



THE CBD CHATTER

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

Mid Winter Issue - February 2017

February, Blue 'n' Gold month, halfway through winter. Hope everyone is enjoying their winter adventures as you plan for Blue 'n' Golds, Pinewood Derbys, and those preparations for summer activities and adventures. Scouting for Food, and our Volunteer Recognition Dinner are just around the corner.

Steve Engel—Editor

February Roundtable

Roundtable - monthly supplemental training. Fun, fellowship, and sharing.

Cub Scout Roundtable features news, information and ideas, suggestions for your unit's upcoming meetings. The February will also include Cub Camping, why, how, and what's new.

Boy Scout The discussion topics will include continuing a discussion of adult vs boy led troops, Den Chiefs, who they are and how to use them effectively, and here will also be a discussion of training reports and transitioning Webelos to Boy Scouts. Merit Badges this month are the second half of Communications and Citizenship in the Community. **Due to a family illness the Programming Merit Badge will not be offered but will be hopefully rescheduled for another month.** The next month's merit badge(s) is announced at [roundtable information](#).

Klondike Derby

The 2017 Klondike Derby will be a combined event with the Chief Black Dog, Prairie Lakes and Rolling Hills districts participating. The Klondike will be February 17 - 19 on the upper level of Phillippo. This is a week earlier than the published date in the Council Planning Calendar. Details at [Klondike Derby](#).



OA Corner

OA Chapter Meeting Remember OA Chapter Meetings are held each month during roundtables. Invite your OA Representative to attend.



Order of the Arrow Founder's Award

Congratulations to Kay Stewart who has been recognized as a 2017 recipient of the Order of the Arrow Founder's Award! Kay received this recognition at the annual OA Winter Banquet. The Founder's Award was created to honor and recognize those Arrowmen who have given outstanding service to their lodge. The award is reserved for Arrowmen who demonstrates to fellow Arrowmen that he or she memorializes in his or her everyday life the spirit of achievement as described by founder E. Urner Goodman and cofounder Carroll A. Edson. Again, congratulations!



Northern Star Council Silver Beaver Award

Congratulations to David Hanson who will receive the Silver Beaver Award! Dave will receive this recognition at the annual Northern Star Council Recognition Dinner. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest council level recognition awarded to volunteers. Congratulations to David Hanson!





Calendar

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|----------------|--------------------------------|
| February 9 | Roundtable |
| February 9 | OA Chapter Meeting |
| February 11 | Scout Sabbath |
| February 11 | Annual District Planning Mtg |
| February 17-19 | Klondike Derby |
| March 9 | Roundtable |
| March 9 | OA Chapter Meeting |
| March 18 | Council Recognition Dinner |
| March 21 | Eagle Expo |
| April 1 | District Pinewood Derby |

Protestant Religious Emblems at Shepherd of the Valley

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church will offer Protestant religious emblems for all grades from 1st-12th. Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls and non-Scout siblings are all welcome. You don't need to be a member of SOTV and don't need to be Lutheran. Classes for 5th grade and below start February 26. Please contact [Bob Elliott](#) for details, and check the district website Religious Emblems tab for a registration form.

Chief Black Dog (GO!) District Planning Meeting



Our annual planning meeting for Chief Black Dog (GO!) district will be Saturday, February 11, 2017 Think Bank in Eagan. This is a morning meeting and concludes by lunch time. It's an opportunity to review what works well and what doesn't as we plan the calendar for the next one to two years. All district committee members, the commissioner staff, unit leaders and parents are invited. If you cannot make the meeting, please share your comments, thoughts and ideas with your Unit Commissioner or the appropriate district committee member and ask them to bring them to the meeting.

Chief Black Dog (GO!) is Gold!

Thank you Scouting volunteer leaders! Your efforts and hard work this past year have helped Chief Black Dog (Go!), once again, earn gold status in Journey 2.0. You put the GO! In Chief Black Dog! Thank you!

Is Your Pack/Den Family Inclusive?

The Northern Star Council is in the processing of developing program resources for Cub Scout Packs and Dens to become more family inclusive and involve all members of a cub's family to participate in scouting activities. To help accomplish this we need to know more about the current level of family participation in den and pack meetings and activities.

We are asking all Cub Scout Den leaders to use this link to a very short survey to assist us with this effort: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6JTCW>.

You may find this effort promoted in a variety of ways but the survey only needs to be completed once. Your assistance is greatly appreciated! For more information contact [Bob Gwinn](#), CBD(G!) District Chair.

Retaining Older Scouts

What can we do to retain older scouts? At the last roundtable scout leaders discussed how to keep older scouts involved. There are many alternate scouting experiences that are available to older scouts who may be tired of the same old stuff or find limited connection with 11 year olds. Encouraging them to become active in a Venturing Crew (they can still be in the troop and earn advancement), join one of the local, but nationally recognized, Explorer units, work on camp staff, or become more active in the Order of the Arrow. There are also activities and responsibilities in the troop that can keep them coming back.

