

October Edition of The River

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October and November Roundtable

October Roundtable saw a great dinner for its participants and breakouts on the District Pinewood Derby from Pack 199, and lessons on building youth leaders from troop 40

For November Pack 1134 and Pack 449 will host cub scouts, Troop 463 and Troop 7153 for Boy Scouts, and Venturing will meet to discuss Scheduling for 2011. Finally, Recharter training will take place.

RECHARTER

Recharter is upon all units, December 4th. Please make immediate contact with your Unit Commissioner and begin the process! Recharter will require its normal materials, but ALSO every unit must submit a training roster/inventory of the training of its leaders with its recharter. EVERY leader registering for the next year must be Youth Protection Trained and the UNIT must supply a record that the training is current for each leader. If a leader is not YPT current, they may not recharter. If the unit leader (CM/SM, etc...) and Committee Chair are not current, the unit will not be able to recharter.

FROM THE KEY 3

Leader Recognition

Leaders remember that leader awards count towards Honor Unit!

“Unit Leader Award of Merit”

Quality unit leadership is the key to a quality unit program—and it leads to better Scout retention. Statistics show that if young people stay engaged in the program for at least five years, the BSA’s influence likely will stay with them for the rest of their lives. A quality Scouting experience will help keep Scouts in the program, and the Boy Scouts of America created the Unit Leader Award of Merit to recognize the quality unit leaders who make that happen.

The Unit Leader Award of Merit replaces the Scoutmaster Award of Merit, the Varsity Team Coach Award of Merit, and the Venturing Crew Advisor's Award of Merit programs. This new recognition has revised requirements and may be earned by Cubmasters as well.

Requirements

The nominee must:

1. Be a currently registered Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Coach, or Advisor who has served in that position at least 18 continuous months.
2. Meet the training requirements for the registered position.
3. Distribute a printed or electronic annual unit program plan and calendar to each family in the unit.
4. Have a leader succession plan in place.
5. Effectively use the advancement method so that at least 60 percent of the unit’s youth have advanced at least once during the last 12 months.
6. Cultivate a positive relationship with the chartered organization.
7. Project a positive image of Scouting in the community.

Nomination Procedure

1. The unit committee chairman completes the Unit Leader Award of Merit Nomination Form on behalf of the unit committee. Nominations for a Scoutmaster or crew Advisor must also include endorsement from the senior patrol leader or crew president.
2. The unit or district commissioner certifies that the form is complete.
3. The unit submits the nomination form to the council for approval by the Scout executive and council commissioner or president.

The Award

Upon receipt of the approved nomination form, the council may present the Unit Leader Award of Merit, which includes a certificate, square knot with the appropriate device, and a gold-bordered unit leader emblem. Recognition of this achievement may be presented at appropriate district or council events, such as district or council leader recognition dinners, training events, and board meetings.

The award may be presented for each program, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, and Venturing, if the individual meets the requirements in each program. Only one knot is worn with the devices of each program that the award was earned in.

SOURCE: Application Form (No. 512-003_WB)

The form can be found here:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-003_WB.pdf

Silver Beaver

The deadline for submission of Silver Beaver nominees is October 31st. Please use the form found at <http://atlantabsa.doubleknot.com/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=45770> and submit to the address on the form.

District Award of Merit

District Award of Merit forms should be turned in during Re-charter, the form can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33720.pdf>

DISTRICT NEWS

Youth Recognition

EAGLE Boards

Unit Leaders, we are now getting pictures and public relations posting of our Eagles in the local papers. Please remind the scouts of this fact, and that a picture will be taken at the Board of Review. Accordingly, proper full official BSA uniform would be a very good idea, including BSA pants, etc...

EAGLES

Please join me in congratulating these latest Eagle Scouts of the Chattahoochee District.

On September 23, 2010 , from left to right,
Aroon Narayanan, Troop 629
Blake Cotney, Troop 629
Jeff Murray, Crew 40
Trevor Asay, Crew 40

completed their Boards of Review for the rank of Eagle.



For his project, Aroon organized and led a number of volunteers in redesigning and rebuilding the student broadcasting studio at Taylor Road Middle School . The new technical simplicity will help students understand the workings of the studio.

Blake contributed to the GO GREEN movement at Centennial High School with his project. The compost bin that he designed and built will be used by students to turn wasted cafeteria food into organic soil for school gardens.

Those who use Roswell Area Park will benefit from Jeff Murray's project. He replaced a set of dilapidated and uneven stairs that lead from the baseball fields to the parking area.

