



THE CBD CHATTER

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

Early December

Holiday Greetings everyone! It's a busy time of the year! Winter has certainly arrived but a warming trend is on the horizon. Do we have our winter activity plans in place? FOS presentation dates set? Internet rechartering complete? Let's complete these tasks early in the month, then take a break to spend time celebrating the holidays with family and friends.



Steve Engel—Editor

December Roundtable

Cub Scout December Roundtable will feature a Wood Badge Beading ceremony and a "Holiday Party", including food and refreshment. We will talk about Blue 'n' Gold themes with plenty of hands on "stuff". There will be a Tree Ornament Exchange game. Please bring a tree ornament (\$5 or less). Bring an extra if you can. We want everyone to participate.

Boy Scout The Boy Scout side will continue with the small group discussion format and discussion will include recognizing leaders and parents (and not just once a year). Fun and serious ideas included. Also activities and attendance prizes.

Senior Patrol Leader there will be a Senior Patrol Leader Roundtable this month as the boys have requested to have it. Remember, the number one role of the Scout-Master is to "Train Boy Leaders", and the Senior Patrol Leader's Roundtable is the perfect supplement to assist you. If your youth leaders are not attending - you and they are missing out on a fabulous opportunity. This month will feature "what are boy leaders supposed to do and the responsibilities of the SPL".



Unit Charter Renewal

Unit charters are due now! The final and absolute deadline is December 31. There is no grace period. If the charter has not been completed and turned in by December 31, your unit will -

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Calendar

- December 10, 11 [Million Dollar Days](#) 
- December 11 Roundtable
OA Chapter Meeting
FFOS Training 6:15 pm
OA Election Training 6:15 pm
Charter Turn In
- December 31 Charters due!
Final, Absolute Deadline!
- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 10 [OA Winter Banquet](#)
- January 17 Wood Badge Breakfast

Friends of Scouting

Family Friends of Scouting training for all unit coordinators is offered again at the November Roundtable beginning at 6:15 pm. All unit coordinators need to attend. Each unit also needs to set a date for their Friends of Scouting presentation and a back up date. Because we had so many changes due to weather, this year we want to "Be Prepared" with a back up date. Please be sure Sherri St. Clair has name of your FOS Coordinator and your presentation dates by December 15.

Order of the Arrow OA Corner



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.

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be dropped, not lapsed - dropped. The process becomes more difficult as the "new" unit application, etc. have to be completed. Lets' avoid this by completing the process now. Please see your Unit Commissioner for assistance

Pinewood Derby Rules have been Updated



Pinewood Derby rules have been updated. The new rules are on the Chief Black Dog District Activities web site. Go to [Pinewood Derby rules](#) for the complete update. These rules apply to the CBD District on April 4, 2015 and the Northern Star Council race on June 6, 2015. The main changes are, car clearance, use of washers, and who may race at the District and Council Pinewood Derby Championship Race

Klondike Derby

February 27 through March 1 is the CBD Klondike Derby. Complete information is on the website at [Klondike Derby](#), including registration information, flyers, and Leader's Guide. Start planning now. Activities will include:

- Klondike Sled race
- Amazing Snowshoe race
- Start Fire and Boil Water from Snow
- Snow Snakes
- Emergency Shelter Building
- Travois Lashing and Walking
- Obstacle Sled Climb
- Snowshoe Obstacle Course
- Ski Challenge
- Cross Country Ski Challenge
- Ice Cream Making
- Ice Rescue and First Aid
- Pinewood Bobsled Derby



Polar Cubs

Polar Cubs is one of the best day outdoor experiences for a Scout and adult together. Locations are Stearns, Rum River, and Phillippo. Choose any Saturday or Sunday from Jan. 10 to Mar. 8.

Registration is open at [Polar Cubs Camp](#). Get signed up early, especially if you want to go on a Saturday



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Training for Order of the Arrow elections will be held at the December Roundtable. One adult leader and one youth OA member should be present for this training.

The Order of the Arrow Winter Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 10. Details at [Winter Banquet](#)

Cub Scout Camping

Set your summer camp date now and start promoting. Save your date at GoScouting.org by December 12 for free promotional fliers and a promotional T-shirt. Summer reservations open on February 1. The Summer Camp theme this year is "Wild West." Make sure to get all your Cowboys excited for camp. All promotional and program information is available at [Cub Camping](#).

