

MARCH - SCENIC District E-Newsletter

Bob Rueter – District Director bob@bsacmc.org

Council website www.bsacmc.org

National website www.scouting.org

2008 Centennial Quality District

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INFORMATION FOR ALL SCOUTERS

RON SCHARA FOS BREAKFAST MARCH 17 ST CLOUD HOLIDAY INN

The Central MN Council BSA is hosting a Friends of Scouting Leadership Breakfast at the St Cloud Holiday Inn at 7:30 am sharp. See the council website for more information. Email Bob to be at the Scenic tables at the event and confirm for the food count. An FOS donation is expected but a meal is provided without fee.

SPORTSMAN WAREHOUSE SCOUT SALE

Sunday April 5 from 6:30 to 8 pm with special discounts at the St Cloud store. See the flyer on the council website. For any Scouting family.

MARCH ROUNDTABLE

March 3 here at the Scout office in the community room from 7 to 8:30 pm. ALL are welcome! District recognition of unit leaders will be done first then breakouts. Burt Dubow from the Eagle board is planning on coming to explain the Eagle process – all youth and adults are welcome. Cub Roundtable is filled with information and games to use in your den and pack meetings. Learn about ways to improve your unit meetings at all levels. Great ideas and fellowship. Any adult can attend – youth leaders are welcome to the Boy Scout roundtable. Get timely updates from the district also.

FRIENDS OF SCOUTING 2009

Legacy to Loyalty is our theme this year. All cards must be turned in whether you are able to donate or not. You can pledge by email if you wish and your unit will get credit. Units achieving their CASH goal this year receive a refund to their unit account for 10% of those participating at Parker Resident Camp or Ripley. The unit will be credited on their account June 30 or later, whenever they achieve their CASH goal. Patch choice is available at the \$75 level, print only \$100 level, framed print at the \$135 level, and framed print plus choice of patch at the \$160 level. TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION. Checks payable to CMC BSA and marked SCENIC FOS in memo area. THANKS FOR CONTINUING THE LEGACY!

2009 CENTENNIAL UNIT COMMITMENT FORM

These are due now to Bob Rueter. Signed by your unit leader. Set your goals for 2009 and monitor monthly at committee meetings. Contact Bob for forms or they are in the kiosk at the front desk or download at <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/14-190-09.pdf> to insure meeting QUALITY UNIT criteria for 2009 by October 31.

2009 YEAR OF THE CHARTER ORGANIZATION

Do something special for your charter organization this year and THANK them for their support. The district committee is recognizing a key charter organization at our May 5 Program Kickoff. You don't have a unit without a charter organization and the council.

ANNUAL MEDICAL FORM

The new standard medical form is now on our national website www.scouting.org. This is the ONLY form to be used and updated annually for youth and adults. Have your unit set up a binder with the updated forms to bring along to any event you attend and then get it back when the event ends.

EXPLORING

2009 is the 60th anniversary of EXPLORING. The program has changed over the years but it is a key element in our program. Its career focus and hands on experiences allow youth that have completed 8th grade through age 20 to participate. Registration is \$10 and each Explorer post may have dues. CONGRATULATIONS TO POST 250 with the Stearns County Sheriff's Department celebrating their 30th year of continued quality program and existence! For more information on current posts (fire/rescue, health, general careers, law enforcement, zoology/wildlife) or future potential aviation and architecture, contact Bob at the council office. PERHAPS YOUR BUSINESS WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A PROGRAM? The programs can be for a few weeks to year round programs. Scholarships are available. More information <http://www.learningforlife.org/exploring/index.html> and see programs.

2010 CENTENNIAL

February 8th 2010 will be 100 years of existence for the Boy Scouts of America (a couple of years ago was the Centennial for world wide Boy Scouts)! Help us celebrate this key milestone with key information about units in your area.

MILLER CASTLE AT PARKER

The castle has been in use each weekend since late January. Check out the photos on our website and promote camp attendance this summer so you can see the castle or come to our trainings in May to see it firsthand. Units can rent it by contacting our office for more information.