The Roswell High School Band will appreciate the work that Trevor put into reconstructing the wood frame trailer that the band uses to transport equipment. Trevor felt it was a good way to give back to the organization that he enjoyed throughout his high school career.

Thank you, Scouts, for your contributions to your community. Also, thanks to the many adults who gave of their time to perform the duties of District Reps and Board of Review members.

Yours in Scouting,

Kevin Murphy
Chattahoochee District Advancement Chair

advance@cbsa.org

Arrow of Light

Unit Leaders, please submit all scouts receiving Arrow of Light any time.

Youth Religious Emblems

See announcement of upcoming classes below.

District Need You!

Have you participated a district event this year? Have you thought there should be other district events like Pinewood Derby? Would you like to improve on the events you have attended? Then the Chattahoochee District Program Chair is looking for you. It is never too early to start planning a district event and the district needs your help. This year the district has made a change to make it more attractive to volunteer. There is no financial burden put on anyone, the council will pay for all your costs. So please let your interest be known to volunteer for the following events to Julie Deaton at jldeaton@mindspring.com ,

2011 District Banquet

2011 District Camporee

Camporee Dates for 2011

Chattahoochee District units are invited to the Milton Camporee April 15-17, 2011 at Woodruff. Chattahoochee District's Camporee will be October 21-23, 2011 at Andersonville National Park. Milton units will be invited. All units are encouraged to attend one or both.

Events Calendar

Please visit <http://www.cbsa.org/events/index.shtm> for a complete list of upcoming events.

HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS

District H&S news



June 1, 2010

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA'S YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING POLICIES

Youth safety is the No. 1 concern of the BSA.

To increase awareness of this societal problem and to create even greater barriers to abuse than already exist today in Scouting, the Boy Scouts of America is implementing several important changes to further enhance its Youth Protection policies.

Effective June 1, 2010:

- Youth Protection training is required for all registered volunteers.**
- New leaders are required to take Youth Protection training before they submit an application for registration. The certificate of completion for this training must be submitted at the time application is made and before volunteer service with youth begins.**
- Youth Protection training must be taken every two years. If a volunteer's Youth Protection training record is not current at the time of recharter, the volunteer will not be reregistered.**

To ensure these policies are fully implemented, please take the following steps:

-- If you have not taken Youth Protection training within the past two years, please log on to [MyScouting](#) and take the training. Be sure to have your member ID number. The number can be found on your Boy Scouts of America membership card.

-- If you do not know your member ID number, contact your unit leader or committee chairman. Your council can also assist.

-- A person does not have to be a registered volunteer or have an ID number to take Youth Protection training. To take the training, log in to [MyScouting](#) and create an account. From the MyScouting portal, click on E-Learning and take the Youth Protection training. Upon completion, print a certificate and submit it with an application or submit to the unit leader for processing at the local council.

-- If you have taken Youth Protection training online but did not input your member ID number, please log on to [MyScouting](#) and input your member ID in the My Profile section so the training will be linked to your records.

-- If you have taken Youth Protection training within the past two years but did not take the course online, log on to [MyScouting](#) to ensure your records are up-to-date, or contact your council for verification that your Youth Protection training records are accurate.

-- Finally, please share these important changes with other Scouters.



To find out more about the Youth Protection policies of the Boy Scouts of America and how to help Scouting keep your family safe, see the *Parent's Guide* in any of the Cub Scouting or Boy Scouting handbooks, or go to <http://www.scouting.org/Training/YouthProtection.aspx>.

Thank you for your commitment to our nation's young people and to Scouting.

Sincerely,

James Terry
Assistant Chief Scout Executive

Youth Protection Training Policy Changes

Questions and Answers

The recent changes in Youth Protection requirements have generated a number of questions. The following are answers to some of the questions we have received. We will send regular updates to this information as it becomes available.

Q: Does the executive officer (Institutional Head) of a unit need to take Youth Protection training?

A: If the executive officer is not a registered leader, he or she is not required to complete Youth Protection training, although it is strongly recommended. If the executive officer is registered as an adult leader, then he or she must complete Youth Protection training.

Q: I am a Tiger Cub adult partner and ScoutParent. Do I need to take Youth Protection training?

A: The Tiger Cub adult partner and ScoutParent designations are not registered adult positions; therefore, mandatory Youth Protection training is not required. It is strongly recommended, however, that all adults involved in Scouting take Youth Protection training. All registered adults are required to take Youth Protection training.

