



THE CBD CHATTER

September 2015 Program Kick-Off, Volume VIII, Number 2

Official E-Newsletter of Chief Black Dog District, Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America

Late Summer Early Fall Issue

Well, it's September and fall is just around the corner. I'm not ready to give up on summer just yet but it is time to be sure winter adventure plans are in place. Other items that should be high on your priority list include School Night for Scouting, OA Fall Conclave, Fall Camporee, and check out the trainings available at Roundtable and University of Scouting. The deadline for the first two Guideposts for Journey to Excellence has come and gone. All units should have an annual calendar, a budget plan to make to make those activities happen and a plan to communicate it to your families.

Steve Engel—Editor

September Roundtable

Cub Scout The Cub Scout breakout will feature a discussion of a "Family Cub Scouting" proposal led by Bob Gwinn. A proposal to involve all members of the family in Cub Scouting. The regular breakouts will feature the theme - "Super Cub". Bill Ireland will facilitate a breakout for Webelos Leaders. Cubmasters will have a separate breakout discussion regarding School Night - Are we ready?

Boy Scout The Boy Scout breakout will feature effective unit communication. We will brainstorm ideas on communicating within the unit. There will also be a presentation and discussion regarding the online presence of a unit, including social media. The BSA online best practices will be discussed and handed out.

Boy Leader The Boy Leader Breakout is back by popular demand, unanimously requested by leaders at the August Roundtable. We are expect all of our troops to invite and bring their youth leaders to Roundtable. All SPL's, ASPL's, PL's and any Grey Wolf trained scouts should be asked to attend. September will feature roles and responsibilities of the SPL (for Troop meeting and in terms of running the PLC meetings). Troop leaders - bring two youth leaders to Roundtable and meet Youth Protection Policies. Remember, you should also invite your OA Representative as they should attend the OA Chapter Meeting.

More at Roundtable

OA Chapter Meeting Remember OA Chapter Meetings are held each month during Roundtables. Each troop should have a OA Youth Representative who attends these meetings. Invite them along with your youth leaders when you attend Roundtable.



Training at Roundtable The following Trainings will be available at this month's roundtable. All trainings begin at 7:00 pm.

School Night for Scouting (SNFS) All Unit School Night Coordinators, who have not yet attended a training, should attend this last chance for training for SNFS. Are we ready for this year's School Night? Are there some last minute opportunities we can take advantage of? Need more promotional materials? They will be available at Roundtable.

Popcorn Fall Sale Training for the Fall Popcorn Sale will also be at this month's roundtable. Did you miss last month's training opportunity? The your unit Popcorn Sales Coordinator should attend this month. Sales begin September 18.

Internet Recharter An overview of Internet recharter training will be presented at September Roundtable. The person responsible for your unit's rechartering should attend. Unit recharter packets will be available. Online internet rechartering will be accessible beginning October 3.

Calendar

September 10	Roundtable School Night Training Popcorn Training Internet Recharter Training OA Chapter Meeting
September 12	Eagan, Streets Alive!
September 17	School Night for Scouting
September 18	Popcorn Sales Begin 5 pm
September 18-20	OA Fall Conclave
September 25-27	Fall Camporee
October 3	Fall Model Rocket Launch Day
October 8	Roundtable
October 24	University of Scouting

Journey to Excellence Guidepost Three

The deadline for the first two guideposts (Plan and Fund Your Unit and Communicate your plan to the parents) has come and gone. Now it's on to Guidepost Three - Basic Training. Refer to your Council Calendar and Resource Guide for Journey to Excellence training requirements as it pertains to your unit, or go to [Journey to Excellence 2.0](#). With a few exceptions most of the training is available on-line. But there is a lot to be said for taking training in a group setting. If your leaders are planning to take training at University of Scouting, have them register by October 15 to meet the Journey to Excellence requirement. Cub Scout Leaders, looking for training close to home? Go to [Cub Scout Training](#). See details on page three.

Fall Camporee September 25, 26, 27

The theme for this years fall camporee is Emergency Preparedness. The camporee will be held September 25-27, at Phillippo Scout Reservation. Be sure to invite the Webelos from your sister pack to camp with you. More information on the Chief Black Dog(GO!) website at [camporee](#). Registration is now open. Because Webelos Woods was canceled last spring - this will be Webelos Woods with special activities for Webelos. Again, be sure the Webelos from your sister pack are invited.

School Night for Scouting Thursday, September 17

School Night for Scouting, Thursday, September 17, is less than 2 weeks away. All across Minnesota families and young boys will head to their local elementary school to sign up for scouting. What should you be doing now? First, if your school night Coordinator has not attended training yet, make sure they attend training at the September Roundtable. All sorts of promotional materials will be available, yard signs, wristbands, stickers, and invite a friend postcards.