DAY CAMP 2009

ECOLOGY is our theme this year so help us GO GREEN by attending at Millstream Park in St Joseph on July 6 and 7th. Let Bob know who the key contact in your pack is for updating information and coordinating station staff. Always a great time is had by all! BOY SCOUT HELP IS ALWAYS WELCOME.

RELIGIOUS AWARDS

The council religious awards committee of Marge Zylla and John Keiser are here to help you. You can reach them by calling Marge at home 320-253-6324 or emailing her at dccs@zyltagroup.com or contacting John at home 320-202-8703 or email Howlingpines@aol.com

MINNESOTA ZOO FIELD TRIPS

Animal Sponsorship program at the Minnesota Zoo, and we have a special set of sponsorship benefits for groups: http://www.mnzoo.org/guests/sponsor_group_promotion.asp

Shannon Rhatigan

Annual Fund Manager

Minnesota Zoo Foundation

13000 Zoo Boulevard

Apple Valley, MN 55124

Phone: (952) 431-9447

Fax: (952) 431-9323

Toll Free: (800) 366-7811 x447

Join Friends of the Minnesota Zoo and get Friends-only Zoo experiences!

<http://www.mnzoo.org/guests/Development/intro.asp>

INFORMATION FOR CUB SCOUTS

WOLF HOWL

For all Wolf Scouts (2nd graders) in Gateway and Scenic districts. Saturday March 14th at Foley High School. Fun-filled day with games, swimming, and Wildlife Science Center program to start the day. Bring your bag lunch. Sign up by March 6th.

[http://www.bsacmc.org/2009 Wolf Howl Info Registration.pdf](http://www.bsacmc.org/2009%20Wolf%20Howl%20Info%20Registration.pdf)

BEAR HIBERNATION

For all Bear Scouts (3rd graders) in Gateway and Scenic districts. Friday April 3 at SCSU for an OVERNIGHT activity. Bring you swimsuit and towel and spare clothes for a night of fun and activities in the field house plus movies and skating at the National Hockey Center (bring your own skates) plus indoor bb guns and archery. See the fire department activity and if we are lucky, climb on the fire truck. Our law enforcement and fire and rescue Explorer posts will be on site so please join us. Sign up by March 20.

[http://www.bsacmc.org/2009 Bear Hibe Info Registration.pdf](http://www.bsacmc.org/2009%20Bear%20Hibe%20Info%20Registration.pdf)

DISTRICT PINEWOOD DERBY

Sunday April 5th at the council office will be our 2nd district derby (due to conflicts this is the only time we can fit it in). The flyer (noon to 5 pm) and rules will be finalized at the March 3 roundtable. Steve Huss has graciously chaired this event yet again so you know it will be a fun and exciting experience and thanks to all those key volunteers for helping with set up Thursday night or Saturday afternoon and tear down Sunday night!

CUB ADULT AND YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

Saturday April 18th at the council office in Sartell. Check out the council website for the FREE course and download your registration form. Lunch will be offered. This is the key time to register new leaders and get them trained for the fall. If you are unable to attend this session and your unit would like training, contact Paul Tweedy at paul.tweedy@chsinc.com or phone 320-249-3268.

WEBELOS LEADER TRAINING

We are again offering this key training at Parker on May 2nd and 3rd near Merrifield. Check out the information on the council website on the front page and TRAINING page. Recommended for current Bear den leaders and assistants to prepare for the fall. Includes planning outdoor activities, knots, fire building, outdoor cooking, transition to Boy Scouts, advancements, uniforming and more. Overnight camping is expected so bring your gear. Outdoor Webelos Leader Skills is a key element in your program.

BALOO LEADER TRAINING

May 2nd at Parker for anyone interested in taking Cub Scouts for overnights must have one person that has been BALOO trained. BASIC ADULT LEADER OUTDOOR ORIENTATION course covers BSA policies and key information for planning. Check out the council website for registration.