Q: I am sure I know all there is to know about youth protection. Can I “test out” by only taking the Youth Protection online quiz?

A: No. You must complete the entire online training in order for your Youth Protection certificate to be valid. This ensures you receive the latest information on BSA Youth Protection.

Q: Are parents who attend weekly meetings, weekend campouts, or summer resident camp required to take Youth Protection training?

A: Only if they are registered leaders. However, it is highly recommended that any adult participating with your unit activities take Youth Protection training. Having them register as adult leaders is also highly recommended.

Q: What is the deadline to meet the new Youth Protection training standard?

A: All registered leaders should take or renew their Youth Protection training so that it is current as of today. A unit will not be able to recharter without its key registered adults being up-to-date on their Youth Protection training. No individual leader will be able to register without being up-to-date on his or her Youth Protection training.

Q: Can a council or district organize Youth Protection group training for its adults?

A: Yes. It is encouraged that adults take the training via the online module, but the instructor-led model is still acceptable as long as the most current version of the Youth Protection DVD (Item no. 610327 or 36121) is used and the end-of-course quiz is proctored by the trainer at the end of the training session. Reminder: It is critical that training completion certificates be issued after successful completion and that a formal training record roster is submitted to the council registrar so proper credit can be recorded in the profiles of each participant.

Q: Why a new training policy on such short notice?

A: Youth safety is the No. 1 concern of the BSA. It is important to implement this training at all levels of the organization. The BSA is always reevaluating and reassessing its policies to ensure the safest youth program and the best training is being offered. The BSA's Youth Protection training has been in existence long enough for it to be understood and accepted as a mandated training for all registered BSA adult leaders.

Q: The new policy indicates that a Youth Protection certificate of completion must be submitted "at the time of application." What does that mean?

A: A BSA application should only be collected from a prospective leader after they have fully completed the form, attached a copy of their Youth Protection certificate of completion, and submitted that to the Council Service Center.

Q: Will both the regular and Venturing leader versions of Youth Protection training meet the requirement?

A: Yes, as long as they are using the most current versions of the DVD's for group training. The online version is the preferred method, as it allows for those taking the training to get one-on-one training and take all the time they need for review. The online quiz does not require printing of any test pages. They are issued an immediate certificate of completion and it allows for the updating of their ScoutNet record.

Q: Do leaders need to wait until they have final clearance on the background check to meet with youth?

A: No. As long as their application is fully completed, approved, and submitted to the Council Service Center, their fee is paid, and Youth Protection training is certified, they will be able to interact with youth while the Criminal Background Check (CBC) is still pending.

Q: If a unit's leaders' Youth Protection training is not current, should we not register any new youth to their units until they do so, or will those who are not current be dealt with through the recharter process?

A: This policy does not affect youth registrations. However, if a unit's leadership has not complied with the new Youth Protection standard by the next rechartering period, the unit will NOT be able to complete its registration.

Q: Will the system be able to handle the overload of people taking training at the last minute?

A: The system platform that houses E-Learning is expected to be able to handle the high volume.

Q: Will the new adult applications have this information?

A: Yes. All new applications will reflect these changes.

Q: When does the change go into effect?

A: As of June 1, 2010, all registered adult volunteers must complete Youth Protection training prior to beginning their volunteer service.

Q: Do merit badge counselors need to take Youth Protection training?

A: Yes. A merit badge counselor is a registered volunteer position.

Q: If a person is not a registered leader, how can he or she log in and take the Youth Protection training?

A: A person does not have to be a registered volunteer to take Youth Protection training. To take the training, log into myscouting.org and create an account. From the myscouting.org portal, click on E-training and take Youth Protection. Upon completion, print a certificate and submit with a new application or submit to the unit leader for processing at the local council.

Q: Can units that have some adults that have not completed Youth Protection training be rechartered?

A: In order for a unit to be rechartered, it must have all the required positions filled with Youth Protection trained adults. Adults who have not completed Youth Protection training will not be reregistered.

Q: Is there a grace period to get all adults trained?

A: No. If a leader's Youth Protection training is not current, the volunteer must take or renew their training immediately. Every effort should be taken so that all adults involved in Scouting have a current certificate of completion of the Youth Protection training.

Q: Does all volunteers mean all volunteers—even board members and council presidents?

A: Yes. The goal is to have all registered volunteers Youth Protection-trained. This is an important statement for us an organization and shows our commitment to the well-being of our youth members.

