



THE CBD CHATTER

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

March 2017

With brief respites back to winter, our unusually warm late winter weather continues. I hope the warm weather hasn't dampen your spirit of winter adventure. Many of us are making plans for summer activities and adventures, and Scouting for Food, and our Volunteer Recognition Dinner are just around the corner.

Steve Engel—Editor

March Roundtable

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

Cub Scout Roundtable features ideas for your May Pack Meeting plan, the theme is "clean". Kay Stewart will talk about the featuring program.

Looking ahead, the April Roundtable will feature a transition breakout. Please ask all Bear Den Leaders, 4th grade Webelos Leaders and parents to attend. Discussion will be around preventing "leader burnout", keeping boys interested, active, and excited, and the transition to Boy Scouts.

Boy Scout Roundtable will feature training, why training it's important and keeping records up to date. The merit badges offered at the March Roundtable will be Citizenship in the Nation and Safety (6:15 to 8:00pm). Contact [Joe Schulte](#) to sign up. Each month's merit badge opportunities are announced online at [roundtable information](#).

OA Corner

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

OA Corner - Continued

Indian Winter

March 10 -12, Brainard, Minnesota - An opportunity for Arrowmen from across the section to participate in focus areas including American Indian crafts and OA Inductions and Ceremonies - Including the new Brotherhood ceremony. Details at [Indian Winter](#).

Volunteer Recognition Dinner Nominations Due March 9

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.

Nominations are due by Thursday, March 9, and the forms are [available online](#). Nominate those Outstanding and Distinguished Leaders in your unit. *Don't let your fellow leaders miss out on well-deserved recognition.*



New Spark Plug Award this year - 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. Write a few sentences about how this person gives that extra spark of enthusiasm which motivates others and benefits the Scouting program.



Calendar



March 9	Roundtable
March 9	OA Chapter Meeting
March 10 - 12	OA Indian Winter
March 18	Council Recognition Dinner
March 21	Eagle Expo
April 1	District Pinewood Derby
April 8	Merit Fair - TBD
April 8	Venturing Recognition Dinner
April 13	Roundtable
April 13	OA Chapter Meeting
April 22	University Of scouting
April 25	FOS Apple Valley Breakfast Paul Douglas, speaker
April 29	Scouting for Food
April 29	Volunteer Recognition Dinner
May 5 - 7	OA Work Weekend

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/M6JTMCW>.

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.

Spring Clean Up - Earth Day

Earth Day isn't until April 22, but with this early warm up the winter accumulation of trash is evident much earlier. Now is a good time to plan a spring cleanup. Pick up trash from the community park, neighborhood, vacant lots, or from around your charter partner's building or facility. Organize a "patrol activity" and earn points towards the fall camporee.

Volunteers Needed to Help Maintain Camp Phillippo

Have you appreciated the Phillippo Scout Reservation camping facilities when you have attended Camp Akela, CBD's Camporee or OA events? Many volunteer hours go into maintaining this camp and the Phillippo Properties Committee is in-need of volunteers to aid in this effort. On the second Saturday of each month, the volunteer team gathers to work on projects like these recent examples; residing cabins, build gaga ball court, repair water damage, maintain picnic tables, remodeling the north shower house, building an action archery range. One of the next projects will be some significant maintenance on some of the most popular buildings in camp - the Gwinn Center and cabins.

If you're willing and interested, please contact [Bruce Paulson](#) or [Chad Cooper](#). People with trade skills are especially appreciated - but not required! What will you receive in return? The camaraderie of working with like-minded individuals and the pride in knowing that you've made very tangible contributions to camping opportunities and fun for our Scouts.

The next service day is Saturday, March 11, 2017 starting at 8:00 am in the Ranger's Yard. The main task for this day will be removal of the cedar board-on-board siding on Gwin Center and/or Le-Seuer Shelter. We will also remove the existing tar paper and then install Tyvek (house wrap) in preparation for installing new T-111 cedar plywood siding. New windows and doors for Gwin Center will arrive near the end of March and will be installed prior to installing the new siding.

Please consider coming to help if at all possible. Even if you can only come for part of the day, your help will be greatly appreciated.

If you know of anyone in your Troop, District, or Chapter who might be interested and willing to come and help, please invite them. It would be really great if we had enough people attend to get both buildings done. Please contact Bruce or Chad as noted above.

“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. See the Spring Clean up article this issue for another opportunity to earn participation points now.

Next! More opportunities to earn participation points before the “Our Heritage” fall camporee and how to register your patrols.



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. ***This is a great parent/Scout opportunity.*** 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 bring our own equipment and do most of our own cooking. If you are interested, have questions please contact me As soon as Possible, [Steve Engel](#).



Chief Black Dog (Go!) Upcoming Activities

Council Recognition Dinner

Yes, the price has increased but there is still time to join us on Saturday, March 8 at the Golden Valley Country Club 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. Your help is needed as the demand on local food shelves is greater than ever. 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 March and April Roundtable to discuss 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. See page one for nomination information.

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. Follow the link for more information.