulvado Day and Robert Taylor Day for their lifesaving heroics the evening of June 23 at Academy Sports and Outdoors store in Humble. Seven-year-old Austin Sarver was leaving the store with his grandmother and brother when he was accidentally cut with a knife bought in the store. Mavry Sepulvado, 10, a member of New Caney Cub Scout Pack 3039, and Taylor, a store manager, were at the scene when it occurred. Cub Scout Sepulvado responded quickly by taking off his shirt to use it as a tourniquet. When the Humble Fire Department paramedics arrived they and Taylor continued to try to control the bleeding. Academy offered Sepulvado to replace his shirt with any shirt in the store. Instead of accepting a new shirt, he paused and turned around to his mother and said, "That's OK, I'm a Cub Scout. That's what we do."

Also, this past week, Scouts from Troop 642 of the Sam Houston Area Council were well-prepared to respond to an emergency while on a backpacking trip in Colorado. The Houston Boy Scouts made heroic efforts to carry their Scoutmaster down a mountain after he became seriously ill in the Colorado wilderness.



Upcoming Events

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| August 1 | Roundtable Basic Training |
| August 6 | 6:30PM Commissioners Meeting |
| August 6 | 7PM District Committee Meeting |
| August 13 | 7PM OA Chapter Meeting |
| August 14-15 | OA Ordeal at Camp Brosig |
| August 15 | 9:00AM Fall Recruitment Training |
| August 22 | 9:00AM Fall Recruitment Training |
| August 24 | Katy ISD 1st day of School |
| August 29 | Cub Leader Training |
| September 8 | 7PM Unit Kick-off Popcorn Training |
| September 19 | 4PM Step Into Scouting, La Centerra |



Training

Knowledge Brings the Responsibility of Choice

by Lori Powell

Fall Recruitment Training:

Formerly School Night for Scout Training. It is time to start planning for Summer Recruiting and the upcoming Fall Recruitment Campaign. Hopefully, your pack has already planned a *Summer recruitment* effort, such as a picnic, party, ice-cream social, etc... New recruits can come out with their parents to learn about your pack. Many packs have done this in the past and have been very successful. This is also great to do with boys that are entering 1st grade and are really excited about Cub Scout program! For Boy Scouts working on earning First Class rank, get requirement 11 complete by inviting them to your summer events.

Fall Recruitment Kick-off Dates. Following training sessions are available and each unit needs to attend of these sessions. Training will provide several useful tools and materials to prepare you for Fall recruitment.

Saturday August 15th, 9am - Noon, Deren-Huff Scout House (St Peters)
 Saturday August 22nd, 9am - Noon, Deren-Huff Scout House (St Peters)

Popcorn TSD Unit Kick-off Training

Make sure to attend training for your unit's Sales Material Pickup!

September 8th. 7 to 8PM, Cinco Ranch Library, 2620 Commercial Center Blvd., Katy (77494)



Texas Skies 2nd Annual 'Step Into Scouting' event will be held on September 19th, 2009 at LaCenterra Center, Cinco Ranch from 4:00pm till 8:00pm.

Please come and join us for an evening of scouting fun!

If your unit is not signed up or is still thinking about signing up, we encourage you to please join us! This will be a great event that provides the following:

- Help in recruiting new scouts and promoting Scouting to the Katy community.
- An exciting and fun-filled afternoon of Scouting fun for Scouts of every age!

We urge Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts & Venture Scouts to participate, showcase your unit, and help us tell the Scouting story. Every participant in this years festival will get a woven 'Step Into Scouting' patch.

Interested in hosting a booth and want more information, please email Wendy Freaney at stepintoscouting@yahoo.com.



OA

Thunderhawk Chapter

by Paul Huttenhoff

Texas Skies District 2009 OA Ordeal and Fellowship is set for weekend of August 14th at Camp Brosig. The Ordeal will be a 3 day format. With a 7pm drop off on Friday and a Sunday 10am pickup at Camp Brosig.

Candidates must complete an Ordeal in order to become a member of the Colonneh Lodge OA. If you do not attend one of the 2009 Ordeal opportunities, then you will have to be re-elected by your Unit next year.



Hornaday Award Weekend

October 2-4th at Bovay Scout Ranch

Troops mark your calendars for the Hornaday Weekend! Scouts will have an opportunity to earn up to 4 merit badges and learn about conservation. The Hornaday Award Weekend goal is to create a dramatic and permanent impact on our natural resources through the collective results of thousands of Scouts performing Hornaday conservation projects. Look for upcoming details from debvaughn@gmail.com.



Commissioner Corner

by Forrest Bjerkaas

Recruiting As we begin in earnest the scouting year that includes the Centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, let us focus on recruiting to allow as many boys / youth as possible to enjoy the fun. Remember, there is not one time to recruit. **Recruiting should be continual!!** So, whether it is inviting neighborhood grade schoolers to the Pack's August event, the more structured fall recruiting events, or the Boy Scout inviting a new classmate to the Troop Meeting, let us all get involved in building our units stronger and providing more opportunities for our youth. **Remember, we do it for the boys!!**



Uniform Exchange Bank

by John Fortier

Used (but still good) uniforms shirts, council strips, unit numbers and other uniform items are requested for donations to support "Scouts helping Scouts" program. Scouts helping Scouts is a SHAC program to assist leaders in providing uniforms for boys who would like to wear the Scout uniform but who are not able to purchase the Scout uniform themselves? This exchange will operate with the support of Scout leaders and Scout units across the council through uniform donations.

Please contact John Fortier at (281)646-0616 or jbfortier@sbcglobal.net to arrange pick up of old uniforms.