New BSA Policy on Chemical Fuels

Hey Old Timers! It's the 21st century and National has updated what we can and cannot use on campouts for fuels and equipment. It was a needed update. Due to the years of drought and more environmental concerns. We rarely actually cook over an open fire. Specifically relating to "homemade" Bora 80 style can stoves and open liquid fuel has been outlawed. Most all commercially manufactured equipment using its designated proper fuel for that device is approved. Many fuels are recommended and a few are not. One old time favorite for open can stoves, denatured ethyl alcohol, is not recommended. See the link to the PDF for details.

<http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/HealthandSafety/Alerts/ChemicalFuelsEquip.aspx>

Please print and post/distribute to all in your troop. Scott Ward District Camping Chair

SCOUT OPPORTUNITIES

Webelos Troop Visits

Troop 431

Roswell United Methodist Church (RUMC) 814 Mimosa Blvd, Roswell, GA 30075

Visiting Opportunities

1. Troop Meeting - Any Monday night meeting. We meet at 7:00pm in the Scout Hut behind RUMC. See what Boy lead is all about!
2. November Outing- November 12, 13&14 - Iron Chef Competition and Flag Domination - for Webelos II only. Come camp and enter the troop challenge for fun and games. They must be accompanied by a parent or den leader.
3. Family Hike at Vickery Creek - Sunday November 28, 2010 from 2 - 5pm. Have your scout and families meet ours.
4. Family Hike at Blood Mountain - January 8, 2011. Come and hike Blood Mtn. with the Troop 431 families. It's also the training kickoff for our Philmont Crew.

TROOP 989

Troop 989 would like to invite you and your Webelos dens to our annual War Games/Iron Chef outing on November the 12th through November the 14th. This is one of our favorite Webelos outings for the year.

When we know how many people will be attending we can pick the campsite. Please e-mail Griffin Melnick-Senior Patrol Leader at griffinm@hyperlynkz.com for full details and to supply a head count.

Note: the above visits help fulfill Arrow of Light Requirements.

Note 2: Troops 87, 431, and 989 aided Twilight Camp 2010 providing Webelos programming in a Boy Scout Themed outdoor activity. The Order of the Arrow also supplied program for the

boys as well, all are deeply appreciated for giving those Webelos an opportunity to experience Boy Scouts in an outdoor capacity.

If your troop would like its Webelos open house/event listed, send an E-mail to The River editor. All submissions from the Chattahoochee district will be listed.

Youth Religious Program Classes

When asked where religion came into Scouting and Guiding, Baden-Powell replied, It does not come in at all. It is already there. It is a fundamental factor underlying Scouting and Guiding.

One of the key tenets of Scouting is "duty to God." While Scouting does not define religious belief for its members, it has been adopted by and works with youth programs of all major faiths. Each of the major faiths breeds hope, optimism, compassion, and a belief in a better tomorrow. Scouting encourages each young person to begin a spiritual journey through the practice of his faith tradition.



The God and Me program will be run in October 2010 starting on Thursday the 7th at Roswell Presbyterian Church (Pack 199), who have been kind to offer us the needed space.

If you have also an older boy, a separate email will go out to the families with boys in 4th and 5th grades. The God and Family program will be run by Michael Wagner from Pack 8750. I will provide him with a list of interested families and he will be contacting those families shortly.

For God and Me (grades 1-3):

When: Thursdays in October 2010 (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)

What time: We will start at 6:00 p.m. and continue until 8:00 p.m.

Where: Roswell Presbyterian

Who will teach: I will :O). I am Lutheran, but the course will be non-denominational.

What is the curriculum: Available at <http://www.praypub.org/>

What is the cost: I will collect \$15 for each boy, which will cover the boys workbook and craft supplies. The square knot emblem and certificate will be provided by the Pack and will be awarded during a Pack meeting. The medal will be purchased by the family from www.praypub.org and awarded by the boys own Church on Scout Sunday. Check the date for Scout Sunday from your Church and make arrangements with your Pastor. Your Pastor will test the boy and sign-off on the form needed to order the medallion. If you do not belong to a local Church your son can receive his medallion at the Roswell Presbyterian Church and be tested by Pastor from that Church.

What do I need to do: To secure your son's spot on the program, you need to send me a check for \$15 by September 30th, so I can order your son's workbook. Make payable to 'Juha Harkonen'.

This is a family program, so an adult needs to accompany to boy for the classes.

