



THE CBD CHATTER

August 2015 Program Kick-Off, Volume VIII, Number 1

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

Cornfeed/Program Kick-Off Issue

Well, it's time to kick off a new scouting year and here are some things we should be thinking about: The Cornfeed and Program Kick-Off (our first Roundtable of the year), School Night for Scouting, Journey to Excellence, OA Fall Conclave, Fall Camporee, and yes, believe it or not, it's time to be planning those winter outdoor and camping adventures.

Steve Engel—Editor

August Roundtable Cornfeed and Program Kick-Off

The first Roundtable of the year and Cornfeed/Program Kick-Off is Thursday, August 20th at the LDS Church in Burnsville, 651 Southcross Drive East. Dinner is at 6:00 pm and the Roundtable program begins at 7:00 pm. Dinner will be corn-on-the-cob, hamburgers, a dessert, and a beverage, all served by the Chief Black Dog (Go!) Commissioner Staff for only \$5! Please register at [Cornfeed](#) by Tuesday, August 18 to ensure we have plenty of food.

Cub Scout Roundtable breakouts will begin at 7:00 pm. Cub Scout leaders will continue discussion of the new Cub Program and how to prepare for the coming year. Leaders should have had time to pick up and review the new program literature. Please bring your "Leader's Guide" to this and to all future roundtables. Discussions will refer to the Leader's Guide often. There will be a separate breakout for committee chairs to discuss budgets and annual plans. One of the guideposts for Journey to Excellence is to prepare a unit budget and annual plan and turn a copy into your Unit Commissioner by August 31. See Journey to Excellence, this issue. There will also be a discussion of Cub-Servation - a look at the details, requirements, etc.

Boy Scout The Boy Scout breakout will discuss recruiting ideas. "Think Outside the Box". What are some new ideas, suggestions, opportunities, and event ideas for recruiting

- Roundtable continued next column

- Roundtable continued

new scouts. School Night for Scouting isn't just for Cub Scouts. And ask how you can help your sister pack.

Boy Leader The Boy Leader Roundtable will return in September at the September Roundtable. This breakout is not just for Senior Patrol Leaders. It's also for Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders, Patrol Leaders and Grey Wolf trained Scouts. Plan now to bring your boy leaders to the September 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 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 should attend training for SNFS. Even if you ran your School Night last year come prepared to share what worked, what didn't work with other units.

Popcorn Fall Sale Training for the Fall Popcorn Sale will also be at this month's roundtable. All unit coordinators for the Fall Popcorn Sale should be attending.

Calendar

August 20	Cornfeed/Roundtable School Night Training Popcorn Training OA Chapter Meeting
August 22-23 September 10	OA Vigil Weekend Roundtable School Night Training Popcorn Training Internet Recharter Training OA Chapter Meeting
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 15	Roundtable
October 24	University of Scouting

Journey to Excellence Unit Budgets and Yearly Plans

The first guidepost along the Journey to Excellence is “Plan and Fund your Program”. Prepare a yearly calendar including meetings, events and special activities. Then prepare a budget to support your annual plan. Contact your Unit Commissioner if you need assistance and work with your commissioner to complete your budget and calendar. Neither has to be the final word as we all know how things will change along the way. Then share your budget and calendar with your Unit Commissioner’s approval by August 31 to meet guidepost one. Then it’s on to guidepost two: communicating your program to the families in your unit. We want to see all of our units achieve a level Journey to Excellence. Again contact your Unit Commissioner for more information or assistance.

Fall Camporee September 25, 26, 27

The theme for this Year’s 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](#). Some details to be available soon.

School Night for Scouting Thursday, September 17

School Night for Scouting is Thursday, September 17. All across the state of 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 August Roundtable/Cornfeed. All sorts of promotional materials will be available, yard signs, wristbands, stickers, and invite a friend postcards.

Second, make plans to be at your schools open house, meet the teacher day, etc. Talk to your school principal. 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, 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, try and think outside the box. Brainstorm some new and unique ideas for reaching and recruiting new boys. Have some new ideas or something that has been successful in past? Send it to [Steve Engel](#), and we’ll share it the next issue of “The Chatter”.