Tied into this issue is the role of older scouts in the troop and insuring that youth are the primary leaders of the unit. Much of this is dependent on the role of the scoutmaster and troop committee and how they encourage and support the SPL and other youth leaders.

At the roundtable break out there were many great observations and suggestions shared by current and former scoutmasters. A summary of those ideas can be found in this [Google Doc](#) link. The Scout leaders of CBD need to do all they can to support life long involvement in the program and discourage scouts from "Eagle Out" attitudes.

Amazon Smile

Do you order through Amazon.com? I think most of us do. Did you know that you can use AmazonSmile and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to a charity of your choice, including Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America? You use the same account on amazon.com and AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile be sure to select Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America as your charity (or you can chose something else). A small percentage of your purchase goes to your charity. It's not very large but it adds up. More info at [AmazonSmile](#).



“Our Heritage” Fall Camporee 2017

The theme for the 2017 Fall Camporee is “Our Heritage”. Fall Camporee will be held on September 22, 23, and 24, 2017 at Phillippo Scout Reservation. We will be using the upper level. As the name and theme suggests, we will be exploring the various aspects of “Our Heritage”, including cultural, historical, scouting and environmental.

The focus will on be the “Patrol Method” and patrol participation. Competition will be based on participation and more points will be earned for patrol participation versus individual participation.

Coming Soon! More information and opportunities to earn participation points before the “Our Heritage” fall camporee.



Volunteer Recognition Dinner Nominate Your Fellow Leaders

Your Scouting program is successful because of your volunteer leadership! Please take this once-a-year opportunity to nominate those people for an award, which will be presented at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner on Saturday, April 29.

-recognition dinner continued next column

-recognition dinner continued

Nominations are due by Thursday, March 9, and the forms are available online at [nominations forms](#). Look them over and think about who in your Unit is an Outstanding Leader, or shows Distinguished Leadership, etc.

SPARK PLUG AWARD - 1 PER UNIT New for 2017,



each unit's committee will determine the recipient of this award, and one Spark Plug per Unit will be awarded. Select the ONE leader in your Unit who you feel is most deserving of this award. The Unit should choose a candidate who has demonstrated great initiative, creativity, or a fresh outlook to improve Scouting. This person gives that extra spark of enthusiasm which motivates others and benefits the Scouting program.

The candidate must be a registered leader to be eligible to receive the award. This nomination should remain confidential. Please do not advise the candidate until the District Awards Committee confirms eligibility, and the nominator has been notified.

Black Hills Adventure - Update

There is still time to join the Black Hills trip this spring, June 28 to July 5, 2017. This trip is being planned by Troops 159 and 129 from Many Waters District and we have been invited to join them. This is open to individuals, Scouts and adults as well. You do not need to sign up by a Troop. Scouts need to be First Class and 13 years old by the start of the trip. All adult leaders, committee members, and parents are also welcome. Stops will include, Pipestone, Badlands, Mount Rushmore National Monuments, Crazy Horse, the Air Force Museum, and Wind Cave National Park. The cost has been set at \$400. This is a camping trip and we will need to bring our own equipment and do most of our own cooking. For more information or to register, contact [Steve Engel](#).



Chief Black Dog (Go!) Upcoming Activities



Council Recognition Dinner

The Northern Star Council Recognition Dinner will be held at the Golden Valley Country Club on Saturday, March 18, 2017. Join us as we celebrate the many accomplishments of our Scouting volunteers and Dave Hanson's Silver Beaver recognition (see page one). Details at [Council Recognition Dinner](#).

District Pinewood Derby

The 2017 CBD(G!) District Pinewood Derby will be April 1, 2017 at Falcon Ridge Middle School. Start making your cars now while the weather is warm. The 2017 rules and flyer are available at: [District Pinewood Derby](#). Visit [PWDRacing.com](#) for workshop information.

Scouting for Food

Scouting For Food will be April 29, 2017. The need for food shelf donations is great this year and your help will be appreciated. Drop off sites will be Prince of Peace & Eagan Open Door Pantry. Plan to participate in Scouting for Food and let's see 100% participation in 2017. Dave and Helen Lockwood will be on hand at the February Roundtable participation, coverage areas, maps and drop off locations.

Volunteer Recognition Dinner

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be also held on April 29, 2017 at Shepherd of The Valley. Now is the time to consider nominating your fellow volunteer leaders for Sparkplug awards, Outstanding Leadership Awards (one for every unit leader position), Distinguished Leadership, and the District award of Merit.

Webelos Woods/Spring Camporee

On May 19 - 21, 2017 the Webelos Woods and the Spring Camporee will be held at Gwin Center at Phillippo. This is a great opportunity for Packs and Troops to camp together and a great way to encourage transition.

Apple Valley Mid-Winter Fest

An annual winter celebration held on Saturday, February 4, was a success. Once again Chief Black Dog District (GO!) had several activities and displays.



Leatherworking



Pinewood Derby



Rope Making