Your friendly Advancement Chair,

Juha Harkonen
Juha.M.Harkonen@hotmail.com
678-429-7631

Merit Badge Universities

Activity Badge Classes

Ask a Scientist Day at Fernbank. Nov 13 10-2

This is a great chance for scouts to work through many awards specific for their needs.

<http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=84462>

NEW Boy Scout Award, National Outdoor Achievement Award

National Outdoor Achievement Awards

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsorce/BoyScouts/Youth/Awards/NOA.aspx>

Now when a Scout excels in outdoor participation, there are new awards to show for it! This program, conceived by the National Camping Task Force of the BSA®, includes a series of five badges designed to recognize a Boy Scout or Varsity Scout who has exemplary knowledge and experience in performing high-level outdoor activities.

The award consists of five emblem segments positioned around the perimeter of a beautiful center emblem. All are embroidered in full color. The segments represent five areas of emphasis: Riding, Hiking, Camping, Aquatics, and Adventure, with rigorous requirements to earn each segment. The center emblem features an outdoor scene with fleur-de-lis and the words "National Outdoor Awards".



National Outdoor Awards Device

As defined in the requirements for the National Outdoor Awards Program, additional achievements in any of the five areas can be recognized by placing a gold- or silver-finish device on the appropriate activity segment. Restricted Items. For information and application



National Medal for Outdoor Achievement

This medal is the highest recognition that a Scout can earn for exemplary achievement, experience, and skill in multiple areas of outdoor endeavors. Recipient must earn at least three of the National Outdoor Achievement segments, plan and lead a trek, earn

Wilderness First Aid, and become a Leave No Trace Trainer, along with other requirements. Pentagon-shaped medal is patterned after the National Outdoor Awards and hangs from a handsome grosgrain ribbon.



TRAINING

Training Updates

REMINDER: Youth Protection Requirement for Recharter

All leaders looking to recharter in December 2010, must submit a copy of their Youth Protection Training (YPT) certificate or a printout from Training Validation, which available at MyScouting.org. YPT must be valid until January 31st 2011 for all rechartering leaders.

The District Training Chair, Juha Harkonen, would additionally ask for:

- a) All units to update their contact information at District Yellow Pages (<http://CDBSA.org/Membership/YPupdate.htm>)
- b) All units should assign a Unit Training Chair and post it on the District Yellow Pages
- c) All units should submit an Excel sheet with their units training records to the District Training Chair (juha.m.harkonen@hotmail.com). Help us to help you!

Training Calendar

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|----------------------|
| 10/22 - 24/2010 | Webelos Leader Outdoor Training (WLOT). Location: Foothills District. | scribe.foothills@gmail.com | Link |
| 11/5 - 7/2010 | Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS). Location: Foothills District. | scribe.foothills@gmail.com | Link |

COUNCIL & NATIONAL EVENTS

ScoutFest

ScoutFest is this weekend! 10-4, Oct 23rd, at the cobb Galleria. 2 climbing towers, merit badges, 2800 cubic feet of portable cave simulator, 100 ft long monkey bridge, Activity badges, Belt loops, fire (!), and much much more. That's 50,000 Sq feet of activities, just indoors! And more outdoors!

All activities are included in the admissions price of \$8.50. Units which pre-purchased can still obtain discounts at the will-call for a \$6 ticket.

So tell your units and come to ScoutFest and spend a great day.

New Camp Policies and New Facility Fee Notice

In 2009, our camps recorded over 115,000 camper nights. In a continued effort to meet the ever increasing demand for our properties, the council camping committee looked at facilities at our camps that might not have been available to our Scouts and Scouters' in the past.

The Council Camping Committee's purpose in implementing fees for use of council facilities is to expand the opportunity for council, district and unit activities to access facilities that normally would not be available them, while at the same time helping to defray the cost of supplies and maintenance on these select facilities. [Click here](#)

for more information and links to the updated camping documents.

Scout Days

Scout Day at the Falcons

Nov 7th vs Buccaneers. <http://www.atlantabsa.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=84467>

Scout Day at the Hawks

Nov 14th vs Timberwolves. <http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=83289>

Scout Day at the Thrashers

Nov 21st vs Islanders. <http://atlantabsa.org/openrosters/DocDownload.aspx?id=83590>

The River is the newsletter of the Chattahoochee District of the Atlanta Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. To have an event announced, please contact the Roundtable Commissioner, Damon Edmondson, ftrooper93@yahoo.com.