INFORMATION for BOY SCOUTS

DEN CHIEF TRAINING

Scheduled for April 18th at the council office. Den Chief training is key for any Boy Scout that needs an Eagle leadership position in his troop and also great for troop recruitment. Check our website for information soon.

MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR UPDATE

We are working on an update for the merit badge counselors so let us know if you currently are doing merit badges so we can be sure you are registered for this and want to continue in that role. No fee to register but an adult application must be filled out if you have not already done so plus the counselor form so we can update your badges that you can offer. THANKS for serving our Scouts!

MERIT BADGE MIDWAY

Saturday March 14th at the old Blattner building just off the freeway in Avon. Sponsored by Troop 31 of Avon. Ellen Wolf is coordinating this event so check our council website for the flyer and prerequisites soon. Adult sessions are also being offered for certified Red Cross and CPR. Registration due by March 3.

TROOP COMMITTEE and ESSENTIALS training

Saturday March 21st at the council office will be a committee training AND essentials from 10 to 11:30 am. All adults are welcome. How does your committee operate – come find out key elements to successful committee meetings for your troop. Contact Bob for more information at bob@bsacmc.org.

BOY SCOUT LEADER TRAINING

Offered once a year at Parker on May 1-3 (Friday through Sunday). Flyer and information on our council website soon. Recommended for all Scoutmasters and Assistant Scoutmasters to teach you Essentials and Specifics plus Outdoor Skills. The patrol method is utilized so sign up now.

YOUTH LEADER TRAINING

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) Red Pine will be done this year over two weekends so sign up now. It is critical to developing key YOUTH leaders for your troop. Key sessions on leadership, team building, decision making and conflict resolution are offered. This is a national BSA training and modeled after Wood Badge courses for leaders. Seasoned youth and adult staff provide the instruction May 29-31 and June 5-7 at Parker. Questions contact Paul Ravenberg at paul@bsacmc.org or 320-251-3930 ext 115.

[http://www.bsacmc.org/2009 NYLT Info Registration.pdf](http://www.bsacmc.org/2009%20NYLT%20Info%20Registration.pdf)

FIRST CLASS TO LIFE PREPARATION FOR EAGLE

The Scenic District Committee has developed a checklist for assisting units with mentoring Scouts towards Eagle. The guide will help insure the Scout and troop have done all they can to prepare the Scout for the Life to Eagle packet. This information should be on the council website soon and will be covered at the March 3 roundtable. REMEMBER TO USE THE 2008 EAGLE APPLICATION when submitting for Eagle.

RIPLEY RENDEZVOUS

A fun filled weekend is in preparation for April 24-26th so look for updates on the council website. We will be in T-buildings this year and new programs are being offered.

ROCK CLIMBING

The committee has worked year round to provide quality programs for 2009. Our climbing course is coming up in mid-May plus climbing merit badge Saturday in June and climbing day in August. Check out our flyers on the ROCK CLIMBING page on the council website. Facilitator training for the portable bouldering wall is being offered also so see the website or attend roundtable for more information. The council has climbing gear to rent, once you have a certified instructor or pick from the list on the website. Earn your climbing patch or merit badge this year!

PHILMONT

We have 2 openings for 2009 – flyer is on the council website. Troop 93 Big Lake is leading the crew and you can join on this once in a lifetime opportunity to hike the Rocky Mountains of northern New Mexico.

Philmont 2010 – we are on the waiting list for this and will be finding out by October if we will get a contingent or not. Typically we have 2 crews of 12 (usually 2 adults and 10 youth).

INFORMATION FOR VENTURERS

VENTURER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Various activities are available for Venture crews and members through Philmont (see above) or Rock Climbing (see above) at the local and national level. Northern Tier in Ely is great for crew trips. NO ADVANCEMENT OR UNIFORM are required. You can use your troop committee for guidance to reduce the leadership needed for a crew. Check this out at www.scouting.org/venturing today!