Second, hopefully you were able to be at your school's open house, meet the teacher day, or even assessment days. We've heard some success stories already in this effort. A few schools will have an open house or meet the teacher day after school begins. If you haven't already, contact the school about having a presence at such events. We cannot send flyers home with the kids in District 196, but ask - what can we do? Posters, bulletin boards, yard signs in front of the school, flyers on the counter that parents could pick up, etc.

Third, Time for a quick review, do you have everything ready School Night? Volunteers to staff it. Information to hand out, including your yearly calendar. Guidepost One of Journey to Excellence is to have a unit budget plan and yearly calendar ready by August 31. Now your calendar is ready to hand out to new parents.

Fourth, the first thing on your calendar is the follow-up new parent orientation meeting. This meeting should take place within two weeks of School Night and should not be your first pack meeting. We all know how hectic that pack meeting can be and new parents can easily be confused and left feeling lost in the shuffle.

Finally, I want to ask all of our volunteers and parents, do you have personal scouting story to share? What has scouting meant to or been of benefit to you as a youth, parent or leader? Please consider sharing your story and writing a letter to the editor of the local paper, SunThisweek. This can be a very effective way to get our message out.

***All Hands On Deck!
Let's Have a Great Recruiting Night!***

Cub Leader Training

In-person training will be offered Saturday October 3rd at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley per the following schedule:

8:45 - noon	Den Leader Training
12:15 - 3:30	Pack Leader Training (Cub Master, Pack Committee)
3:30 - 5:00	Youth Protection

Flyer and registration form at [Cub Leader Training](#).

2) On-line training is offered by registering at myscouting.scouting.org. While the content in these training videos is slightly out-of-date, they will still count towards your training requirements. In October, we are expecting a new set of training courses to correspond with the new advancement program that has been launched this year.

3) Especially for Webelos Den Leaders and Unit Leaders for LDS Packs... BSA has published guidelines for your transition to the new advancement program at [guidelines](#)

4) Cub Leaders, did you miss all of our publicity last spring regarding the details of the new Cub Scout advancement program? If so, visit this website and catch up on all of the program updates at [updates](#).

5) University of Scouting - Saturday October 24th - Mark your calendars! All the training, resources and fun content that you could hope for - all in one place. Visit [University of Scouting](#) for all of the details and to register.

New Pack Meeting Plans

Attention Cubmasters! BSA has published their new pack meeting plan suggestions online at [pack meeting plans](#).

Youth Protection Training

For all those new Cub Scouts with a free model rocket, a model rocket launch day will be held on Saturday, October 3 at Falcon Ridge Middle School. Free event. Watch for the flyer on the web site.

Lion Book Change

Cub Scout pack leaders and new Lion Cub leaders, please note that the Lion Cub books are now available in our local Scout Shops. If you wish to obtain them from one of the Council service center, do so during the open hour of the Scout Shops therein.

While the Lion Cub program is still in pilot phase, it continues advancing towards full adoption as part of the National program. Lion Cubs started out as a pilot in Northern Star Council. It was then rolled-out to a set of pilot councils with multiple versions of program content. As of this year, BSA has standardized on a single set of content for the pilot Councils.

A Personal Tribute

Our family moved to Apple Valley in the summer of 1963. At that time Apple Valley was simply a housing development in what was known as Lebanon Township (later it was incorporated and residents voted to name it the City of Apple Valley).

There wasn't a lot of activities or opportunities for youth at the time. Many parents, including my mom and dad, came together and started the first Cub Scout Pack in Apple Valley. Mom was an Assistant Den Mother, Den Mother and Den Leader Coach. Dad was a Webelos Leader, Neighborhood Commissioner, and Assistant District Commissioner. These parent volunteers helped to make scouting what it is today in Apple Valley

Through Scouting mom, dad and these parents instilled in us a sense of community service, and volunteerism. Through scouting they helped us grow into solid citizens continuing to serve our community. Through Scouting's outdoor program they taught us leadership skills, to be self reliant, to appreciate and respect our environment.

Through Scouting we learned fitness, citizenship, and character. All of us kids and grandkids have been involved in Scouting, including Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Exploring and Girl Scouts. Two of us are Eagle Scouts and one is a Gold Award Girl Scout. There are many in our community who owe so much to our parents and Scouting volunteers.

My dad passed away in 1981. My mom left us just last month. Thank you parents. Thank you Scouting volunteers. Thank you, mom and dad.