Boy Scout Winter Camping

North Wind (Stearns) and Snow Base (Tomahawk) winter camp registration is open. Reservations are filling up; they are about half full. Only \$25 per participant holds your registration, balance due 1 month prior. More info at [Winter Camping](#). www.camping.nsbsa.org.



Apple Valley Mid-Winter Fest Saturday, February 7, 2015

The City of Apple Valley will hold their annual Mid-Winter Fest celebration on Saturday, February 7, 2015. The entire Sport Court (2 full basketball courts) can be ours (Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts) to set up displays and activities all day from 9 am until approximately 3 pm. We'll be looking units with ideas for activities and to help with activities. **Special Offer for Packs:** Do you have your Pinewood Derby scheduled for February 7 or do have yet to schedule it? If you are willing to hold it at the Apple Valley Community Center during Mid-Winter Fest there will be no reservation or rental fees. First pack to express interest may get the spot. Please contact [Steve Engel](#) for more information.

Peace Light Coming to Saint Paul

The Peace Light - a flame from the "Eternal Flame" from the Nativity Grotto in Bethlehem - will be available December 18 - 19. Read about it at [Peace Light](#) or contact [Bob Elliott](#) for more opportunities to bring the flame to your event.

Fall Scouting For Food

With the sale and purchase of the Eagan Rainbow by Cub Foods, we are no longer able to hold a food drive at the Eagan store as we have done past years. Rather than a district food drive, we asked individual units to hold their own food drive. Troops 171, 298, and 446 collecting nearly 900 pounds of food.

It is not too late for your Scout unit to hold your own Scouting For Food event at an upcoming unit meeting. Just follow these three steps.

Spread the word through your Unit leaders to have people bring in cans-to-bags of non-perishable food to your unit meeting during the month of December.

Soup of any kind, Crackers, Healthy snacks for kids, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Canned Fruit, Canned Meat, Chicken, Spam, Spaghetti Sauce, Cooking Oil, Boxed potatoes, Pasta sides, Taco Shells and Seasonings, Canned Ravioli and Spaghetti-Os, Canned Fruit and Toiletries.

Cash (especially for those that forget to bring items) should gladly be accepted because any food shelf has a network to get the greatest return on food purchases.

Weigh the food and then report your totals (and the location where you dropped off the food) to me, [Rich Hedeem](#).

Drop the food off to one of the food shelves listed below (or any other one that you may be aware of). Please make prior arrangements for the drop off by first calling the food shelf

The Eagan Resource Center Phone – 651-688-3189
3904 Beau D Rue Drive, Eagan, MN 55122

The Shepherd of the Valley Church
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Phone – (952) 985-5300

The Prince of Peace Church Phone – 952-898-9311
13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337

Commissioner's Corner From the Commissioner Staff

The Chief Black Dog (GO!)

Commissioner Staff is here to assist units in delivering a quality program for youth. Commissioners have many tools and resources with which to assist units. The Commissioner staff is your connection to the District and Council resources, training, programs and activities. Watch this space for more information about the Chief Black Dog (GO!) Commissioner Staff. Here are some items of importance.



Unit Charter Renewal is due on December 31 with no defects. If unit charter renewal is not completed by December 31, the unit will be dropped. See article on page 1.

JTE paperwork must also be turned in by December 31. If your charter renewal was not turned in on-time (November Roundtable), no level Of JTE can be achieved this year. Please see your

Outstanding Applications Please turn in any outstanding applications for new scouts as soon as possible.

Commissioner Recognition

Several Unit Commissioners were recognized for their tenure and service to units. They each received the Arrowhead Honor, Scouter's Key, and Distinguished Commissioner Award.



From left to right, Dennis Parker, Mike Gabriel, Eric Rasmus, Elly Soukey, Tim Tatarek and Joe Miller.

WoodBadge Breakfast



Calling all Woodbadgers! The annual Woodbadge Breakfast is Saturday, January 10, 2015 at St. Andrew Lutheran. Bring a fellow scouter interested in attending Woodbadge. Details at [Woodbadge Breakfast](#).